

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Environment and Forest
Section-IV

MoEF-IV/8/2/2005 (part-1)/ ২০৩,

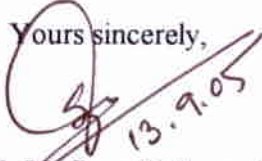
Date: 13 September, 2005

Sub: Invitation to provide Comments on Governing Council Decision 23/9/IV on the Mercury Programme.

Dear Sir,

Kindly refer to your letter of 20 May, 2005 and find enclosed herewith the comments of the Ministry of Environment and Forest for necessary action.

With regards.

Yours sincerely,

13.9.05
(Md. Mafizur Rahman)
Senior Assistant Secretary

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Proposal of Department of Environment
to
Identify possible partnership areas to address Lead, Cadmium and Mercury pollution in accordance with Decision 23/9 III & 23/9/IV

Bangladesh is interested to forge a partnership to address mercury pollution in accordance with Decision 23/9/IV. In Bangladesh the problem of pollution from mercury is not very significant. Hence, to make the programme fruitful we are interested to include lead and cadmium along with mercury pollution control. In this respect Bangladesh is interested to seek the assistance of UNEP to get one Technical Expert to make a baseline study and to delineate cost effective management options for these three chemicals. Concept for the proposed study is as follows:

- Stakeholders to be involved
 - Importers of Mercury, Lead and Cadmium
 - Battery Producers
 - Representative of Chambers of Commerce and Industry
 - Sales Agents and Distributors
 - End users.
- Objective/goal of the Study would be;
 - Reduce the effects of mercury, lead and cadmium on human health and environment
 - Recycling and reuse of mercury where appropriate
 - Imparting training on best management practices
 - Efficient management including handling and transport of mercury.
- Process and Timeline
 - Case Studies
 - Sharing of Experiences
 - Piloting of management practices
 - Timeline would be; inception July 2006, Completion June 2008 (2 yrs.)
- Roles and responsibilities of the Partner
 - Initially the lead developed country would help Bangladesh to develop a guideline and then help us to implement the programme through technical and financial support.
- Mechanism for effective monitoring
 - Department of Environment would be the implementing agency with active support from the stakeholders. Ministry of Environment and Forests would be the focal point for the activities.

- It is expected that developed countries having experience in proper management of Mercury, Lead and Cadmium pollution control would help Bangladesh by providing technical and financial support.
- No consultation was held at this moment but forerunners would be consulted in due course to implement any kind of activity.

- **Contact Detail of Implementing Authority:**

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- **Contact Detail of Focal Point**

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