

Informal ASGM partnership area session

Date: Monday, 30 March 2009 (13.30 – 17:30)

Location: Conference Centre Varembé, Geneva, Switzerland

- It is widely recognized that ASGM is a complex global development issue. The issue extends beyond the overall goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and requires special consideration.
- The proposed meeting is an informal opportunity for focused discussions on ASGM partnership area progress, on the margins of the Partnership Advisory Group.
- Participants may wish to summarize the results of the informal meeting and present them to the Partnership Advisory Group meeting.
- The meeting is open for participation. Please confirm participation at mercury@chemicals.unep.ch.

Purpose

1. To discuss the immediate and long term needs of the partnership area in order to achieve the partnership target of 50% reduction in mercury use by 2017.
2. Facilitate progress in addressing ASGM globally.

Some Possible Discussion Starting Points

Priority Action	Considerations
1. Support government efforts in setting national objectives/reduction targets for ASGM	i) What are the current actions? ii) What are the lessons learned to date? iii) Who are the key players? iv) Who is missing in the partnership? v) What further actions are required? vi) What is a practical timeframe? vii) How do we build momentum in the short term? viii) What are the resource implications?
2. Eliminate the practice of whole-ore mercury amalgamation and achieve additional reductions in mercury use and emissions throughout the artisanal gold mining sector	
3. Promote awareness and adoption of clean ASGM practices and technologies among governments, NGOs, miners, cyanide manufacturers and other stakeholders	
4. Explore innovative market-based approaches	
What are the overarching needs and opportunities? What are the options to build momentum in the short term (6 months – 2 years)?	

Possible Outputs of the Meeting:

1. Detailed draft work plan (planning forward to UNEP Governing Council 26 and 2017 target)
2. Draft global logical framework for ASGM
3. Initial planning for a global round table on ASGM