



[Brussels, 15 March 2011] The EEB welcomed the Council conclusions on the revised EU Mercury Strategy saying it provides a positive leadership signal on the global negotiations towards a mercury treaty, underlined by the request for a full mercury-containing product ban. However there is still room for improvement at EU level says EEB.

“The Environment Ministers showed that the European Commission should not delay measures on cutting back mercury use and should not wait for global developments but take action now,” said Rachel Kamande, EEB’s Mercury Project Officer.

Ministers were clear that a phase out of mercury use in the chlor-alkali sector should now occur at the latest by 2020. The EEB was pleased to finally see a phase out mercury beyond industry self regulation [1] but believes phase out should happen earlier than 2020.

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[1] The European Chlorine Council – Eurochlor has signed a voluntary agreement that mercury use will be phased out by all their member companies by 2020. <http://www.eurochlor.org/news/detail/index.asp?id=272>

Mercury documents:

[NGOs letter to MS - Input to the Working Party on Environment, 18 February 2011 – Need for strong Council conclusions on the revised Community Strategy Concerning Mercury](#)

Also in [ES](#)

16 February 2011

[EEB comments on the BIO draft final report on the Review of the EU Mercury Strategy](#)

16 July 2010

[PR: European Commission falls behind on EU Mercury Strategy](#)

10 December 2010