

ZERO MERCURY WORKING GROUP PRELIMINARY VIEWS ON DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

SEPTEMBER 2013

Introduction

This document summarizes the views of the ZMWG on selected elements of the draft resolutions, and identifies key provisions which warrant support, modification, or revision.

ZMWG recommends the following:

1. Resolution on arrangements in the interim period

Support:	Paragraph 2. ZMWG urges governments to initiate mercury supply, use, emission, and release reductions as soon as possible.
Support:	Paragraph 3. ZMWG specifically supports the procedures which allow for NGO participation in the INC.
Support:	Paragraph 5-8. Overall, ZMWG supports the substantive agenda proposed in Paragraphs 5-8 as necessary work which must be undertaken during the interim period. While not mandated by the Convention to be completed for COP 1, the INC should make every effort to develop the materials identified in Paragraph 8, since those materials address areas critical to effective treaty implementation, especially guidance on the ASGM national action plans.
Revise:	<p>Paragraph 9. ZMWG supports the creation of the experts group, but seeks revision of the resolution to ensure effective NGO involvement in the expert group proceedings. We recommend that our participation should be specified in the resolution and not be discretionary to this body. ZMWG also prefers that civil society be empowered to provide experts who are full members of the group, but at a minimum we seek assurances in the Resolution that civil society will be able to meaningfully participate as observers.</p> <p>Proposed revised language, to be added at the end of Paragraph 9: <i>"The group shall also consist of two experts each from industry and environmental organizations, to be nominated by the Bureau. The group shall also invite input from, and the participation of, expert observers from industry and civil society."</i></p>

Support:	Paragraph 10. ZMWG supports assigning UNEP Chemicals the interim period organizational responsibilities, as the easiest and most efficient path forward.
Revise:	<p>Paragraph 11. ZMWG urges governments to support and undertake mercury reduction activities during the interim period.</p> <p>Proposed revised language, to be added to Paragraph 11: , "...including for the preparation of inventories and preliminary assessments to identify sectors requiring action under the Convention, for undertaking mercury supply, use, emission and/or release reduction activities, and for developing legislative and institutional capacity to implement the Convention effectively once it has entered into force for them;"</p>
Revise:	<p>Paragraph 12. The GEF should be encouraged to support mercury reduction activities during the interim period as well.</p> <p>Proposed revised language, to be added at the end of Paragraph 12: “,and to undertake associated mercury reduction activities;”</p>

3. Resolution on matters pertaining to other international bodies

Revise:	<p>Paragraph 7 should be revised to promote the active involvement of international bodies, since they play a crucial role in implementing certain aspects of the Convention. The revisions parallel language proposed for the Basel Convention Secretariat.</p> <p>Proposed revised language, to be added at the end of Paragraph 7:</p> <p>“7. Invites the bodies referred to in paragraph 6 to cooperate closely with the Committee and the Conference of the Parties to support the implementation of the Convention, and report to the Committee on their progress, particularly on matters related to Articles 3 and 16 of the Convention.”</p>
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