

Zero Mercury Working Group's Side Event During the Preparatory Meeting for the Mercury Diplomatic Conference

# 50 BY 2015

**COUNTRIES TO RATIFY**

## MAKE IT HAPPEN!:

**New Studies on Mercury Exposure Risks and the ZMWG Action Challenge**

**Date:** MONDAY 7 October 2013, 13.30 – 14.30 (doors open at 13.00)  
**Venue:** Nikko Hotel, Room Higo CD, Kumamoto, Japan  
Sandwiches will be served

**13.30** **Moderator:** Elena Lymberidi – Settimo, European Environmental Bureau / ZMWG International Coordinator

### I. New Findings on Mercury Exposure Around the Globe

**1) Case studies from mercury measurements in dental clinics**

**13.35** **Presenter:** Dr. Mahmood A. Khwaja, Ph.D., Senior Adviser, Chemicals and Sustainable Industrial Development, Sustainable Development Policy Institute

**2) Assessing hair mercury levels of women of childbearing age in 9 countries**

**13.45** **Presenter:** Michael T. Bender, Director, Mercury Policy Project / ZMWG International Coordinator

**13.55** **II. Keynote presentation: Cognitive consequences at school age associated with prenatal MeHg exposure.**

**Presenter:** Dr. Philippe Grandjean, Professor, University of Southern Denmark / Harvard School of Public Health

**14.10** **III. Mercury Reduction During the Interim Period: The ZMWG Action Challenge.**

**Presenter:** David Lennett, Senior Attorney, Natural Resources Defense Council

### IV. Discussion

**14.20** Q & A

**14.30 - END**



# Speakers

**Elena Lymberidi-Settimo** Belgium/Greece- Zero Mercury Campaign' Project Manager since 2004 at the European Environmental Bureau (EEB). Zero Mercury Working Group co-founder and co-coordinator following mercury policies at EU and globally since 2005. She has experience in EU environmental policy, mainly in the field of chemicals, waste and products, as well as on project management and monitoring, having also worked at the European Commission. Elena studied Chemistry, followed by an M.Sc. in Business Strategy and Environmental Management and an MBA.

**Dr. Mahmood A. Khwaja**, Pakistan. Senior Advisor, Chemicals and Sustainable Industrial Development at Sustainable development policy institute (SDPI), Pakistan. Prior to joining SDPI, he held teaching positions for over ten years at reputed universities and also worked as senior scientific officer with the Pakistan Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR). Dr. Khwaja has been SDPI lead investigator & focal person in several joint/collaborative projects/programs on chemicals related issues with partner organizations in Pakistan and Switzerland, Japan, Czech Republic, India, Republic of Korea, Belgium and USA. He has over 75 publications to his credit, including his latest compilation, "Environment, Trade and Governance for Sustainable Development, SDPI (2012)." Presently, Dr. Khwaja is President (elect.) of International Society of Doctors for Environment (ISDE). He possesses a Ph.D. and M.Sc. in Chemistry.

**Michael T. Bender**, USA. Director of the US-based Mercury Policy Project since 1998. Zero Mercury Working Group co-founder and co-coordinator since 2005. He has worked on global mercury policy issues since 2000 and is a member of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership Group. Prior to that, he was the co-founder of the North American Hazardous Materials Management Association and the Association of Mercury & Lamp Recyclers. Michael has a Masters of Science in Resource Management and Administration.

**Dr. Philippe Grandjean**, Denmark, Professor, University of Southern Denmark and Adjunct Professor Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Grandjean has followed 1000 Faroese children born in the late 1980s with increased methylmercury exposures. He has published over 100 scientific papers on mercury.

**David Lennett**, Senior Attorney, Natural Resources Defense Council. On behalf of NRDC, Mr. Lennett works on global policy issues involving mercury pollution, as well as policy development and capacity building in China and the United States. Prior to joining NRDC, Mr. Lennett was appointed by the Governor of Maine to direct Maine's Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management at the Department of Environmental Protection, where he became the point person for state activity on mercury products and other mercury-related matters.