

Convention: *BC*

**Minimization and the environmentally sound management of mercury containing lamps in the context of the implementation of the Basel Convention guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of elemental mercury and wastes containing or contaminated with mercury**

**LEGAL BASIS/MANDATE:**

**Work programme activity #: 32**

Programme budget for 2012–2013

COP-decisions:

- BC-10/23: Capacity building for the implementation of the Basel Convention
- BC-10/7: Technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of elemental mercury and wastes containing or contaminated with mercury.
- BC-10/27: Programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Electricity for lighting accounts for almost 20 per cent of global power consumption and close to 6 per cent of worldwide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. If a global transition to efficient lighting occurred, these emissions could be reduced by half.

The en.lighten initiative has been established to accelerate global market transformation to environmentally sustainable lighting technologies by developing a coordinated global strategy and providing technical support for the phase-out of inefficient lighting.

en.lighten assists countries in accelerating market transformation with environmentally sustainable, efficient lighting technologies by:

- Promoting high performance, efficient technologies in developing countries.
- Developing a global policy strategy to phase-out inefficient and obsolete lighting products.
- Substituting traditional fuel-based lighting with modern, efficient alternatives.

The use of compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) has grown dramatically over the last few years and is expected to continue to do so as large scale promotion programs continue and as legislation enforcing the phase out of less efficient lighting continues to come into effect. However, this switch to CFLs appears to presents policy makers with a new problem – mercury.

It is proposed to cooperate with the en lighten initiative to develop a regional strategy for the sound collection, storage, transport and final disposal of mercury containing lamps, such as CFLs . The strategy will aim at piloting a regional collection, take-back, recycling and final disposal scheme for mercury containing lamps. It is proposed that the pilot region be the Latin America and Caribbean region, where the en.lighten initiative is promoting a regional approach to move to efficient lighting technologies. It is proposed to develop cooperation with private sector companies that are partners in the en.lighten initiative to study the feasibility of a financial scheme that could support the ESM of mercury containing lamps at the global and regional level.

**PROPOSED ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED:**

- Development of a regional strategy for the ESM of end of life mercury containing lamps (MCL) in LAC, including a take back scheme, in cooperation with companies commercializing the product.
- Develop a feasibility study for the establishment of a financial scheme for the ESM of end of life mercury containing lamps.

- Assistance in the development of national policies for the ESM of hazardous wastes.
- Identification of solutions for the ESM of end of life mercury containing lamps in the LAC region,

**RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED:**

- An ESM strategy for MCL is developed at the regional level
- A financial mechanism for the ESM of MCL is studied
- National policies for the ESM of hazardous wastes are developed or updated to include end of life MCL

**BUDGET [USD] FOR 2012 -2013**

<i>BUDGET COMPONENTS</i>	
<i>1. Meetings and training activities</i>	<i>150,000</i>
<i>2. Consultants and experts</i>	<i>50,000</i>
<i>3. Regional strategy for the ESM of MCL in the LAC region</i>	<i>50,000</i>
<i>4. Feasibility study for a financial scheme for the ESM of end of life MCL</i>	<i>75,000</i>
<i>5. National policies for the ESM of hazardous wastes</i>	<i>50,000</i>
<i>6. Study for the identification of solutions for the ESM of end of life of MCL</i>	<i>50,000</i>
<i>7. Coordination and organization</i>	<i>50,000</i>
<i>8. Secretariat travel</i>	<i>20,000</i>
<i>9. Miscellaneous</i>	<i>5,000</i>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS TO BE RAISED FOR PROPOSED ACTIVITIES</b>	<b><i>500,000</i></b>
<b>COP APPROVED BUDGET (BD trust fund)</b>	<b><i>1,010,000</i></b>