

## **Project 25/2004 – Atmospheric Deposition of Mercury in Hong Kong**

### **Purpose**

This paper seeks Members' advice on funding the captioned application for ECF submitted by the University of Hong Kong.

### **Background**

2. The funding requested by this project is \$149,372.00 for the staff cost of employing one Research Assistant (\$64,872.00); the expenses for the sample collector (\$48,000.00), chemical analysis (\$12,000.00); consumables (\$12,000.00); and transportation cost to various sampling sites (\$12,500.00). The project is expected to last for 24 months.

3. The proposal was discussed by the Research Projects Vetting Subcommittee (RPVSC) on 25.5.2005. Upon advice by the RPVSC, the principal investigator (PI) revised the proposed sampling sites to Mai Po, Sai Kung and Hok Tsui. Instead of four sampling sites as originally proposed, the three sampling sites would form a triangle geometry that would facilitate regional source identification. In response to Members' proposal of adopting a sample collector with internationally recognized standard, the PI stated that the rainwater collectors would be made in-house to minimize the cost while the standard of quality control and quality assurance in terms of cleanliness, sample collection and subsequent analysis would be assured. The revised proposal from the PI and the explanations are given at Annex.

4. The proposal has been examined by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD). EPD considered the project worthy of support, in terms of the practical value and proposed budget, since the findings would enhance the understanding of the effect of mercury deposition in Hong Kong.

### **Advice sought**

5. Members are invited to advise whether the application for ECF should be supported as detailed in paragraphs 2 to 3 above and if supported, the exact amount of fund to be approved.

**ECF Paper 16/2005  
For Discussion**

Secretariat, ECF Research Projects Vetting Subcommittee  
July 2005