



FDI World Dental Federation

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23 February 2009

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Dear UNEP,

Oral health is a fundamental part of general health and our environment. Globally, oral health is an important driver of economic development and human potential, and in its absence, it can significantly limit opportunities.

The FDI World Dental Federation is the authoritative, collective voice of the dental profession at global level, representing over 1 million dentists through 150 National Dental Associations.

The FDI's vision is to lead the world to optimal oral health, by advocating for optimal oral and general health for all peoples, advancing and promoting the ethics, art, science and practice of dentistry and facilitating the exchange of oral health knowledge and expertise through its global network.

The FDI and the global dental community take their responsibilities with regard to dental amalgam, both in terms of human health and the global environment, with the utmost seriousness.

The FDI believes that the key to achieving the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership goal is to focus both on the primary prevention of dental caries through evidence based whole-population approaches and professionally applied preventive methods; and secondary prevention, which addresses the early diagnosis of dental caries and the initial placement of a dental restoration. Even in the face of widespread community based preventive measures, there is, and will continue to be an overwhelming need for a safe, effective, and affordable dental restorative (filling) material.

The FDI would like to take this opportunity to join the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership. We look forward to engaging with other stakeholders in the areas of products and waste management in order to develop collaborative solutions, based on the best science and evidence and in the best interest of the global environment and human health.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Alexander', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr David Alexander
FDI Executive Director