2025 FULL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Report submitted on 8 December 2025

REPORTING PERIOD:
1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024

UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

DISCLAIMER

This is a secretariat version translation of the submitted report by the Party. The text has not been officially translated and edited, and is provided for information purposes. In case of any error or omission in the translation, the original submission prevails.

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party
Costa Rica

Date on which its instrument of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance was deposited
19 January 2017

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party
16 August 2017

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution
Ministry of environment and energy

Title of Contact Officer
Ms.Shirley Soto Montero

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Shirley Soto Montero

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3. Information about the contact officer submitting the reporting format if different from the above

Focal Point is submitting the national report

- (●) Information is submitted by the national focal point
- ( ) Information is submitted through the national focal point by the contact officer

▼ ART. 3: MERCURY SUPPLY SOURCES AND TRADE

3.1: Does the party have any primary mercury mines that were operating within its territory at the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ○ Yes – primary mercury mining with available data
- ○ Yes – primary mercury mining with no available data
- ◉ No

3.2: Does the party have any primary mercury mines that are now in operation that were not in operation at the time of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ○ Yes – primary mercury mining with available data
- ○ Yes – primary mercury mining with no available data
- ◉ No

3.3: (A) Has the party endeavoured to identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons that are located within its territory?

3.3: (A) Has the party endeavoured to identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons that are located within its territory?

- ○ Yes – with new data* (also to be selected by parties reporting for the first time)
- ◉ Yes – endeavoured and indicates same stocks as reported in the previous report
- ○ No

3.3: (B) Has the party endeavoured to identify individual sources of mercury-supply-generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year that are located within its territory?

3.3:(B) Has the party endeavoured to identify individual sources of mercury-supply-generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year that are located within its territory?

- ○ Yes – with new data* (also to be selected by parties reporting for the first time)
- ◉ Yes – endeavoured and indicates same stocks as reported in the previous report
- ○ No

3.4: Has the party determined that it has excess mercury available from the decommissioning of chlor-alkali facilities?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No – has determined it has no excess mercury
- ○ No – has not made a determination

3.5: *Has the party received consent, or relied on a general notification of consent, in accordance with article 3, including any required certification from importing non-parties, for all exports of mercury from the party's territory in the reporting period?

- ☐ Yes – exports to parties
- ☐ Yes – exports to non-parties
- ☑ No – no export took place
- ☐ No – consent was not given

3.6: Has the party allowed the import of mercury from a non-party?

- ◉ No

Yes

The importing party has relied on paragraph 7 of article 3

Part E - Additional comments on this article

During this period Costa Rica has not made any imports. Also Costa Rica does not have any chloro alkali plants.

▼ ART. 4: MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS

4.1. Has the party taken any appropriate measures to not allow the manufacture, import or export of mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annex A of the Convention after the phase-out date specified for those products?

Yes

No

Yes (implementing paragraph 2 of article 4)

If yes, please provide information on the measures.
In December 2021, a national decree (N°43170 MINAE-S) was published prohibiting the registration, import, export, and manufacture of products with added mercury.
https://pgrweb.go.cr/scij/Busqueda/Normativa/Normas/nrm_texto_completo.aspx?param1=NRTC&nValor1=1&nValor2=95978&nValor3=128304&strTipM=TC

If yes, has the party registered for an exemption pursuant to article 6?

Yes

No

4.3: (A) Has the party taken two or more measures listed in subparagraphs (i) to (ix) of part II of annex A for the mercury-added products listed in part II of annex A in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

4.3:(A) Has the party taken two or more measures listed in subparagraphs (i) to (ix) of part II of annex A for the mercury-added products listed in part II of annex A in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide information on the measures.
(iii) Promoting the use of cost-effective and clinically effective mercury free alternatives for dental restoration: Alternative materials are used in the public health system, where possible, especially for children and pregnant women.
(v) Encouraging representative professional organizations and dental schools to educate and train dental professionals and students on the use of mercury free dental restoration alternatives and on promoting best management practices: Currently, public and private universities teach the most modern practices for dental restorations as well as the use of new materials

4.3: (B) If the amendment to annex A adopted in decision MC-4/3 has entered into force for the party, has the party (please check the appropriate box below) taken relevant measures:

4.3:(B) If the amendment to annex A adopted in decision MC-4/3 has entered into force for the party, has the party (please check the appropriate box below) taken relevant measures:

Yes

No

○ Not applicable

If the party answered yes please select from the bellow checkboxes

☑ Excluded or not allowed, by taking measures as appropriate, the use of mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners

☑ Excluded or not allowed, by taking measures as appropriate, or recommended against, the use of dental amalgam for the dental treatment of deciduous teeth of patients under 15 years of age and of pregnant and breastfeeding women, except when such use is considered necessary by the dental practitioner based on the needs of the patient

If the party answered yes to either option above, please provide information on the measures.
Since 2008, the public health system has implemented these measures within its public care; bulk mercury is not used, instead, when necessary, pre-dosed presentations are used, avoiding or reducing exposure for both the patient and the dentist.
Likewise, amalgam fillings are not performed on pregnant women or children under 15 years of age.

4.4: Has the party taken measures to prevent the incorporation into assembled products of mercury-added products whose manufacture, import and export are not allowed for it under article 4?

○ Yes

○ No

◉ No - not applicable (do not have facilities assembling products using mercury-added products)

4.5: Has the party discouraged the manufacture and the distribution in commerce of mercury-added products not covered by any known use in accordance with article 4, paragraph 6?

○ Yes

◉ No - no action taken

○ No - an assessment of the risks and benefits of the product demonstrates benefits to human health or the environment

If the party answered no - no action taken, please explain.
As indicated in the previous question 4.4, Costa Rica do not have facilities assembling products using mercury-added products, for that reason no action was taken

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 5: MANUFACTURING PROCESSES IN WHICH MERCURY OR MERCURY COMPOUNDS ARE USED

5.1: Are there facilities within the territory of the party that use mercury or mercury compounds for the processes listed in Annex B of the Minamata Convention in accordance with paragraph 5 of article 5 of the Convention?

○ Yes

◉ No

○ Do not know

5.2: Are measures in place to not allow the use of mercury or mercury compounds in manufacturing processes listed in Part I of Annex B after

the phase-out date specified in that Annex for the individual process?

CHLOR-ALKALI PRODUCTION

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ◉ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

ACETALDEHYDE PRODUCTION IN WHICH MERCURY OR MERCURY COMPOUNDS ARE USED AS A CATALYST

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ◉ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

5.3: Are measures in place to restrict the use of mercury or mercury compounds in the processes listed in Part II of Annex B in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

VINYL CHLORIDE MONOMER PRODUCTION

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ◉ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

SODIUM OR POTASSIUM METHYLATE OR ETHYLATE

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ◉ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

PRODUCTION OF POLYURETHANE USING MERCURY-CONTAINING CATALYSTS

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ◉ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

5.4: Is there any use of mercury or mercury compounds in a facility using the manufacturing processes listed in Annex B that did not exist prior to the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

5.5: Has the party discouraged the development of any facility using any other manufacturing process in which mercury or mercury compounds are intentionally used that did not exist prior to the date of entry into

force of the Convention?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No – no action taken
- ( ) No – the party demonstrated to the Conference of the Parties the significant environmental and health benefits of the manufacturing process and that there are no technically and economically feasible mercury-free alternatives available providing such benefits.

If yes, please provide information on the measures taken.
Since the Minamata Convention came into force in Costa Rica, the establishment of any process involving the use of mercury is prohibited. As mentioned previously, our country does not have any such facilities or processes.

Part E – Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 7: ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE GOLD MINING

7.1: Have steps been taken to reduce, and where feasible eliminate, the use of mercury and mercury compounds in, and the emissions and releases to the environment of mercury from, artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing subject to article 7 within your territory?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No
- ( ) There is no artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing subject to article 7 in which mercury amalgamation is used in the territory

If yes, please provide information on the steps.
Costa Rica currently has a National Action Plan (NAP), which establishes a series of measures to promote technological change, specifically to eliminate the use of mercury in gold extraction. It also establishes measures for the formalization of the sector. Furthermore, Costa Rica will begin implementing the Planet Gold project in the first quarter of 2026, which is expected to strengthen the measures established in the NAP.

7.2: Has the party determined, and notified the secretariat, that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing within its territory is more than insignificant?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

7.3: Has the party developed and implemented a national action plan and submitted it to the secretariat?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No
- ( ) In progress

7.4: Attach your most recent review that must be completed under paragraph 3 (c) of article 7, unless it is not yet due

{Empty}

7.5: Supplemental: Has the party cooperated with other countries or relevant intergovernmental organizations or other entities to achieve the objective of this article?

- ( ) Yes

○ No

Please provide information
{Empty}

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 8: EMISSIONS

8.1: Identify any Annex D source categories for which there are new sources of emissions of mercury or mercury compounds as defined in paragraph 2 (c) of article 8.

For each of those source categories describe the measures in place, including the effectiveness of such measures, to implement the requirements of paragraph 4 of article 8.

☐ Coal-fired power plants

☐ Coal-fired industrial boilers

☐ Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals

☐ Waste incineration facilities

☑ Cement clinker production facilities

Cement clinker production facilities
This is the only source category the country has, so far, we DO NOT HAVE NEW sources under this category.

Has the party required the use of best available techniques or best environmental practices (BAT/BEP) to control and where feasible reduce emissions for new sources no later than 5 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

○ Yes

◉ No (please explain)

No (please explain)
There are no new sources

8.2: Identify any Annex D source categories for which there are existing sources of emissions of mercury or mercury compounds as defined in paragraph 2 (e) of article 8.

For each of those source categories, select and provide details on the measures implemented under paragraph 5 of article 8 and explain the progress that these applied measures have achieved in reducing emissions over time in your territory:

▼ COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS

☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☐ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources

☐ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions

☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

▼ COAL-FIRED INDUSTRIAL BOILERS

☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☐ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources

☐ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions

☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

▼ SMELTING AND ROASTING PROCESSES USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF NON-FERROUS METALS

☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☐ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources

☐ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions

☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
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▼ WASTE INCINERATION FACILITIES

☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☐ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources

☐ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions

☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
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Progress
{Empty}

▼ CEMENT CLINKER PRODUCTION FACILITIES

☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☑ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☐ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources

☐ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions

☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
Since 2017, there has been a regulation (DE 40557-S) to control mercury emissions from these sources.
https://pgrweb.go.cr/scij/Busqueda/Normativa/Normas/nrm_norma.aspx?param1=NRM&nValor1=1&nValor2=84662&nValor3=0&strTipM=FN

Progress
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Have the measures for existing sources under paragraph 5 of article 8 been implemented no later than 10 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

◉ Yes

○ No

8.3: Has the party prepared an inventory of emissions from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the Convention for it?

○ Yes

◉ No

○ Have not been a party for 5 years

If no such inventory exists, please explain
According to national regulations, facilities that are the source of this type of emissions only report if their emissions are above 0.05 mg/m3. However, after consulting the competent authority, neither of the two existing facilities in the country reported exceeding this limit.

8.4: Has the party chosen to establish criteria to identify relevant sources covered within a source category?

○ Yes

◉ No

8.5: Has the party chosen to prepare a national plan setting out the measures to be taken to control emissions from relevant sources and its expected targets, goals and outcomes?

○ Yes

◉ No

Part E - Additional comments on this article

The reason why questions 8.4 and 8.5 were answered negatively is because Costa Rica does not have a developed chemical industry, but rather a service, manufacturing, and medical industry, primarily.

▼ ART. 9: RELEASES

9.1: Are there, within the party's territory, relevant sources of releases as defined in paragraph 2 (b) of article 9?

○ Yes

◉ No

○ Do not know (please explain)

9.2: Has the party established an inventory of releases from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the convention for it?

○ Yes

◉ Relevant sources do not exist in the territory

○ Have not been a party for 5 years

○ No (please explain)

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 10: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND INTERIM STORAGE OF MERCURY, OTHER THAN WASTE MERCURY

10.1: Has the party taken measures to ensure that the interim storage of non-waste mercury and mercury compounds intended for a use allowed to a party under the Convention is undertaken in an environmentally sound manner?

○ Yes

◉ No (please explain)

○ Do not know (please explain)

If no, please explain

Not applicable, since the country does not have temporary storage of mercury and mercury compounds to be used for permitted uses under the convention.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 11: MERCURY WASTES

11.1: Have measures outlined in article 11, paragraph 3, been implemented for the party's mercury waste?

◉ Yes

No

Yes - the party has taken measures so that mercury waste is managed in an environmentally sound manner

Yes - the party has taken measures so that mercury waste is recovered, recycled, reclaimed or directly re-used for a use allowed to a party under the Convention or for environmentally sound disposal pursuant to paragraph 3 (a)

Please describe measure and effectiveness of measures
Yes, the mercury waste has been exported (2019) to another Party that recovers it for uses permitted by the convention.

Yes - the party has taken measures so that mercury waste is not transported across international boundaries except for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal

If the party answered yes to any measures above, please describe the measures implemented pursuant to paragraph 3, and please also describe the effectiveness of those measures.
(a) Managed in an environmentally sound manner, taking into account the guidelines developed under the Basel Convention and in accordance with requirements that the Conference of the Parties shall adopt in an additional annex in accordance with Article 27. In developing requirements, the Conference of the Parties shall take into account Parties' waste management regulations and programmes;

11.2: *Are there facilities for final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds in the party's territory?

Yes

No

Do not know (please explain)

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 12: CONTAMINATED SITES

12.1: Has the party endeavoured to develop strategies for identifying and assessing sites contaminated by mercury or mercury compounds in its territory?

Yes

No

Please elaborate
Monitoring plans have been developed to track these sites and thus determine the actions required.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 13: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISM

13.1: Has the party undertaken to provide, within its capabilities, resources in respect of those national activities that are intended to implement the Convention in accordance with its national policies, priorities, plans and programmes?

Yes

No

Please specify
Currently, within our ministry, financial resources are limited for the execution of activities, so only those activities financed with international cooperation resources can be carried out.

13.2: Supplemental: Has the party, within its capabilities, contributed to the mechanism referred to in paragraph 5 of article 13?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

Please provide comments, if any.
Currently, we do not have sufficient resources to contribute to the financial mechanism

13.3: Supplemental: Has the party provided financial resources to assist developing-country parties and/or parties with economies in transition in the implementation of the Convention through other bilateral, regional and multilateral sources or channels?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

Please specify
Currently, we do not have sufficient resources to contribute to the financial mechanism

Please provide comments, if any.
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Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 14: CAPACITY-BUILDING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

14.1: Has the party cooperated to provide capacity-building or technical assistance, pursuant to article 14, to another party to the Convention?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

Please specify
No, our country actually receives support for capacity building, because we are still a country with an economy in transition.

14.2: Supplemental: Has the party received capacity-building or technical assistance pursuant to article 14?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

Please specify
{Empty}

Please provide comments, if any.
{Empty}

14.3: Has the party promoted and facilitated the development, transfer and diffusion of and access to, up-to-date environmentally sound alternative technologies?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No
- ○ Other

Please specify
No, because as we mentioned before, we are beneficiaries of the cooperation provided by the more developed Member countries.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 16: HEALTH ASPECTS

16.1: Have measures been taken to provide information to the public on exposure to mercury in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 16?

◉ Yes

○ No

Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.
During 2023 when Costa Rica was developing the NAP project, national information campaigns were developed on the risks of mercury exposure in ASGM activities, as well as specific workshops for ASGM communities.

16.2: Have any measures been taken to protect human health in accordance with article 16 beyond the provision of information to the public on exposure to mercury (referred to in question 16.1)?

○ Yes

◉ No

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 17: INFORMATION EXCHANGE

17.1: Has the party facilitated the exchange of information referred to in article 17, paragraph 1?

○ Yes

◉ No

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 18: PUBLIC INFORMATION, AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

18.1: Have measures been taken to promote and facilitate the provision to the public of the kinds of information listed in article 18, paragraph 1?

○ Yes

◉ No

(Art. 18 (1) (a) and (b))

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 19: RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING

19.1: Has the party undertaken any research, development and monitoring in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 19?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

(Art. 19 (1) (a)-(g))

Part E - Additional comments on this article

As we mentioned befored in the section of art 12, there is a monitoring on contaminated sites in ASGM areas.

▼ COMMENTS REGARDING POSSIBLE CHALLENGES IN MEETING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE CONVENTION

Part C: Comments regarding possible challenges in meeting the objectives of the Convention

As we already mentioned in our previous answers, the limitations to implement the minamata convention on those aspects relevant to our country are based on technical and financial resources.

▼ COMMENTS REGARDING THE REPORTING FORMAT AND POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS, IF ANY

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

Suggestions for the questions:
3.1. This question should be automatically completed from previous reports, as it only applies to new parts.
3.4. There should be an option for NOT APPLICABLE (the part does not have chlorine alkali facilities).