



**Minamata Convention on Mercury**

Email contact: sheila.logan@un.org  
Ref: Outcomes of COP-1  
Minamata Convention

Date: 2 November 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

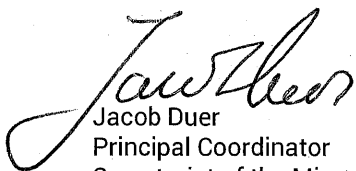
The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury (COP-1) was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 24 to 29 September 2017. At this meeting, a number of decisions were adopted on a range of key areas required for the effective implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury. In some areas, intersessional work is to be carried out, and this letter calls for the required action by Parties and observers to the Conference of the Parties, including submission of relevant information and appropriate nominations as set out in the attachment to this letter. Relevant dates for submissions are also included in this attachment.

Information should be submitted to:

Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury  
United Nations Environment Programme  
11 - 13 chemin des Anémones  
CH - 1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland  
Fax: (41 22) 797 3460  
E-mail: sheila.logan@un.org

We look forward to the receipt of your contributions on the above matters, and thank you for your support to the further work on the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Yours sincerely,



Jacob Duer  
Principal Coordinator  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

To: Minamata Focal Points  
Cc: SAICM Focal Points, Permanent Missions to UNEP, Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva, COP1 participants

Attachment: Follow-up actions resulting from the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

## **Follow up actions following COP1**

### **1. Decision MC 1/6 : Specific International Programme**

Appendix II of MC 1/6 states that the SIP Governing Board shall consist of 10 members [from] [nominated by] Parties. Each of the five United Nations regions shall nominate two members through their respective Bureau representatives. The first members of the SIP Governing Board shall be nominated no later than 31 December 2017, and will serve until COP-3.

Parties are therefore requested to put forward nominations for membership of the Executive Board to their respective Bureau Representatives.

### **2. Decision MC 1/9 Establishment of arrangements in regard to effectiveness evaluation**

Annex I of MC 1/9 states that nominations for the ad hoc group of experts are provided to the secretariat through the bureau members of the Conference of the Parties. The nominations are to be put forward by 1 November 2017. Annex II of the decision indicates that membership shall be comprised of 25 Government-designated experts drawn from the regions as follows:

Each region should designate at least three representatives with expertise on monitoring arrangements and at least one representative with expertise on effectiveness evaluation.

African States:	5
Asian and Pacific States:	5
Central and Eastern European States:	5
Latin American and Caribbean States:	5
Western European and other States:	5

The group will invite the participation of up to 10 experts from civil society, indigenous communities, intergovernmental organizations, industry and the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership as observers. The participation of observers will be balanced among the above-mentioned groups.

The group will invite input from other governments, intergovernmental organizations, indigenous communities, industry, and civil society organizations to assist it in completing its work.

Governments are therefore requested to put forward nominations for membership of the ad hoc group of experts to their respective Bureau Representatives.

### **3. Decision MC 1/14 Mercury emissions related to the open burning of waste**

The decision invites parties and other interested entities and organizations to submit to the secretariat information on mercury emissions from open burning of waste. Parties and others are therefore requested to submit any available information to the secretariat by 30 June 2018 to enable the information to be presented to the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting.

### **4. Decision MC 1/17 Guidance in relation to mercury releases**

The decision on mercury releases encourages parties to identify relevant point sources at the national level pursuant to paragraphs 2 (b) and 3 of article 9 as soon as possible, and to submit information to the secretariat on the identified relevant sources. Parties are therefore requested to

submit any available information by 30 June 2018 to enable the information to be presented to the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting.

**5. Decision MC-1/18: Draft guidelines on the interim storage of mercury and mercury compounds referred to in paragraph 3 of article 10**

The secretariat is requested to seek technical input from relevant experts, including technical experts from the Basel Convention, by 31 December 2017. Relevant experts, including those who participated in the development of the draft guidelines prior to the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties, are therefore requested to provide further technical input on the guidelines by 31 December 2017.

**6. Decision MC-1/19: Mercury waste**

The decision requests the secretariat to:

(i) Circulate an open call to all parties, non-parties and other relevant stakeholders for the nomination of experts to participate in the process, including a brief description of their relevant expertise, by 1 November 2017;

(ii) Call for submissions by the experts referred to above by 30 December 2017;

Parties, non-parties and other relevant stakeholders are therefore invited to submit information on the relevant experts to participate in the process, including a brief description of their relevant expertise by 1 November 2017. Further calls for submission of information will be directed to these experts.

**7. MC-1/20: Guidance on the management of contaminated sites**

The decision recognizes the need for the contribution of experts in this area and calls for Governments and others to nominate interested experts to participate in the work. The nominations of experts are provided to the secretariat to be included in a working group of experts to collaborate electronically by December 2017.

Governments and others are therefore requested to nominate interested experts to participate in the development of guidance.

**8. Calls for action from the Committee of the Whole: The consideration of capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer as referred to in paragraph 4 and paragraph 5 of article 14, including any recommendations on how such activities could be further enhanced under article 14**

The Committee of the Whole requested the secretariat to seek submissions and reports from parties and other stakeholders on issues relating to existing initiatives and progress made in relation to alternative technologies, on the needs of parties, particularly developing-country parties, for alternative technologies and on challenges experienced by parties, particularly developing-country parties, in technology transfer, and to present the information received to the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting for consideration.

Parties and other stakeholders are therefore invited to make submissions on these issues by 30 June 2018 to enable the information to be presented to the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting.