

COMMUNICATION

Preparatory events to the second segment of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you of the launch of two online thematic forums and a series of events designed to facilitate the preparation of Parties and observers for the second segment of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, to be held in-person in Bali, on 21-25 March 2022 (COP-4.2).

COP-4.2 Online Budget Forum

Parties are invited to the Online Budget Forum dedicated to the programme of work and budget of the Convention for 2023. In light of decision MC-4/2 on the programme of work and budget for 2023 adopted by COP-4.1, the secretariat has amended the proposed programme of work and budget for 2023. The amended proposal will be submitted to COP-4 as documents UNEP/MC/COP.4/24/Add.1 and UNEP/MC/COP.4/24/Add.2 and made available in the forum.

The forum will be opened from 14 February until 4 March 2022. Within the forum, Parties can review, comment and/or ask questions about the proposed programme of work and budget for 2023 ahead of its consideration by the Conference of the Parties. The secretariat will provide responses to all questions posted in the forum.

Each delegation member nominated through the COP-4.2 pre-registration platform will receive a unique link to access the Minamata Convention Online Budget Forum following the same roles as have been established in the pre-registration:

- Heads and alternate heads of delegations will have the right to view and post questions and comments;
- All other members of the delegation will have the right to view and navigate through the forum.

Parties may communicate to the secretariat through the head of delegation if they wish to have other or additional representatives to view and post questions or navigate through the forum.

For any queries or requests for support kindly contact Ms. Sandra Ruecker, Administrative Officer at sandra.ruecker@un.org.

Online Technical Documents Forum

Building on the experiences of the COP-4.1 online budget forum, Parties and observers to the Convention are invited to participate in the Online Technical Documents Forum dedicated to the following documents submitted to the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

- UNEP/MC/COP.4/6 Annex I: Updates to sections 5.8, 5.9 and 5.10 of the guidance document on the preparation of national action plans for artisanal and small-scale gold mining and
UNEP/MC/COP.4/6 Annex II: New chapter 8 of the guidance document on the preparation of national action plans for artisanal and small-scale gold mining;



- UNEP/MC/COP.4/7 Annex III: Draft guidance on the methodology for preparing inventories of releases pursuant to article 9 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury;
- UNEP/MC/COP.4/27 Annex: Draft guidance document on the use of customs codes under the Minamata Convention.

COP-4.2 is expected to consider these documents for possible adoption or agreement for use by the Parties. In view of the limitation to the size of delegations to COP-4.2, the secretariat is providing an opportunity for Parties to review the documents and communicate any possible remaining technical comments and questions through the forum in advance of COP-4.2.

The forum will be opened from 14 February until 11 March 2022. The secretariat will provide responses to all comments and questions posted in the forum.

Each delegation member nominated through COP-4.2 pre-registration platform will receive a unique link to access the Minamata Convention Technical Documents Forum following the same roles as have been established in the pre-registration:

- Heads and alternate heads of delegations will have the right to view and post questions and comments.
- All other members of the delegation will have the right to view and navigate through the forum.
- Observers will have the right to view and navigate through the forum.

Parties may communicate to the secretariat through the head of delegation if they wish to have other or additional representatives to view and post questions or navigate through the forum.

For any queries or requests for support kindly contact Mr. Eisaku Toda, Senior Programme Management Officer at eisaku.toda@un.org.

COP-4.2 preparatory events

A series of briefings and information sessions is being planned by the secretariat to facilitate preparations for the COP-4.2. The list of the current events is available in the [COP-4.2 section](#) of the Convention website. Additional events may be organized upon need.

I thank you for your commitment to support the implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and I am looking forward to engaging with you in preparation for the second segment of COP-4.

Yours sincerely,

Monika Stankiewicz

Monika Stankiewicz
Executive Secretary

To: National Focal Points for the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Cc: Governments through their official channels of communications to the UN Environment Programme

Permanent Missions to the UN Environment Programme and to the United Nations in Geneva

Intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations having participated in the previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury.