

MINAMATA ONLINE

SEASON 2 - 2021
2022

BRIEFINGS ON COP-4 DOCUMENTS, CLUSTERED BY COP-4 AGENDA ITEMS AND COP-4.2 SCHEDULE



MINAMATA
CONVENTION
ON MERCURY

The briefing session on COP-4 documents takes place in three parts, namely on [Tuesday, 1 February](#), on [Wednesday, 2 February](#) and on [Thursday, 3 February](#) 2022 from 13h00 to 14h30 CET.

[Working Documents](#) and [Information Documents](#) for COP-4 are posted on the [website](#) of the Minamata Convention.

Kindly see the [tentative schedule of work](#) for COP-4.2.

- ✓ **Tuesday session:** agenda, the annotated agenda, issues and information for the attention of the Conference of the Parties, Annex A and B, and effectiveness evaluation.
- ✓ **Wednesday session:** national reporting, financial resources and mechanism, customs codes, ASGM, releases, and mercury waste.
- ✓ **Thursday session:** programme of work and budget, capacity-building and technical assistance, secretariat, gender, international cooperation and coordination, rules of procedure, and financial rules.

Each session will also include key information on practical matters pertaining to COP-4.2 and the opportunity for Q&A.



**REGISTER NOW TO THE THREE PARTS:
13H00-14H30 CET**

Please register for the WebEx sessions using the links above.

Information about [Minamata Online](#)

Check the [Season 2 calendar](#)

TUESDAY, 1 FEBRUARY

WEDNESDAY, 2 FEBRUARY

THURSDAY, 3 FEBRUARY



COP-4 PREPARATIONS

COP-4 Documents Briefing Sessions Held



Tuesday, 1 February

- ❖ **Agenda** (4/1)
- ❖ **Annotated Agenda** (Add.1)
- ❖ **Issues & Information** (4/2)
- ❖ **List of documents** (INF/1)

- ❖ **Annex A and B** (4/4, 4/59)
- ❖ **Amendment Proposals** (4/26, Add.1, Add.2, Add.3)

- ❖ **Effectiveness Evaluation** (4/18, Add.1, Add.2, Add. 3, INF/11, INF/12, INF/25)

Wednesday, 2 February

- ❖ **National Reporting and ICC** (4/15, 4/16, 4/17)

- ❖ **Financial Resources and Mechanism**
GEF: 4/9, Add. 1
GEF-8: 4/10, Add. 1, INF/8
SIP: 4/11, Add.1
ED Report: 4/13
Review: 4/12

- ❖ **Customs Codes** (4/27)
- ❖ **ASGM** (4/6)
- ❖ **Releases** (4/7)
- ❖ **Mercury Waste** (4/8)

Thursday, 3 February

- ❖ **POW and Budget** (4/24, Add.1, Add.2, INF/21 and INF/22)

- ❖ **Capacity-building and technical assistance** (4/14)
- ❖ **Secretariat** (4/20)
- ❖ **Gender** (4/22)
- ❖ **International Cooperation and Coordination** (4/23)

- Rules of Procedure** (4/3)
- Financial Rules** (4/21)
- Election of Officers** (4/2)

Introduction to the second segment of COP-4



Preparations until COP-4.2

January

February

March

21 Dec:
Invitations
sent

12 Jan: Bureau Meeting
17 Jan: Registration opens



14 JAN 2022
13:00-15:00

Venue

Online | Webex

Organization

Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm
Conventions, Minamata Convention on
Mercury

**Consultations on the
framework to evaluate the
effectiveness of the
Convention:**

20 Jan: Deadline for
written comments

25-27 Jan: Consultations

1-3 Feb: COP-4 Documents
Briefing Sessions
11 Feb: Registration closes

Between 7-
11 Feb

Regional online
meetings

14 Feb: Online Budget
Forum opens (until 4 March)

14 Feb: Online Technical
Documents Forum opens
(until 11 March)

23 Feb: Information Session
on national reporting and
compliance (all documents)

24 Feb: Information Session
on the financial mechanism
(all documents)

Pre-COP.4.2 Side Events Week
7-11 March 2022
Online Format
*Proposals invited by Parties
and Stakeholders by **Friday,**
11 February*

**8 March: Promoting gender
in implementing the
Convention**

**9 March: Information
Session on budget**



COP-4 INDONESIA
ONLINE 1-5 NOVEMBER 2021
BALI 21-25 MARCH 2022
MAKE MERCURY HISTORY

COP-4.2	Overview
Sat 19 Mar	Bureau meeting Regional meetings
Sun 20 Mar	Regional meetings Secretariat Briefing
Mon 21 Mar	COP-4.2 Plenary opens
Fri 25 Mar	COP-4.2 Plenary opens



Documents

Since 20 September 2021, our COP-4 documents are available on the website.
Budget-related documents since 2 August 2021



- All Documents
- Final Report
- Working Document**
- Information Document
- Forms and guidance document

Select All

No documents selected

UNEP/MC/COP.4/1 - Provisional agenda

Working Document | 21.06.2021 | 530.97 KB | COP-4.1

COP-4.1

UNEP/MC/COP.4/1/Add.1 - Annotated provisional agenda

Working Document | 07.09.2021 | 672.59 KB | COP-4.1

UNEP/MC/COP.4/1/Add.2 - Election of officers

Working Document | 05.07.2021 | 229.08 KB

COP-4.2 Overview and Schedule of Work

COP-4.2 Overview

Time	Saturday, 19 March	Sunday, 20 March	Monday, 21 March	Tuesday, 22 March	Wednesday, 23 March	Thursday, 24 March	Friday, 25 March
8:00-8:45	-	-	-	Bureau meeting	Bureau meeting	Bureau meeting	Bureau meeting
9:00-9:45	-	-	Regional meetings	Regional meetings	Regional meetings	Regional meetings	Regional meetings
10:00 - 13:00 Morning Session	Bureau Meeting	Regional Meetings	COP-4.2 Plenary	COP-4.2 Plenary	COP-4.2 Plenary	COP-4.2 Plenary	COP-4.2 Plenary
13:00-15:00	Lunch	COP-4 Secretariat Briefing	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
15:00-18:00 Afternoon Session	Regional Meetings	Regional Meetings	COP-4.2 Plenary	COP-4.2 Plenary	COP-4.2 Plenary	COP-4.2 Plenary	COP-4.2 Plenary
18:00 to 19:00			Break	Break	Break	Break	-----
19:00-22:00 Evening Session	-	-					-----

* **Registration:** Onsite Registration opens at 15:00 on Friday, 18 March 2022.

** **Working Hours:** Given the circumstances and to support good working conditions, all evening sessions are not to extend beyond 22:00.

*** **Side Events:** There may be the possibility of some Side Events during the lunch breaks between 13:15 and 14:45 (90 minutes).

Tentative Schedule of Work

COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
<p>10:00 - 13:00</p> <p>Morning Session</p>	<p>Item 1: Opening of the meeting</p> <p>Item 2: Organizational matters (b) Organization of work (c) Election of Officers for the intersessional period and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (d) Report on the credentials of representatives to the fourth meeting</p> <p>Item 3: Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties: consideration of rule 45</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (k) Financial Rules</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties: (a) Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used: (i) Review of annexes A and B; (ii) Information on dental amalgam (iv) Proposals for amendments to annexes A and B</p>	<p><i>Reports of contact groups</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (h) National reporting (g) Implementation and Compliance Committee</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (e) Financial resources and mechanism (i) Global Environment Facility (ii) Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance (iii) Review of the financial mechanism</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (cont.)</p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (f) Capacity-building and technical assistance and technology transfer (j) Secretariat (l) Gender</p> <p>Item 5: International cooperation and coordination</p>	<p><i>Consideration of remaining outcomes and draft decisions</i></p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget (cont.) <i>Adoption of the budget decision</i></p> <p>Item 7: Venue and dates of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>Item 8: Other matters</p>
COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
<p>15:00-18:00</p> <p>Afternoon Session</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (i) Effectiveness evaluation</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(a) (iii) Customs codes (b) Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (c) Releases of mercury (d) Mercury waste: consideration of the relevant thresholds</p>		<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p>	<p>Item 9: Adoption of the report of the meeting</p> <p>Item 10: Closure of the meeting</p>

COP-4.2 Overview and Schedule of Work

Tentative COP-4.2 schedule of work is designed to:

- Allow **maximum time for plenary** to consider, deliberate and adopt items (interpretation into UN languages is available),
- Take into account the potential time required to meet in **smaller groups** on some key agenda items (no interpretation into UN languages is available),
- Ensure no more than **one group works alongside plenary**, OR only **two groups to work concurrently once plenary is adjourned**,
- Ensure draft decisions on substantive matters are finalised in time for the **POW and budget group convening from Wednesday** and the adoption of the budget on Friday.

Important Deadline:

All **credentials** to reach the Secretariat no later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the meeting.

The credentials report is to be adopted by plenary on Thursday morning.

COP-4 Item 2(b) Organization of Work

- ❖ 4/1: Provisional agenda
- ❖ 4/1/Add.1/Rev.1 Annotated agenda
- ❖ 4/2/Rev.1: Issues and information for the attention of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention at its fourth meeting
- ❖ INF/1/Rev.1: List of documents

- ❖ 4/28: Meeting Report of COP-4

COP-4 convened online 1-5 November and adopted the agenda for the fourth meeting.

4/1/Add.1/Rev.1 Annotated agenda

Provides an **overview of agenda items per segment**, i.e. at COP-4.1 and **revised** for COP-4.2.

Reference to the **documents prepared per agenda item**.

Annex III:
Tentative **schedule of work** for COP-4.2

4/1/Add.2/Rev.1 Issues and Information for the attention of the COP at its fourth meeting

Provides **issues and information for the COP per agenda items per segment**, i.e. at COP-4.1 and **revised** for COP-4.2.

INF/2 Information provided by the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Note: COP-4.1 agreed to intersessional consultations on 4(i) on Effectiveness Evaluation, to take place between COP-4.1 and COP-4.2. These consultations are on the **framework** for evaluating the effectiveness of the Convention.



All Documents | **Final Report** | Working Document | Information Document | Forms and guidance document

Select All | No documents selected

UNEP/MC/COP.4/28 - Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury on the work of its fourth meeting

DOWNLOAD | Final Report | 16.11.2021 | 991.09 KB

Agenda, Annotated Agenda, List of documents



- ❖ **4/1: Provisional agenda**
- ❖ **4/1/Add.1/Rev.1 Annotated provisional agenda**
- ❖ **4/2/Rev.1: Issues and information for the attention of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention at its fourth meeting**
- ❖ **INF/1/Rev.1: List of documents**

[LINK](#) to the tentative schedule of work for COP-4.2

COP-4 Agenda adopted for the Fourth Meeting

- Item 1: Opening of the meeting.
- Item 2: Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (b) Organization of work;
 - (c) Election of officers for the intersessional period and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
 - (d) Report on the credentials of representatives to the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Item 3: Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties: consideration of rule 45.

Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties

(a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j) (k) (l)

Item 5: International cooperation and coordination.

Item 6: Programme of work and budget.

Item 7: Dates of the resumed fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties; venue and dates of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Item 8: Other matters.

Item 9: Adoption of the report of the meeting.

Item 10: Closure of the meeting.

Substantive items of the agenda of COP-4.2



Tentative Schedule of Work

COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
<p>10:00 - 13:00</p> <p>Morning Session</p>	<p>Item 1: Opening of the meeting</p> <p>Item 2: Organizational matters (b) Organization of work (c) Election of Officers for the intersessional period and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (d) Report on the credentials of representatives to the fourth meeting</p> <p>Item 3: Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties: consideration of rule 45</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (k) Financial Rules</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties: (a) Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used: (i) Review of annexes A and B; (ii) Information on dental amalgam (iv) Proposals for amendments to annexes A and B</p>	<p><i>Reports of contact groups</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (h) National reporting (g) Implementation and Compliance Committee</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (e) Financial resources and mechanism (i) Global Environment Facility (ii) Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance (iii) Review of the financial mechanism</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (cont.)</p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (f) Capacity-building and technical assistance and technology transfer (j) Secretariat (l) Gender</p> <p>Item 5: International cooperation and coordination</p>	<p><i>Consideration of remaining outcomes and draft decisions</i></p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget (cont.) <i>Adoption of the budget decision</i></p> <p>Item 7: Venue and dates of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>Item 8: Other matters</p>
COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
<p>15:00-18:00</p> <p>Afternoon Session</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (i) Effectiveness evaluation</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(a) (iii) Customs codes (b) Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (c) Releases of mercury (d) Mercury waste: consideration of the relevant thresholds</p>		<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p>	<p>Item 9: Adoption of the report of the meeting</p> <p>Item 10: Closure of the meeting</p>

Item 4(a)(i): Review of Annexes A and B

- ❖ **4/4: Review of annexes A and B**
- ❖ **INF/3: Review of annexes A and B: Organized and enhanced compilation of information submitted by parties and stakeholders**

Article 4

Mercury-added products

8. No later than five years after the date of entry into force of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties shall review Annex A and may consider amendments to that Annex in accordance with Article 27.

Article 5

Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used

10. No later than five years after the date of entry into force of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties shall review Annex B and may consider amendments to that Annex in accordance with Article 27.]

4/4: Review of annexes A and B

Articles 4(9) and 5 (11) provide that COP shall take into account, at least:

- Proposals submitted by **parties** for listing in the annexes, which shall include information related to the availability, technical and economic feasibility and environmental and health risks and benefits of the non-mercury alternatives
- Information collected and made available by the **secretariat** on products and processes
- The **availability to the Parties of mercury-free alternatives** that are technically and economically feasible, taking into account the environmental and human health risks and benefits.

COP Decision 3/1 established an **ad hoc expert group** to prepare a document enhancing and organizing information on products and processes. **The Group's report is set out in Annex I to MC/COP.4/4.**

Article 4(2) provides that COP shall review the progress and effectiveness of **alternative measures to phase-out of products** taken by the Parties. COP Decision 3/1 requested Parties to report on such measures. A report submitted by a Party is set out in Annex II to MC/COP.4/4

Item 4(a)(i): Review of Annexes A and B



Part I: Products subject to Article 4, paragraph 1

Mercury-added products	Date after which the manufacture, import or export of the product shall not be allowed (phase-out date)
Batteries, except for button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content < 2% and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content < 2%	2020
Switches and relays, except very high accuracy capacitance and loss measurement bridges and high frequency radio frequency switches and relays in monitoring and control instruments with a maximum mercury c	2020

Part II: Products subject to Article 4, paragraph 3

Mercury-added products	Provisions
Dental amalgam	Measures to be taken by a Party to phase down the use of dental amalgam shall take into account the Party's domestic circumstances and relevant international guidance and shall include two or more of the measures from the following list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Setting national objectives aiming at dental caries prevention and health promotion, thereby minimizing the need for dental restoration; (ii) Setting national objectives aiming at minimizing its use;

Compact fluorescent lighting purposes that mercury content exce

Annex A consists of:

List of exclusions

Part I: Products for which manufacture, import and export are to be phased out by 2020 – batteries, switches, lamps, cosmetics, pesticides, measuring devices

Part II: Measures to be taken to phase down dental amalgam

Annex A

Mercury-added products

The following products are excluded from this Annex:

- (a) Products essential for civil protection and military uses;
- (b) Products for research, calibration of instrumentation, for use as reference standard;
- (c) Where no feasible mercury-free alternative for replacement is available, switches and relays, cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays, and measuring devices;
- (d) Products used in traditional or religious practices; and
- (e) Vaccines containing thiomersal as preservatives.

Item 4(a)(i): Review of Annexes A and B



Annex B consist of:

Part I: Processes to be phased out

- Chlor-alkali (by 2025)
- Acetaldehyde (by 2018)

Part II: Measures to restrict the use of mercury or mercury compounds

- Vinyl chloride monomer
- Sodium or potassium methylate or ethylate
- Polyurethane

Annex B

Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used

Part I: Processes subject to Article 5, paragraph 2

Manufacturing processes using mercury or mercury compounds	Phase-out date
Chlor-alkali production	2025
Acetaldehyde production in which mercury or mercury compounds are used as a catalyst	2018

Part II: Processes subject to Article 5, paragraph 3

Mercury using process	Provisions
Vinyl chloride monomer production	Measures to be taken by the Parties shall include but not be limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Reduce the use of mercury in terms of per unit production by 50 per cent by the year 2020 against 2010 use; (ii) Promoting measures to reduce the reliance on mercury from primary mining;
Sodium or Potassium Methylate or Ethylate	Measures to be taken by the Parties shall include but not be limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Measures to reduce the use of mercury aiming at the phase out of this use as fast as possible and within 10 years of the entry into force of the Convention; (ii) Reduce emissions and releases in terms of per unit production by 50 per cent by 2020 compared to 2010;
Production of polyurethane using mercury containing catalysts	Measures to be taken by the Parties shall include but not be limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Taking measures to reduce the use of mercury, aiming at the phase out of this use as fast as possible, within 10 years of the entry into force of the Convention; (ii) Taking measures to reduce the reliance on mercury from primary mercury mining;

Item 4(a)(i): Review of Annexes A and B


Following COP decision MC-3/1:

- **The Ad hoc group of experts** consisting of 18 members, and co-chaired by Mr. Darren Byrne (Ireland) and Ms. Gwenetta Fordyce (Guyana) began its work.
- Held 11 online meetings and 10 thematic group calls.
- Developed a **summary report** (MC/COP.4/4 Annex I) and an **organized and enhanced compilation** of information (MC/COP.4/INF/3).

Lamps

Information from the African Region, Canada, EU, Japan, Norway, USA and other stakeholders (CLASP, ILMA, ZMWG, Lighting Europe)

Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL)

1. Category of mercury-added product	Lamps
2. Further description of the product	Compact fluorescent lamps (CFL)
3. Information on the use of the product	<p>Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) are energy-saving lamps, available in a wide range of wattages, types and sizes. In CFLs, the ballast can either be integrated into the lamp (CFL with ballast (CFL-i) or separated from the lamp (CFL without ballast (CFL-ni)) (Gensch, et al., 2016). CFLs are regularly used for both commercial (i.e. retail, office, hospitality and leisure premises) and residential use, as energy-saving alternatives to incandescent lights (Gensch, et al., 2016). CFLs are screw-based lamps which can be directly connected to 230V and 110V lightbulb sockets (e.g. E27). CFL-nis can only operate as spare parts in a luminaire, which contain a specific electronic driver or ballast.</p>  <p>A small amount of mercury is present in all CFLs, as it is necessary for the low-pressure gas discharge (Gensch, et al., 2019). In CFLs, ultraviolet light is generated by driving an electric current through a tube, which contains argon and mercury. This stimulates the phosphor coating to produce visible light. CFLs initially require more energy when they are first turned on compared to alternative lamps, but they tend to use 70% less energy than incandescent bulbs on average. The ballast provides sufficient voltage to initially power the CFL, then regulates the current (US EPA, 2019a).</p> <p>Mercury is considered vital to the conversion of electricity into ultraviolet light, which is then converted into visible light (Gensch, et al., 2019). Lighting Europe suggests that although alternatives to mercury in CFLs, such as noble gases, were considered, they did not provide the same level of lamp performance in regard to lifetime, output or energy consumption (Lighting Europe, 2016).</p> <p>General composition of a CFL lamp (US EPA, 2019a)</p>

Information on products

1. Batteries
2. Switches and relays
3. Lamps
4. Non-electric measuring devices
5. Other electric devices (slip rings, reference electrodes, infrared detectors, melt pressure transducers, transmitters and sensors, mercury vacuum pumps)
6. Other non-electric products
7. Cosmetics
8. Pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics
9. Satellite propulsion

Information on processes

1. Chlor-alkali production
2. Other processes using mercury as electrodes
3. Vinyl chloride monomer production
4. Production of polyurethane
5. Other processes using mercury-containing catalysts
6. Other processes (gold plating/fire gilding)

Submissions from Parties and others of information on:

- Mercury-added products and mercury-using processes,
- availability, technical and economic feasibility and environmental and health risks and benefits to non-mercury alternatives.

COP-3 requested the group to **enhance and organize** the information.

COP-3 requested the Secretariat to prepare a **report** on the work of the ad hoc group by 30 April 2021.

Item 4(a)(i): Review of Annexes A and B

Products	Excerpt from the expert group report
Batteries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mercury-free alternatives are commercially available for all applications of the main types of button cell batteries (silver oxide, alkaline and zinc air) and have been available from major battery manufacturers. Information on cost and performance of mercury-free alternatives was compiled.
Switches and relays	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No specific information on the manufacturing of exempted switches and relays was identified.• Parties may consider mercury-added thermostats used to control room temperature in the category of mercury-added switch or measuring device.
Lamps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The primary mercury-free alternatives to mercury-containing lamps for general lighting purposes are light emitting diodes (LEDs).• It is technically and economically feasible to retrofit LEDs for compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) with integrated ballast. Diverging information on the availability of LED retrofit lamps for existing CFL with separate ballast and linear fluorescent lamps (LFL) fixtures.• Halophosphate LFLs can be replaced by triband phosphor lamps and/or by LEDs.• LEDs have replaced cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFLs and EEFLs) in the backlighting of flat-panel displays. CCFLs and EEFLs are still produced in limited numbers for replacement in certain control instruments.• LED lamps are available for many indoor and outdoor general lighting applications where previously mainly high intensity discharge (HID) lamps were used.• Ultraviolet (UV) LEDs have entered the market but are more costly and less energy-efficient than mercury-containing lamps.

Item 4(a)(i): Review of Annexes A and B

Products	Excerpt from the expert group report
Non-electric measuring devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some mercury-containing measuring devices for precision measurement and reference standards are in use.• Information on hydrometers, flowmeters, strain gauges and tensiometers was compiled.
Other electric devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on slip rings, reference electrodes, infrared detectors, melt pressure transducers, transmitters and sensors and vacuum pumps was compiled.
Other non-electric products	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on specialized silver halide photographic papers, motion picture and X-ray films, counter balancers was compiled.
Cosmetics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mercury concentrations in eye makeup cosmetics vary depending on the product but usually do not exceed 1 ppm. Non-mercury alternatives include phenoxyethanol, methylisothiazolinone, parabens, benzoic acid, sorbic acid, honey and sea salt.
Pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No information was submitted on the continued use of mercury in these product categories.
Satellite propulsion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on the potential use of mercury as a propellant for ion thrusters (ion engines) for satellites and spacecrafts was provided by a number of stakeholders. According to published articles, mercury has been used as a satellite propellant in the past. Concerns related to mercury toxicity led to its abandonment. Potential risks associated with re-using mercury as a propellant for ion thruster were pointed out

Item 4(a)(i): Review of Annexes A and B

Processes	Excerpt from the expert group report
Chlor-alkali production	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Some countries submitted information on their plan for phasing out the mercury-cell chlor-alkali process.
Other processes using Hg as electrodes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Information on prohibition and regulation on the production of sodium dithionite and production of alkali metals was compiled.
Vinyl chloride monomer production	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Although there are a select number of VCM facilities using mercury in the EU, Russia and potentially a limited number of other countries, the vast majority of this production is in China.VCM production in other countries does not involve mercury catalysts because ethylene is used as the hydrocarbon feedstock.There is a five-year GEF project under way for the reduction and minimization of mercury in PVC production in China. This project is scheduled to be completed in 2022.
Production of polyurethane	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Viable substitutes for mercury catalysts are already in use for over 95 per cent of polyurethane elastomer systems and have been in use for many years.The cost of mercury-free catalysts is comparable to the cost of mercury catalysts.
Other processes using mercury-containing catalysts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mercury catalysts may also be used to promote chemical reactions in processes, such as in producing 1 aminoanthraquinone and anthraquinone derivates, vinyl acetate and keto acids. There are substitutes available for the use of mercury in polymer production processes.
Other processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mercury is used in gold plating/fire gilding in some countries. Electroplating was presented as a mercury-free alternative.

Item 4(a)(ii): Dental amalgam

- ❖ **4/5:** Information on dental amalgam
- ❖ **INF/4:** Information on the implementation of any additional measures taken by parties and on non-mercury alternatives to dental amalgam
- ❖ **INF/26:** Dental amalgam: information from the World Health Organization

4/5: Information on dental amalgam

Article 3(4) and Annex A Part II provide that **each party shall take measures to phase down the use of dental amalgam**, which shall include two or more of the nine measures listed in that annex.

COP-3 considered a proposal by a number of parties to amend annex A, providing for the phase-out of the manufacture, import and export of dental amalgam. As a result of its deliberation, **COP adopted decision MC-3/2** on dental amalgam:

- Encourage parties to **take more than the two required measures** to phase down the use of dental amalgam
- Request the **secretariat to collect information on the implementation** of any such additional measures taken by parties *Summarized in 4/5. Compiled in INF/4 Annex I.*
- Requested the **secretariat to collect information related to the availability, technical and economic feasibility and environmental and health risks and benefits of the non-mercury alternatives** to dental amalgam *Summarized in 4/5. Compiled in INF/4 Annex II.*

INF/26 sets out a report of the informal global WHO consultation with policymakers in dental public health.

Item 4(a)(ii): Dental amalgam

Measure listed in part II of annex A	Parties and non-parties that have taken or plan to take the measure
(i) Setting national objectives aiming at dental caries prevention and health promotion, thereby minimizing the need for dental restoration	Brazil, Canada, Japan, Philippines, United States
(ii) Setting national objectives aiming at minimizing use of dental amalgam	Brazil, Cameroon, Congo, European Union, Italy, Thailand, Viet Nam
(iii) Promoting the use of cost-effective and clinically effective mercury-free alternatives for dental restoration	Brazil, Japan, Thailand, Viet Nam
(iv) Promoting research and development of quality mercury-free materials for dental restoration	Brazil, Japan, United States
(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	Japan, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, United States
(vi) Discouraging insurance policies and programmes that favour dental amalgam use over mercury-free dental restoration	Japan
(vii) Encouraging insurance policies and programmes that favour the use of quality alternatives to dental amalgam for dental restoration	Japan
(viii) Restricting the use of dental amalgam to its encapsulated form	Brazil, Canada, European Union, Thailand
(ix) Promoting the use of best environmental practices in dental facilities to reduce releases of mercury and mercury compounds to water and land	Brazil, Canada, European Union, Japan, Mozambique, Philippines, Thailand, United States

Other measures taken by parties and non-parties include the following:

- Legislation prohibiting the use of dental amalgam for children and pregnant or breastfeeding women (European Union, Nepal)
- Recommendation that certain high-risk groups use non-mercury alternatives for dental fillings (United States)
- Technology-based pre-treatment standard for discharges from dental offices (United States)
- Awareness-raising activities (Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Jordan, Mozambique)

Item 4(a)(ii): Dental amalgam

Information provided by Parties and stakeholders

Availability of non-mercury alternatives to dental amalgam	Alternatives such as composite resins, ceramics and glass ionomer cements are already widely used.
Economic feasibility of non-mercury alternatives	Price difference for dental restoration using alternatives is relatively small owing to improvements in mercury free restoration techniques.
Technical feasibility of non-mercury alternatives	<p>Advantages and disadvantages of dental amalgam and alternatives as stated by Parties and stakeholders include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mercury-free materials exhibit satisfactory mechanical properties, with a lower cavity preparation requirement for composites, as well as better aesthetics.• Four main factors influence the longevity of a filling: the material, the method of restoration, the dentist's skills and the patient's dental hygiene.• Resin-modified glass ionomers are more fracture-resistant than glass ionomers, and are often used for small restorations, especially in pediatric dentistry.• Glass ionomer does not have the same physical and chemical properties and clinical performance as dental amalgam, with shorter lifespan than amalgam.
Environmental health risks and benefits	<p>Dental amalgam causes significant emissions and releases of mercury, posing risks to human health and the environment.</p> <p>Environmental risks of non-mercury alternatives to dental amalgam had not yet been fully studied.</p>

Info Stop on 4(a) (i) and (ii)

- **At its fourth meeting the COP is to review Annexes A and B.**

Review Annex A and B: COP may wish to take into account the **presented information** (see document 4/4 and INF/3) **in its review** of annexes A and B to the Convention, pursuant to **Articles 4(9) and 5(11)** and may consider **amendments to the respective Annexes in accordance with Article 27.**

Dental Amalgam: COP may wish to take note of the **information presented** (see document 4/5 and INF 4) as requested by COP-3 and/or consider it, as appropriate.

Item 4(a)(iv): Proposals for Amendments to Annexes A and B



- ❖ **4/26:** Proposals for amendments to annexes A and B
- ❖ **4/26/Add.1:** Proposal by the European Union to amend part I of annex A, part II of annex A and part I of annex B
- ❖ **4/26/Add.2:** Proposal by the Africa region to amend parts I and II of annex A
- ❖ **4/26/Add.3:** Proposal by Canada and Switzerland to amend part I and annex A

The Secretariat received **three proposals** for amendments:

- The European Union
- Botswana, Burkina Faso and Madagascar, on behalf of the Africa region
- Canada and Switzerland

The proposals were **communicated to all Parties on 30 April 2021** and are available as **COP-4 documents**.

Article 26

Amendments to the Convention

1. Amendments to this Convention may be proposed by any Party.
2. Amendments to this Convention shall be adopted at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The text of any proposed amendment shall be communicated to the Parties by the Secretariat at least six months before the meeting at which it is proposed for adoption. The Secretariat shall also communicate the proposed amendment to the signatories to this Convention and, for information, to the Depository.

Article 27

Adoption and amendment of annexes

1. Annexes to this Convention shall form an integral part thereof and, unless expressly provided otherwise, a reference to this Convention constitutes at the same time a reference to any annexes thereto.
2. Any additional annexes adopted after the entry into force of this Convention shall be restricted to procedural, scientific, technical or administrative matters.

Item 4(a)(iv): Proposals for Amendments to Annexes A and B

- ❖ **4/26:** Proposals for amendments to annexes A and B
- ❖ **4/26/Add.1:** Proposal by the European Union to amend part I of annex A, part II of annex A and part I of annex B
- ❖ **4/26/Add.2:** Proposal by the Africa region to amend parts I and II of annex A
- ❖ **4/26/Add.3:** Proposal by Canada and Switzerland to amend part I and annex A

- For each of the three proposals the respective proponents provided:
- the **text** of the proposed amendment (see annex I to the respective addenda), and
 - an **explanatory note** on the proposal (see annex II to the respective addenda).



MINAMATA ONLINE
SEASON 2 - 2021
2022

INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PROPOSALS TO AMEND ANNEXES A AND B OF THE CONVENTION

MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Article 26 sets out the provisions for amending the Convention, and Article 27 provides for the adoption and amendment of annexes to the Convention. The Secretariat received three proposals for amendments to the Convention in time for COP-4, and communicated these to the Parties on 30 April 2021. This information session will be an opportunity to be informed of the process of amendment of the Convention, the current Annexes A and B, and specifically the three proposals received, namely from the [European Union](#), the [Africa region](#), and from [Canada and Switzerland](#). Please send specific questions you may have on the proposals in advance to MEA-MinamataSecretariat@un.org.

SPEAKERS

- Monika Stankiewicz
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- Claudia ten Have
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- Aneta Willems
Directorate General for Environment, European Commission
- Liliane Randrianomenjanahary
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Madagascar
- Jamie Knill
Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Eisaku Toda
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

WEDNESDAY, 01 SEPT 2021
13h00-14h30 CEDT

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COP-4 BRIEFING

For ease of reference, the Secretariat reflected the **text of the three proposals against the text of annexes A and B to the Convention** in annexes I and I to 4/26.

Note: All proposed amendments are **additions**.

Item 4(a)(iv): Proposals for Amendments to Annexes A and B

4/26 Annex I: Part I (Products)

Annex A ...
with the
proposed
amendments
in grey

Proposals to
remove
exceptions.

Part I: Products subject to Article 4, paragraph 1

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Date after which the manufacture, import or export of the product shall not be allowed (phase-out date)</i>	<i>Proponent</i>
Batteries, except for button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content < 2% and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content < 2%	2020	
[Button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content < 2% and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content < 2%]	[2023]	European Union
Switches and relays, except very high accuracy capacitance and loss measurement bridges and high frequency radio frequency switches and relays in monitoring and control instruments with a maximum mercury content of 20 mg per bridge, switch or relay	2020	
[Very high accuracy capacitance and loss measurement bridges and high frequency radio frequency switches and relays in monitoring and control instruments with a maximum mercury content of 20 mg per bridge switch or relay]	[2025]	Canada and Switzerland

Item 4(a)(iv): Proposals for Amendments to Annexes A and B

4/26 Annex I: Part I (Products)

Annex A ...
with the
proposed
amendments
in grey

Proposals
informed by the
work of the
expert group

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Date after which the manufacture, import or export of the product shall not be allowed (phase-out date)</i>	<i>Proponent</i>
Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) for general lighting purposes that are ≤ 30 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner	2020	
[Compact fluorescent lamps with an integrated ballast (CFL.i) for general lighting purposes that are ≤ 30 watts]	[2024]	Africa region
Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes: (a) Triband phosphor < 60 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp; (b) Halophosphate phosphor ≤ 40 watts with a mercury content exceeding 10 mg per lamp	2020	
[Halophosphate phosphor linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes]	[2023]	European Union
[Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes, (a) Triband phosphor ≤ 60 watts; (b) Halophosphate phosphor ≤ 40 watts]	[2025]	Africa region

Item 4(a)(iv): Proposals for Amendments to Annexes A and B

4/26 Annex I: Part I (Products)

Annex A ...
with the
proposed
amendments
in grey

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Date after which the manufacture, import or export of the product shall not be allowed (phase-out date)</i>	<i>Proponent</i>
High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes	2020	
Mercury in cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) short length (≤ 500 mm) with mercury content exceeding 3.5 mg per lamp (b) medium length (> 500 mm and $\leq 1\ 500$ mm) with mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp (c) long length ($> 1\ 500$ mm) with mercury content exceeding 13 mg per lamp 	2020	
[Cold cathode fluorescent lamps (CCFL) and external electrode fluorescent lamps (EEFL) for electronic displays of all lengths]	[2024]	Africa region

Item 4(a)(iv): Proposals for Amendments to Annexes A and B

4/26 Annex I: Part I (Products)

Annex A ... with
the proposed
amendments
in grey

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Date after which the manufacture, import or export of the product shall not be allowed (phase-out date)</i>	<i>Proponent</i>
[The following non-electronic measuring devices: (a) strain gauges to be used in plethysmographs; (b) tensiometers]	[2023]	European Union
[The following electrical and electronic measuring devices: (a) melt pressure transducers, transmitters and sensors; (b) mercury vacuum pumps]	[2023]	European Union
[Counter balancing devices including tire balancers and wheel weights]	[2025]	Canada and Switzerland
[Photographic film and paper]	[2025]	Canada and Switzerland
[Propellant for satellites and spacecraft]	[2025]	Canada and Switzerland
[Polyurethane, including canisters for the application of polyurethane]	[2023]	European Union

Item 4(a)(iv): Proposals for Amendments to Annexes A and B

4/26 Annex I: Part II (Dental)

Part II: Products subject to Article 4, paragraph 3

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Provisions</i>
Dental amalgam	<p>Measures to be taken by a Party to phase down the use of dental amalgam shall take into account the Party's domestic circumstances and relevant international guidance and shall include two or more of the measures from the following list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Setting national objectives aiming at dental caries prevention and health promotion, thereby minimizing the need for dental restoration;(ii) Setting national objectives aiming at minimizing its use;(iii) Promoting the use of cost-effective and clinically effective mercury-free alternatives for dental restoration;(iv) Promoting research and development of quality mercury-free materials for dental restoration;(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;(vi) Discouraging insurance policies and programmes that favour dental amalgam use over mercury-free dental restoration;(vii) Encouraging insurance policies and programmes that favour the use of quality alternatives to dental amalgam for dental restoration;(viii) Restricting the use of dental amalgam to its encapsulated form;(ix) Promoting the use of best environmental practices in dental facilities to reduce releases of mercury and mercury compounds to water and land.

Item 4(a)(iv): Proposals for Amendments to Annexes A and B

4/26 Annex I: Part II (Dental)

Annex A, Part II – EU proposes to add the text in grey

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Provisions</i>
Proponent: The European Union proposes adding the following text to part II of annex A:	
[Dental amalgam]	<p>[By 1 January 2024, Parties shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Provide that dental amalgam is only used in pre-dosed encapsulated form;¹ (ii) Prohibit the use of mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners; (iii) Ensure that operators of dental facilities in which dental amalgam is used or dental amalgam fillings or teeth containing such fillings are removed, equip their facilities with amalgam separators with a retention efficiency level of 95%², for the retention and collection of amalgam particles, including those contained in used water; (iv) No longer allow the use of dental amalgam for the dental treatment of deciduous teeth, of children under 15 years and of pregnant or breastfeeding women, except when deemed strictly necessary by the dental practitioner based on the specific medical needs of the patient. <p>¹ <i>Amalgam capsules such as those described in international standards ISO 13897:2018 and 24234:2015 are considered suitable for use by dental practitioners.</i></p> <p>² <i>Compliance of amalgam separators shall be based on relevant international standards, including ISO 11143:2008.]</i></p>

Item 4(a)(iv): Proposals for Amendments to Annexes A and B

4/26 Annex I: Part II (Dental)

Annex A, Part II – Africa proposes to replace the current text with the text in grey

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Provisions</i>
Proponent: The Africa region proposes deleting the heading and current text in the second column of part II of annex A, replacing it with the following text:	
[Dental amalgam]	<p>[1. By 1 January 2023, each Party to the Minamata Convention on Mercury shall issue a communication recommending that only non- mercury dental filling materials be used in children and in women of childbearing age.</p> <p>2. By 1 January 2025, each Party to the Minamata Convention on Mercury shall set out a national plan concerning the measures it intends to implement to phase out the use of dental amalgam. Parties shall make their national plans publicly available on the internet and shall transmit them to the Secretariat.</p> <p>3. By 1 January 2027, the manufacture and import of amalgam shall cease. To account for exceptions and accommodate the transition to mercury-free dentistry, Parties may permit domestic sales inside their country for two more years.</p> <p>4. By 1 January 2029, domestic sales of amalgam inside countries, as stipulated in point 3 above shall also cease.]</p>

Item 4(a)(iv): Proposals for Amendments to Annexes A and B

4/26 Annex II (Processes)

Annex B ... with the proposed amendment in grey

Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used

Part I: Processes subject to Article 5, paragraph 2

<i>Manufacturing processes using mercury or mercury compounds</i>	<i>Phase-out date</i>	<i>Proponent</i>
Chlor-alkali production	2025	
Acetaldehyde production in which mercury or mercury compounds are used as a catalyst	2018	
[Production of polyurethane using mercury-containing catalysts]	[2023]	European Union

Info Stop the Review and the Proposals

- ❑ At its fourth meeting the COP is **reviewing Annexes A and B** and **may consider amendments to the Annexes** in accordance with Article 27 (see document 4/4).
- ❑ As **three proposals for amendment to the annexes** have reached the Parties as per the timelines set out in the Convention text, the COP is to consider the proposals (see document 4/28, add.1, add.2 and add.3.).
- ❑ Amendments to the Annexes shall be **adopted** at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Note on timing: Once an amendment to an annex has been adopted, see document 4/26, paragraphs 8 to 10, for the process of entry into force.


Tentative Schedule of Work

COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
<p>10:00 - 13:00</p> <p>Morning Session</p>	<p>Item 1: Opening of the meeting</p> <p>Item 2: Organizational matters (b) Organization of work (c) Election of Officers for the intersessional period and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (d) Report on the credentials of representatives to the fourth meeting</p> <p>Item 3: Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties: consideration of rule 45</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (k) Financial Rules</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties: (a) Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used: (i) Review of annexes A and B; (ii) Information on dental amalgam (iv) Proposals for amendments to annexes A and B</p>	<p><i>Reports of contact groups</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (h) National reporting (g) Implementation and Compliance Committee</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (e) Financial resources and mechanism (i) Global Environment Facility (ii) Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance (iii) Review of the financial mechanism</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (cont.)</p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (f) Capacity-building and technical assistance and technology transfer (j) Secretariat (l) Gender</p> <p>Item 5: International cooperation and coordination</p>	<p><i>Consideration of remaining outcomes and draft decisions</i></p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget (cont.) <i>Adoption of the budget decision</i></p> <p>Item 7: Venue and dates of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>Item 8: Other matters</p>
COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
<p>15:00-18:00</p> <p>Afternoon Session</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (i) Effectiveness evaluation</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(a) (iii) Customs codes (b) Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (c) Releases of mercury (d) Mercury waste: consideration of the relevant thresholds</p>		<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p>	<p>Item 9: Adoption of the report of the meeting</p> <p>Item 10: Closure of the meeting</p>

Item 4(i): Effectiveness Evaluation

- ❖ **4/18:** Giving effect to article 22: effectiveness evaluation
- ❖ **4/18/Add.1** Indicators
- ❖ **4/18/Add.2** Guidance on monitoring of mercury and mercury compounds ...
- ❖ **4/18/Add.3** Framework Consultations
- ❖ **INF/11:**Compilation of views on the proposed indicators
- ❖ **INF/12:** Guidance on monitoring of mercury and mercury compounds
- ❖ **INF/25:** Supplemental material

Paragraph 1 of article 22 stipulates that the Conference of the Parties is to evaluate the effectiveness of the Convention, beginning no later than six years after the date of entry into force of the Convention and periodically thereafter at intervals to be decided by it.

Entry into force 16 Aug 2017	COP-1 24-29 Sept 2017	COP-2 19-23 Nov 2018	COP-3 25-29 Nov 2019	COP-4 1-5 Nov 2021 21-25 Mar 2022
Convention, Article 22	Decision MC-1/9	Decision MC-2/10	Decision MC-3/10	

The COP is to evaluate the effectiveness of the Convention, beginning no later than six years after the date of the entry into force.



COP-4.1 opened consideration of the agenda item.

- ❖ 4/28 – Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury on the work of its fourth meeting: Online segment (1-5 November 2021)
- ❖ CRP.1 – Conference room paper on a framework for the first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention: Proposal by Norway and Canada

Following the discussion there was general consensus that it was **worthwhile pursuing discussions on issues on which consensus had yet to be reached**. The Secretariat was to invite and arrange an online session to enable the exchange of **written comments on the framework** views. The COP agreed to hold **intersessional consultations** in this manner in preparation for COP-4.2.

Plan of Work for the Consultations on the framework to evaluate the effectiveness of the Convention, in preparation for the return to Agenda Item 4(i) on effectiveness evaluation at the resumed fourth meeting

Wednesday, 15 December 2021 from 13:00 to 14:00 CET	Online Information Session: The Secretariat will inform on the areas of work to give effect to article 22, the progress made thus far and the remaining areas of work on the effectiveness evaluation framework and related matters. The information session may also serve to allow Parties to share views and perspectives on the framework to evaluate the effectiveness of the Convention additional to the documents, and for the conduct of the agreed consultations among Parties in preparation of the resumed fourth meeting.
Until Thursday, 20 January 2022	Written Comments Deadline: Parties are invited to submit written comments on the framework to evaluate the effectiveness of the Convention as soon as possible, and no later than Thursday, 20 January 2022. The same deadline applies to stakeholders who may wish to provide their input.
Tuesday, 25 January and Thursday, 27 January 2022	Online Consultation Session: The Secretariat will facilitate an online consultation session on the written comments received and provide the opportunity for additional comments to be made. This consultation session will also enable clarification on comments and responses, additional questions that may have arisen, and the exchange of other relevant information on the framework to evaluate the effectiveness of the Convention and give full effect to Article 22. Parties may wish to submit further and or additional comments after this session.
February 2022 4/18/Add.3	Compilation of comments and input received: The Secretariat compiles the comments and input received in light of the consultations on the framework for evaluating the effectiveness of the Convention, to support further consideration by the Conference of the Parties at the resumed fourth meeting under agenda item 4(i) on effectiveness evaluation.

All information available on the intersessional page of the Convention website, include access to the online work space.

Item 4(i): Effectiveness Evaluation

❖ 4/18: Giving effect to article 22: effectiveness evaluation

Following the **agreement of the COP at COP-4.1** to intersessional consultations on the framework, the Secretariat further prepares:

❖ 4/18/Add.3: Framework consultations

Effectiveness Evaluation Committee

Policy Questions

Expert Group

COP and Party Review Process

4/18: Overview of work done since the first meeting and remaining areas of work needed for the Conference of the Parties to put in place the framework and arrangements for evaluating the effectiveness of the Convention and to conduct its first evaluation

Areas of work to give effect to article 22

Framework and arrangements	Convention text or decision of the Conference of the Parties	Notes and progress made	Remaining areas of work
First effectiveness evaluation cycle	Paragraph 1 of article 22 of the Convention stipulates that the Conference of the Parties is to evaluate the effectiveness of the Convention, beginning no later than six years after the date of entry into force of the Convention.	As the Convention entered into force on 16 August 2017, six years later is 15 August 2023.	Conference of the Parties: The Conference of the Parties is to decide to begin the first effectiveness evaluation, and further at which meeting it wishes to receive the reports that it requires <u>in order to</u> conduct and conclude on the first effectiveness evaluation.
Elements of an effectiveness evaluation framework	In decision MC-1/9, the Conference of the Parties tasked the expert group with developing elements of an effectiveness evaluation framework. This included:	UNEP/MC/COP.3/14 contained the report of the expert group on the elements of an effectiveness evaluation framework, prepared in response to	Conference of the Parties: The Conference of the Parties is to conclude on the elements of the effectiveness evaluation framework,

Eight Areas of work to give effect to Article 22 (see pages 5-8 of the above document for full details)

1. First effectiveness evaluation cycle
2. Elements of an effectiveness evaluation framework
3. Monitoring information and arrangements
4. Article 21 national reports as a source of information
5. Available scientific, environmental, technical, financial and economic information
6. Information and recommendations provided by and through the Implementation and Compliance Committee
7. Reports and other relevant information pursuant to articles 13 and 14
8. Periodicity of evaluation of the effectiveness of the Convention

Item 4(i): Effectiveness Evaluation

❖ 4/18/add. 1: Indicators

❖ INF/11: Compilation of views on the proposed indicators

A total of **58 indicators** were initially proposed. A number of indicators were grouped into **clusters** as follows:

- supply (articles 3, 10 and 11), demand (articles 4, 5 and 7), pressure (articles 8, 9 and 12), and
- support (articles 13 and 14) and information and research (articles 17, 18 and 19).

16 Parties submitted views

In **Decision MC-3/10**, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties to submit **views** on the proposed **indicators** set out in **annex I** to the decision and requested the **Secretariat to compile those views** in advance of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

To support Parties in submitting their views on the proposed indicators and allow for the compilation of those views in advance of the fourth meeting, the Secretariat developed a **plan of work** for the intersessional work on indicators, in consultation with the Bureau:

- **Information Session:** 17 September 2020
- Parties were invited to submit their **initial views** and responses to the secretariat by 30 November 2020. These were made available on in an online workspace.
- 2-4 February 2021, the Secretariat facilitated an **exchange session** on the submissions.
- Secretariat was requested to prepare a **compilation of initial views**.
- 4 March 2021, the Secretariat facilitated an **additional exchange session** on request.
- Parties were invited to submit their **views** by 31 March 2021.

Item 4(i): Effectiveness Evaluation

❖ **4/18: Giving effect to article 22: effectiveness evaluation**

❖ **INF/11: Compilation of views on the proposed indicators**

Very detailed consideration of indicators by parties

INF/11

Annex I contains the views after the exchange sessions in 2021

Annex II contains the views contributed by parties that opted not to add to or update the initial views they submitted following the information session in 2020

4/18/add.1: Parties' comments with regard to indicators included the following:

- **A well-defined set of various indicators is an important tool** for the evaluation of the effectiveness of the Convention;
- **Describing indicators in terms of their relevance** to the effectiveness evaluation can be useful;
- In some instances, indicators need to be **adjusted to be consistent with the Convention text**;
- In some instances, indicators need to be **adjusted to be consistent with the format** for article 22 reporting, which is a source of information for the effectiveness evaluation;
- Indicators sometimes overlap or are duplicative and would benefit from **simplification**;
- The proposed indicators may need to be **refined based on the experience** of their use;
- There will be **different levels of information completeness, uncertainty** in some of the estimates and possibly different **understandings** on data sources;
- **Control measures** are to make direct progress on the Convention's objective (outlined in article 1) and are **supported to that end by enabling measures**;
- The effectiveness evaluation and its indicators are **not a compliance check**;
- Further work is needed on **baselines**.

Item 4(i): Effectiveness Evaluation

- ❖ **4/18/Add.2** Guidance on monitoring of mercury and mercury compounds to support evaluation of the effectiveness of the Minamata Convention
- ❖ **INF/12:** Guidance on monitoring of mercury and mercury compounds to support evaluation of the effectiveness of the Minamata Convention
- ❖ **INF/25:** Supplemental material

Review of existing mercury monitoring programmes

Data collection and management

Annexes: standard operating procedures, prototype of data submission template, possible future work

4/18/Add.2: Guidance on monitoring of mercury and mercury compounds to support evaluation of the effectiveness of the Minamata Convention: executive summary

COP is to conduct effectiveness evaluation on the basis of available information including comparable monitoring data.

Decision MC-3/10 requested the Secretariat to **secure services to advance the drafting of guidance on monitoring.**

The draft guidance was developed through:

- Establishment of roadmap and draft annotated outline
- Drafting by experts through online consultation meetings
- Two rounds of commenting by Parties and stakeholders

Executive summary

1. Introduction and objectives
2. Comparable monitoring data and the effectiveness evaluation
3. Atmospheric mercury monitoring
4. Biota mercury monitoring
5. Human biomonitoring
6. Cross-media data management and analysis

Annex: Tiered approach to monitoring mercury and mercury compounds

Item 4(i): Effectiveness Evaluation

- ❖ 4/18: Giving effect to article 22: effectiveness evaluation
- ❖ 4/18/Add.1 Indicators
- ❖ 4/18/Add.2 Guidance on monitoring of mercury and mercury compounds ...
- ❖ 4/18/Add.3 Framework Consultations*
- ❖ INF/11: Compilation of views on the proposed indicators
- ❖ INF/12: Guidance on monitoring of mercury and mercury compounds
- ❖ INF/25: Supplemental material

For COP-4.2: Suggested action

In light of ... article 22, paragraph 1 ... and based on the work done since its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties may, at its fourth meeting, wish to:

- (a) Consider the information contained in the present note;
- (b) Consider **beginning the first evaluation** of the effectiveness of the Convention;
- (c) Set the meeting at which it will **conclude the first evaluation** of the effectiveness of the Convention;
- (d) Consider establishing an **effectiveness evaluation committee** tasked with preparing a report on the effectiveness of the Convention and overseeing scientific and technical work in that regard;
- (e) Consider the **indicators** for evaluating the effectiveness of the Convention based on the work done so far;
- (f) Consider the **draft guidance on monitoring** prepared based on the work done so far;
- (g) Consider the **periodicity** of effectiveness evaluations;
- (h) Consider requesting the secretariat to continue supporting the effectiveness evaluation process by continuing to collect information relevant to the effectiveness evaluation and to develop the reports requested by the Conference of the Parties.

Info Stop on Effectiveness Evaluation

- ❑ The deadline to **begin** the first effectiveness evaluation is August 2023.
- ❑ The establishment of an **Effectiveness Evaluation Committee** is foreseen by the COP.
 - Establishing **indicators** for evaluating the effectiveness of the Convention.
 - Approach on conducting the effectiveness evaluation on the basis of available information including comparable **monitoring** data.

Tentative Schedule of Work

COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
<p>10:00 - 13:00</p> <p>Morning Session</p>	<p>Item 1: Opening of the meeting</p> <p>Item 2: Organizational matters (b) Organization of work (c) Election of Officers for the intersessional period and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (d) Report on the credentials of representatives to the fourth meeting</p> <p>Item 3: Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties: consideration of rule 45</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (k) Financial Rules</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties: (a) Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used: (i) Review of annexes A and B; (ii) Information on dental amalgam (iv) Proposals for amendments to annexes A and B</p>	<p><i>Reports of contact groups</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (h) National reporting (g) Implementation and Compliance Committee</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (e) Financial resources and mechanism (i) Global Environment Facility (ii) Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance (iii) Review of the financial mechanism</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (cont.)</p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (f) Capacity-building and technical assistance and technology transfer (j) Secretariat (l) Gender</p> <p>Item 5: International cooperation and coordination</p>	<p><i>Consideration of remaining outcomes and draft decisions</i></p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget (cont.) <i>Adoption of the budget decision</i></p> <p>Item 7: Venue and dates of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>Item 8: Other matters</p>
COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
<p>15:00-18:00</p> <p>Afternoon Session</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (i) Effectiveness evaluation</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(a) (iii) Customs codes (b) Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (c) Releases of mercury (d) Mercury waste: consideration of the relevant thresholds</p>		<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p>	<p>Item 9: Adoption of the report of the meeting</p> <p>Item 10: Closure of the meeting</p>

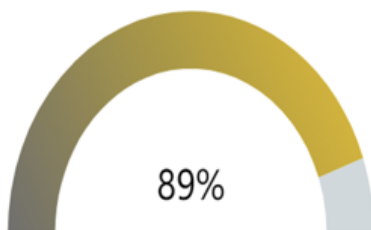
Item 4(h): National Reporting

- ❖ 4/16: National reporting
- ❖ INF/2: Information provided by the parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Article 21 Reporting

1. Each Party shall report to the Conference of the Parties, through the Secretariat, on the measures it has taken to implement the provisions of this Convention and on the effectiveness of such measures and the possible challenges in meeting the objectives of the Convention.

Reporting Rate (30/06/2021)



4/16: National Reporting

The document provides the Secretariat's report on **the first short reports, the responses to the questions, and feedback received from parties on Parts C, D, and E**, as mandated under Article 21 on Reporting.

The document also has the overall comments by the Secretariat on the responses in the first short report.

The document elaborates on the **reporting performance** in the first short reports covering the reporting period 16 August 2017 to 31 December 2019, and the **responses** received in the reports.

INF/2/Rev.1: Provides an overview of the status of **ratification**; and the update of **notifications**, national reports, MIAs, NAPs and NIPs received by the Secretariat as of 31 January 2022.

Item 4(h): National Reporting

- ❖ 4/16: National reporting
- ❖ INF/2: Information provided by the parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

4/16: National Reporting

The **four questions** that form part of the short reports relate to the supply, trade and disposal of mercury, and in particular to **article 3** (Mercury supply sources and trade) and **article 11** (Mercury wastes) of the Convention:

Question 3.1 (c) on **primary mercury mines** operating at the time of entry into force of the Convention for the party;

Question 3.3 (a) on **individual stocks** of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons and **sources** of mercury supply generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year;

Question 3.5 on the **export of mercury** from the party's territory in the reporting period;

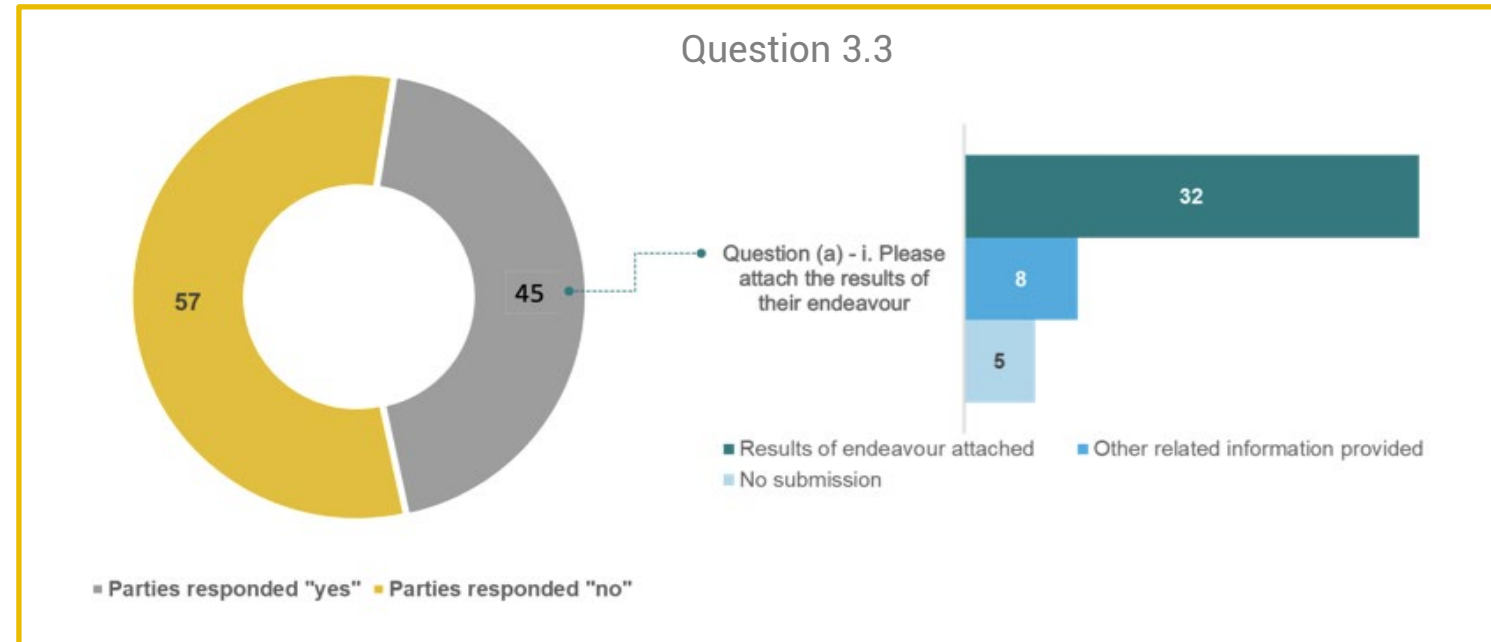
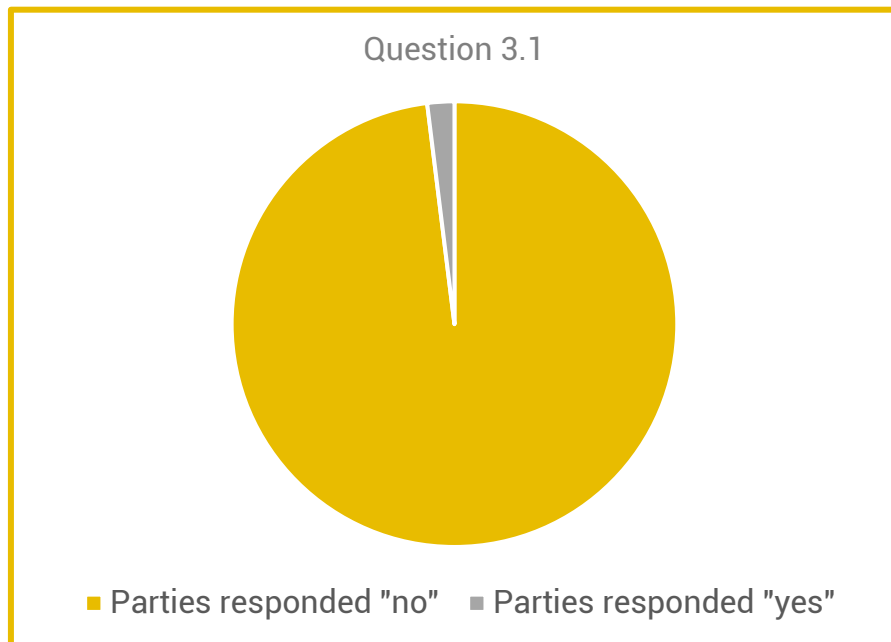
Question 11.2 on facilities for **final disposal of waste consisting of mercury and mercury compounds** in the party's territory.

Item 4(h): National Reporting

- ❖ 4/16: National reporting
- ❖ INF/2: Information provided by the parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

4/16: National Reporting

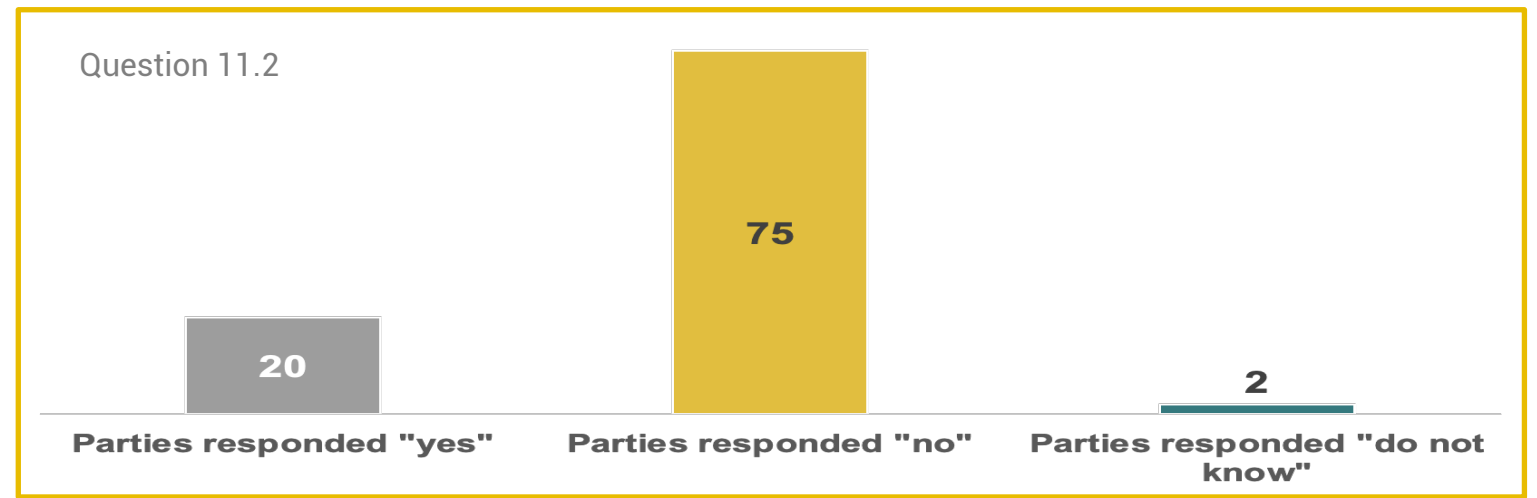
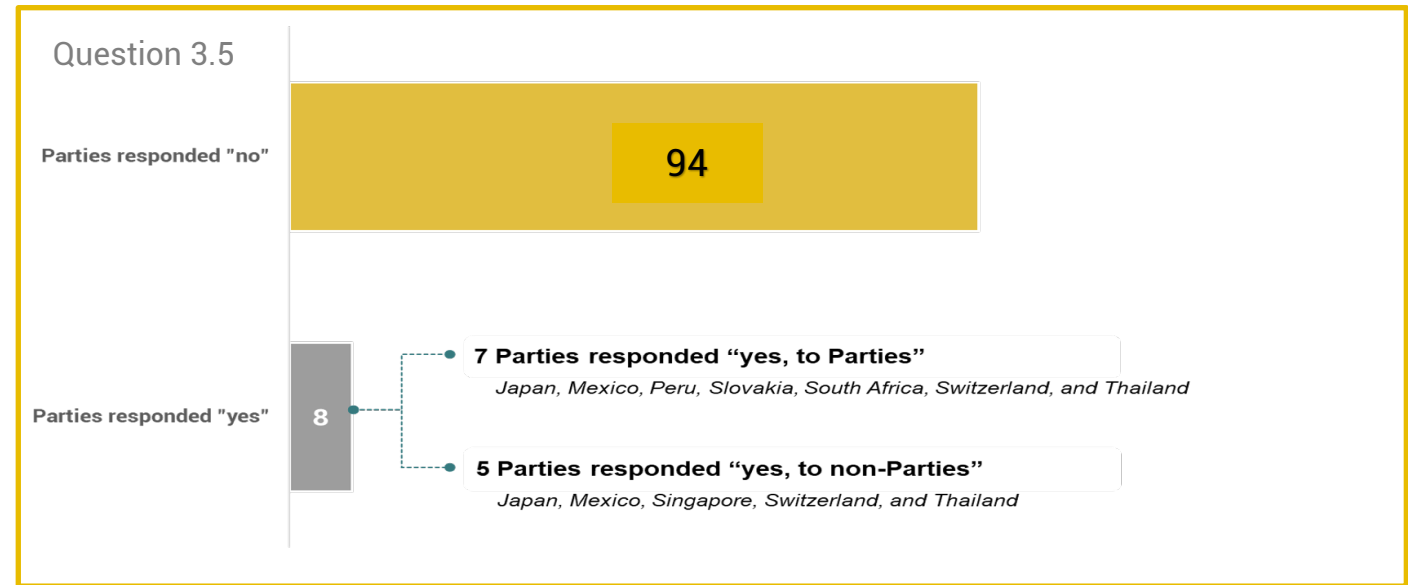
Annex II presents the details of the responses to each of the four questions of the first short national reports received for the first reporting period (16 August 2017 to 31 December 2019)



Item 4(h): National Reporting

- ❖ 4/16: National reporting
- ❖ INF/2: Information provided by the parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

4/16: National Reporting



Item 4(h): National Reporting

❖ **4/16: National reporting**

The Secretariat observed that the **wording of some questions resulted in a lack of clarity in the responses**. As a consequence, possibilities for longer-term tracking and meaningful analysis of the responses are limited.

❖ **INF/2: Information provided by the parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury**

It would be desirable for these **issues to be addressed by the COP to enable clear reporting in subsequent reporting periods**.

Issues for clarification include:

Question 3.1 (c) – The **basis for reporting the “total amount”** and whether it is total amount of mercury obtained or the total amount of ore containing mercury that is extracted.

Question 3.3 – Whether the obligation to endeavour to identify stocks and sources as set out in paragraph 5 of article 3 is **a one-time effort or an ongoing effort** that should also be reported in future reporting cycles.

Question 3.5 – The need to give Parties the possibility to indicate in the format that **they did not export mercury**.

Question 11.2 – The need for greater clarity regarding the **term “final disposal”**.

Item 4(g): ICC

❖ 4/15: Report on the work of the Implementation and Compliance Committee of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

The Committee **elected** Ms. Paulina Riquelme (Chile) as **Chair** and Ms. Itsuki Kuroda (Japan) as **Vice-Chair** and Rapporteur to serve between the closure of ICC3 and the closure of ICC4.

4/15 Report on the Work of the Implementation and Compliance Committee

The **ICC met online** (7-8 June 2021), see Annex to 4/15.

The ICC for the **first time examined** issues related to the implementation of, and compliance with provisions of the Convention, based on **the short national reports** submitted by Parties in accordance with article 21 of the Convention.

ICC commended that **97 out of 114 parties** had submitted their reports (85% reporting rate) by that time.

The Secretariat presented to the Committee its findings on the responses submitted by Parties to the four questions of the short reports.

Based on the report of the Secretariat and the Committee's deliberations, the Committee agreed on **conclusions on the short reports** and **recommendations to COP-4**.

The Committee also considered issues related to its **work programme** between COP-4 and COP-5, and the venue and date of **ICC4** (online meeting in July 2022) and **ICC5** (2-day in-person meeting in March 2023).

Item 4(g): ICC

❖ 4/15: Report on the work of the Implementation and Compliance Committee of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Recommendations include:

Consider the **factors** that have contributed to the reporting challenges identified by the ICC,

Request the Secretariat, with respect to **matters relating to reporting on the export of mercury**, to propose potential ways for parties to provide the Secretariat with information ...

4/15: Report on the work of the Implementation and Compliance Committee of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

The Committee **concluded** that:

- a) Parties might have **interpreted certain reporting requirements** in varying ways that that may present challenges to the ability of the Committee to review implementation and compliance.
- b) Parties might have had challenges in reporting on **measures** taken, or on their **progress** if the measures were under way at the time of reporting.
- c) Some **documentation** for the national reports had not reached the Secretariat, for which there might be various reasons, including parties' concerns regarding the protection of commercial-in-confidence information.

Item 4(h): National Reporting

❖ 4/17: Draft guidance on completing the national reporting format for the Minamata Convention on Mercury

4/17 Draft guidance for completing the national reporting format for the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Decision MC-3/13, on guidance for completing the national reporting format, recognized the need for complete and consistent national reporting to provide information for the effectiveness evaluation and for supporting compliance, and requested the Secretariat to draft guidance in this regard.

The **Annex to the document** contains the draft guidance for completing the national reporting format for the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

The draft of the guidance was **circulated on 20 May 2021** for commenting by Parties and others by 28 June 2021. **Eighteen Parties took advantage of the opportunity to comment.**

The draft guidance has also been used by many Parties to complete full reports for December 2021.

Item 4(h): National Reporting

❖ 4/17: Draft guidance on completing the national reporting format for the Minamata Convention on Mercury

4/17 Draft guidance for completing the national reporting format for the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Relevant to the **next short reports**, which are due before the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, COP4.2 may wish to consider issues raised during the comment and review period for the draft, namely:

Question 3.1 (c) – Whether the “Total amount mined _____ metric tons per year” refers to the total amount of mercury metal produced by primary mining or the total amount of mercury-containing ore that was excavated;

Question 3.3 – Whether the obligation is ongoing or “one-off”;

Question 3.5 – The significance of a “no” response is not clear, as a party does not have the option to report that it did not export mercury.

These areas also came up during ICC deliberations for possible need of COP **clarification**.

Info Stop on ICC and National Reporting



Implementation and Compliance Committee

- ❑ The COP is to consider the report of the ICC (a subsidiary body), including its **conclusions** and **recommendations** made on the review of the short reports (see document 4/15, para 37, and the recommendations in the appendix of the report).

Short reports (that were due December 2019)

- ❑ The COP is to consider the **short reports** submitted by Parties in December 2019 (see document 4/16) and may wish to address the four issues for **clarification** set out in the Secretariat report in paragraph 35. [4/16 Annex I: Draft Decision](#)
 - Clarification of the reporting format (see appendix of the draft decision)

Draft guidance for national reporting

- ❑ The COP may wish to consider **clarification** of the issues laid out in para 9 of document 4/17 as relevant to the next short reports due before COP-5 (i.e. by December 2023).
- ❑ The COP also may wish to consider the way forward on the draft guidance, including to possibly revisit in light of the experiences of the full reports submitted December 2021.

**Information deep-dive Session on Wednesday,
23 February 2022 on national reporting:
implementation review and compliance**

Tentative Schedule of Work

COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
<p>10:00 - 13:00</p> <p>Morning Session</p>	<p>Item 1: Opening of the meeting</p> <p>Item 2: Organizational matters (b) Organization of work (c) Election of Officers for the intersessional period and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (d) Report on the credentials of representatives to the fourth meeting</p> <p>Item 3: Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties: consideration of rule 45</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (k) Financial Rules</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties: (a) Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used: (i) Review of annexes A and B; (ii) Information on dental amalgam (iv) Proposals for amendments to annexes A and B</p>	<p><i>Reports of contact groups</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (h) National reporting (g) Implementation and Compliance Committee</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (e) Financial resources and mechanism (i) Global Environment Facility (ii) Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance (iii) Review of the financial mechanism</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (cont.)</p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (f) Capacity-building and technical assistance and technology transfer (j) Secretariat (l) Gender</p> <p>Item 5: International cooperation and coordination</p>	<p><i>Consideration of remaining outcomes and draft decisions</i></p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget (cont.) <i>Adoption of the budget decision</i></p> <p>Item 7: Venue and dates of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>Item 8: Other matters</p>
COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
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Item 4(e)(i): Global Environment Facility

- ❖ **4/9:** Update on matters related to the Global Environment Facility
- ❖ **4/9/Add.1:** Executive summary of the report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility
- ❖ **INF/7:** Report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury at its fourth meeting

4/9: Update on matters related to the Global Environment Facility

The document provides the **Secretariat's update on the Global Environment Facility trust fund** in its role as part of the financial mechanism as described in Article 13. In this role, the GEF operates under the **guidance** of the COP, adopted at COP-1 and set forth in decision MC-1/5, as well as the **MOU** concluded.

The document should be read in conjunction with the full **report of the GEF Council to the COP (INF/7) and its Executive Summary (4/9/Add.1)**.

The document and the report describe GEF programming on mercury from **July 2019 through June 2021**. The document also covers responsiveness to guidance, evaluations relevant to the portfolio, and cooperation between the secretariat and the GEF secretariat.

Item 4(e)(i): Global Environment Facility

- ❖ **4/10:** The eight replenishment of the GEF trust fund
- ❖ **4/10/Add.1:** Update on the eighth replenishment of the GEF trust fund*
- ❖ **INF/8:** Eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility trust fund: draft programming directions and strategic positioning framework

Please see document **4/28** for the COP-4.1 proceedings on the GEF-8 replenishment.

4/10: The eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility trust fund

The document provides information pertaining to the **eighth replenishment** of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-8), which will commence in July 2022 and continue for four years, until June 2026. The replenishment is the subject of negotiations under way within the GEF Assembly to determine the resource allocations and programming directions for GEF-8. The GEF Council is expected to take up the outcomes of the Assembly's deliberations in a decision to open the eighth replenishment period in June 2022.

Document **4/10/Add.1** will provide an **update on the GEF-8 replenishment process** following its third meeting which took place 2-4 February 2022. **This follows the COP's consideration of this matter at COP-4.1 and the secretariat's subsequent submission of party statements to the GEF CEO and Council.**

The information document, **INF/8**, provides the GEF's earlier draft programming directions and strategic positioning framework documents. The documents currently being considered are available at: <https://www.thegef.org/events/gef-8-replenishment-third-meeting>

Info Stop on the GEF

Regular Reports on the GEF to the COP

- ❑ The COP may wish to take note of the **regular report of the Secretariat** on GEF (see document 4/9).
- ❑ The COP may wish to take note of the **regular report of the GEF Council** on GEF programming and activities for 2019-2021 (see document 4/9/Add.1 and INF 7).

GEF-8 Replenishment

- ❑ The **GEF-8 Replenishment** negotiations are currently ongoing under the auspices of the GEF.
- ❑ Parties may wish to make use of the information presented in the Secretariat documents in the context of **national processes** relative to the GEF replenishment conducted under the **auspices of the GEF**.

**Information deep-dive Session on
Thursday, 24 February 2022 on
financial mechanism**

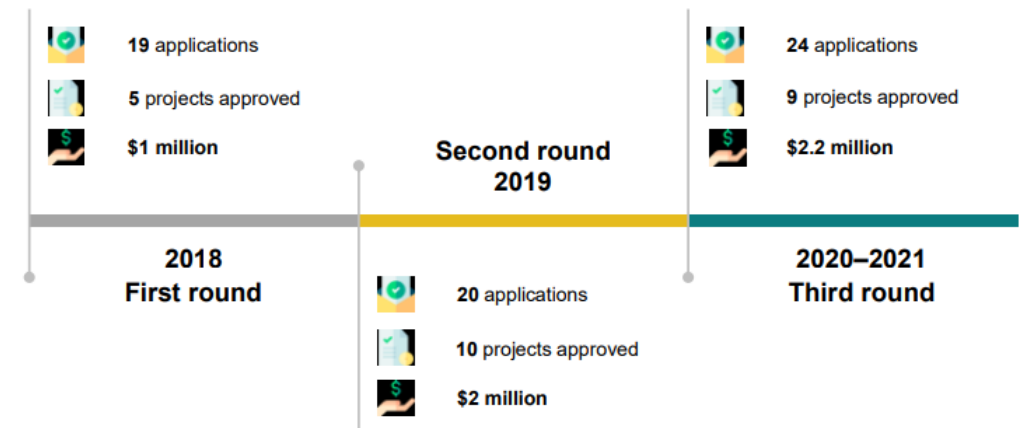
Item 4(e)(ii): Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance

- ❖ **4/11:** Overall report on the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance
- ❖ **4/11/Add.1:** Governing Board of the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance
- ❖ **4/13:** Executive Director's report on strengthening the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

4/11: Overall report on the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance

The present note on the SIP sets out the **Secretariat's overall report** on all activities and outcomes under the programme following the 3rd meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

- Section II: describes the **support provided by the Secretariat** to the SIP;
- Section III: outlines the work of the **Governing Board** since the 3rd meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- Section IV: gives an overview of the **Third Round** of applications to the SIP;
- Section V: contains information on the status of the **Specific Trust Fund** and the implementation of projects funded in the First and Second Rounds of applications.



Item 4(e)(ii): Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance



- ❖ **4/11:** Overall report on the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance
- ❖ **4/11/Add.1:** Governing Board of the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance
- ❖ **4/13:** Executive Director's report on strengthening the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

4/11/Add.1: Governing Board of the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance

The annexes to the present note set out information relevant to the **work of the Governing Board** of the Specific International Programme.

Annex I contains the report of the **5th meeting of the Governing Board** (online, 24-25 November 2020) that, among other matters, agreed to the launch of the Third Round of applications to the SIP and approved its timeline.

Annex II contains the report of the **6th meeting of the Governing Board** (online, 9-13 August 2021) that considered, among other matters, the 24 applications submitted in the Third Round and approved 9 of them, for funding amounting to US\$2.2 million.

Item 4(e)(ii): Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance



- ❖ **4/11:** Overall report on the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance
- ❖ **4/11/Add.1:** Governing Board of the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance
- ❖ **4/13:** Executive Director's report on strengthening the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

4/13: Executive Director's Report on strengthening the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

COP-3 invited **UNEP Executive Director** to present a report on **enhancing the SIP and its operations** to COP-4.

The report was prepared in response to that invitation and contains **4 sections and 2 appendices**.

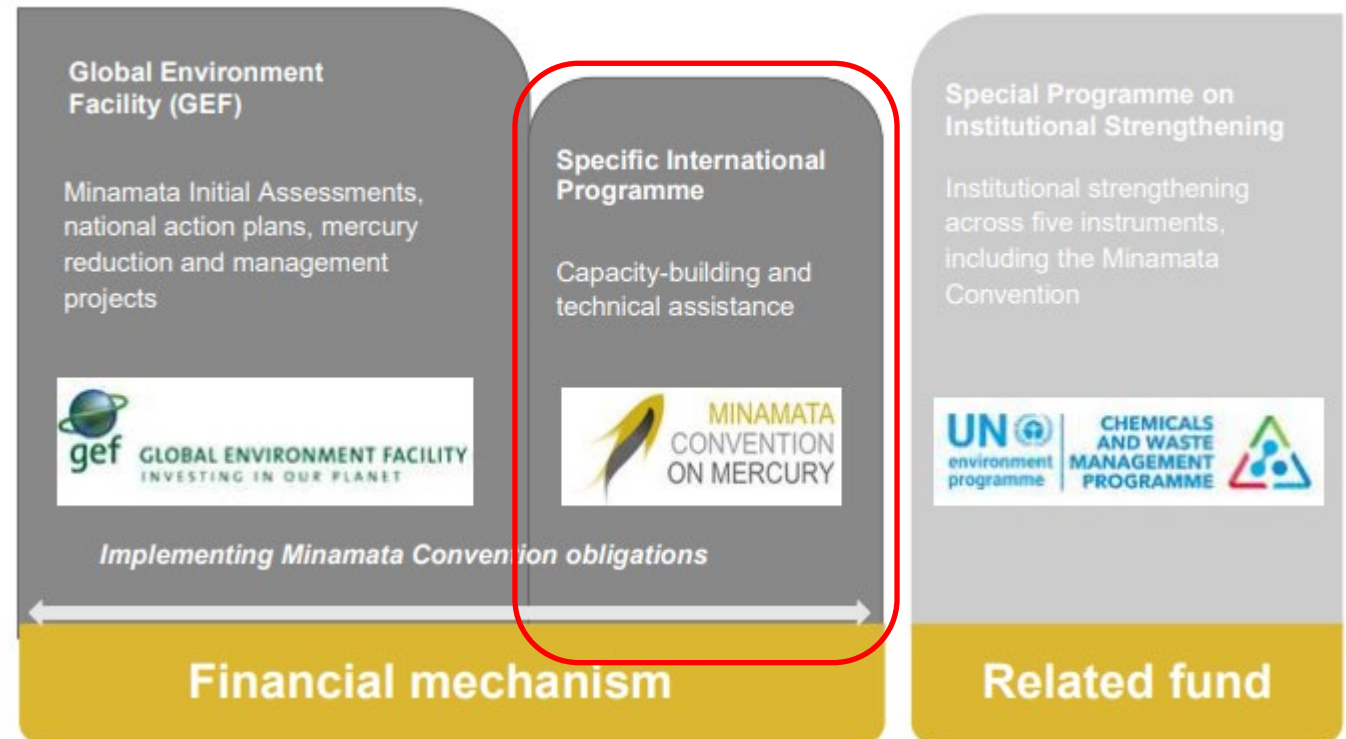
- 1st section: describes the mandate of the SIP;
- 2nd section: describes the unique features of the SIP in support of Parties' implementation of their obligations under the Minamata Convention;
- 3rd section: provides an overview of the experiences of the SIP to date;
- 4th section: lays out options for a possible way forward to enhance the effectiveness of the SIP.
- Appendix I: gives an overview of deadlines for the implementation of the Minamata Convention;
- Appendix II: provides an overview of the 3 rounds of the SIP, the type of work supported by the Programme and the support provided to parties through the 3 rounds of funding.

Item 4(e)(ii): Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance

- ❖ **4/11:** Overall report on the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance
- ❖ **4/11/Add.1:** Governing Board of the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance
- ❖ **4/13:** Executive Director's report on strengthening the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

4/13: Executive Director's Report on strengthening the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

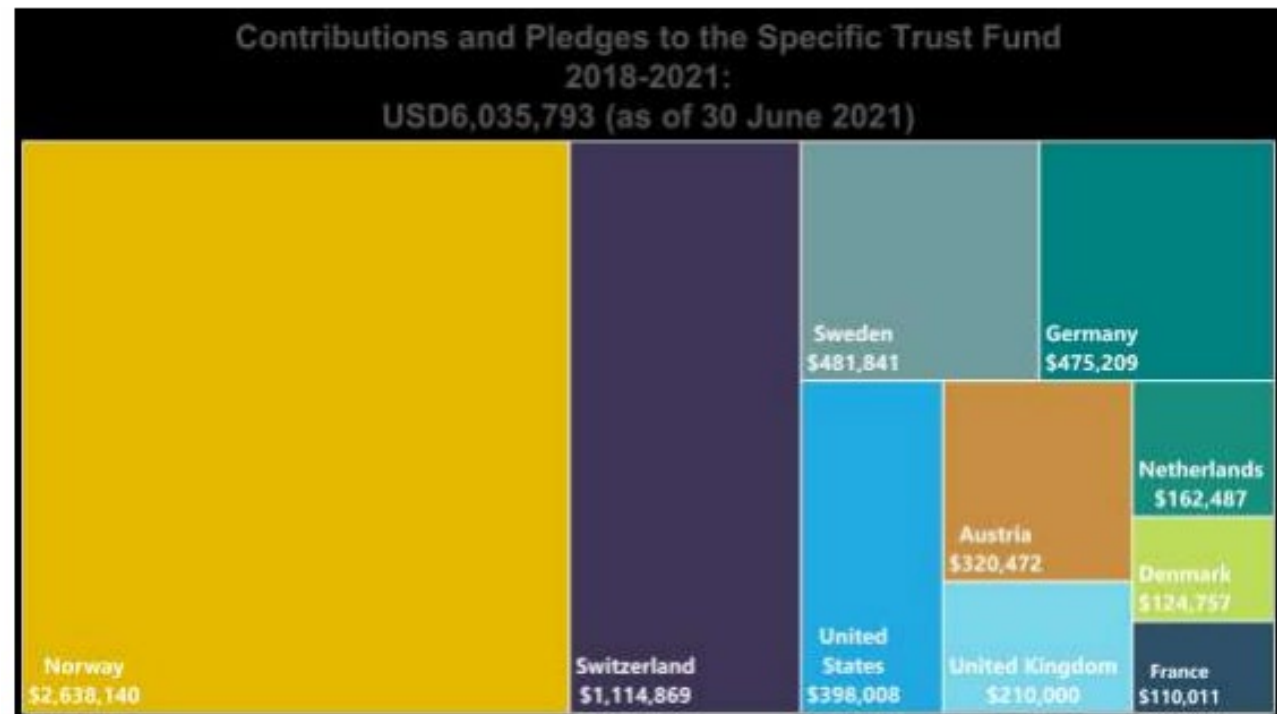
Roles of the various entities supporting the implementation of the Minamata Convention



Item 4(e)(ii): Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance

- ❖ **4/11:** Overall report on the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance
- ❖ **4/11/Add.1:** Governing Board of the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance
- ❖ **4/13:** Executive Director's report on strengthening the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

4/13: Executive Director's Report on strengthening the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance of the Minamata Convention on Mercury



Item 4(e)(ii): Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance



- ❖ **4/11:** Overall report on the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance
- ❖ **4/11/Add.1:** Governing Board of the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance
- ❖ **4/13:** Executive Director's report on strengthening the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

4/13: Executive Director's Report on strengthening the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

The COP may wish to:

- Recall and reiterate the **value** of the SIP in facilitating capacity-building and technical assistance to support the **implementation** of the Convention and **compliance** with the obligations thereunder;
- Invite **Parties to make use of the unique features of the SIP**, including its party-driven nature, to their fullest potential in the light of the urgent work of the Convention in its **first decade**;
- Recognize that enhancement of the effectiveness of the SIP and its operations requires an **increased level of Programme funding**;
- Call on parties in a position to do so to provide **financial resources** and other resources, including **in-kind contributions**, for the operation of the SIP.

Regular Reports on the SIP to the COP

- ❑ The COP may wish to take note of the **regular report of the Secretariat** on the SIP (see document 4/10).
- ❑ The COP may wish to take note of the **regular report of the SIP Governing Board** on SIP programming and activities for 2019-2021 (see document 4/10/Add.1 and INF 9).

UNEP Executive Director's Report to Strengthen the SIP

- ❑ The Executive Director's Report recognizes the **value** of the Specific International Programme, and its **unique features** that should be used to the fullest potential in light of the **urgent work** of the Convention in its first decade (see document 4/13).
- ❑ The COP may wish to consider the **suggested action as put forward in the Executive Director's report**, including to **call for contributions to the SIP**.

Information deep-dive Session on
Thursday, 24 February 2022 on
financial mechanism

Item 4(e)(iii): Review of the Financial Mechanism

❖ 4/12: Review of the financial mechanism

4/12: Review of the financial mechanism

Annex I: Draft decision: Second review of the financial mechanism

Annex II: Draft terms of reference for the second review of the financial mechanism

Article 13, on Financial resources and mechanism, calls upon the COP to review, no later than at its third meeting, and thereafter on a **regular basis**, the **level of funding, guidance, effectiveness**, and ability to address the **changing needs** of developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition.

The **first review of the financial mechanism** was completed at COP-3. A decision at COP-4.2 on the second review, including its terms of reference, would allow for the second review to be presented to COP-5.

The **second review** could encompass a robust body of information on programming since August 2017 through the end of GEF-7 and the mid-term of the Specific International Programme; would be informed by national reporting; and would provide important information relevant for GEF-8, the GEF-9 replenishment, and the Specific International Programme.



Review of the Financial Mechanism

- The COP may wish to decide on the **terms of reference for the second review** and the **timing of the review**.

4/10 Annex I: Draft Decision

Info Stop on the Financial Mechanism

GEF

- ❑ Regular Secretariat report on the GEF to the COP
- ❑ Regular GEF Council report on the GEF to the COP
- ❑ GEF-8 Replenishment

SIP

- ❑ Regular Secretariat report on the SIP to the COP
- ❑ Regular report of the SIP Governing Board to the COP
- ❑ UNEP Executive Director's Report on Strengthening the SIP

Review

- ❑ Second Review of the Financial Mechanism

**Information deep-dive Session on
Thursday, 24 February 2022 on
financial mechanism**

Tentative Schedule of Work

COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
<p>10:00 - 13:00</p> <p>Morning Session</p>	<p>Item 1: Opening of the meeting</p> <p>Item 2: Organizational matters (b) Organization of work (c) Election of Officers for the intersessional period and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (d) Report on the credentials of representatives to the fourth meeting</p> <p>Item 3: Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties: consideration of rule 45</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (k) Financial Rules</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties: (a) Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used: (i) Review of annexes A and B; (ii) Information on dental amalgam (iv) Proposals for amendments to annexes A and B</p>	<p><i>Reports of contact groups</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (h) National reporting (g) Implementation and Compliance Committee</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (e) Financial resources and mechanism (i) Global Environment Facility (ii) Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance (iii) Review of the financial mechanism</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (cont.)</p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (f) Capacity-building and technical assistance and technology transfer (j) Secretariat (l) Gender</p> <p>Item 5: International cooperation and coordination</p>	<p><i>Consideration of remaining outcomes and draft decisions</i></p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget (cont.) <i>Adoption of the budget decision</i></p> <p>Item 7: Venue and dates of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>Item 8: Other matters</p>
COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
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Online Technical Document Forum



COP-4.2 is to consider the following four **technical documents** for possible adoption or agreement.

- ❑ **4/27 Annex:** Draft guidance document on the use of **customs codes**
- ❑ **4/6 Annex I:** Updates to chapter 5 of the guidance document on the preparation of **ASGM NAP**
- ❑ **4/6 Annex II:** New chapter 8 of the guidance document on the preparation of **ASGM NAP**
- ❑ **4/7 Annex III:** Draft guidance on the methodology for preparing **inventories of releases**

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.

This builds on the good experience of the Budget Document Forum ahead of COP-4.1.

The Forum will be **open from 14 February until 11 March 2022**. The Secretariat will provide responses to comments and questions posted in the forum.

Item 4(a)(iii): Customs codes

❖ 4/27: Customs codes

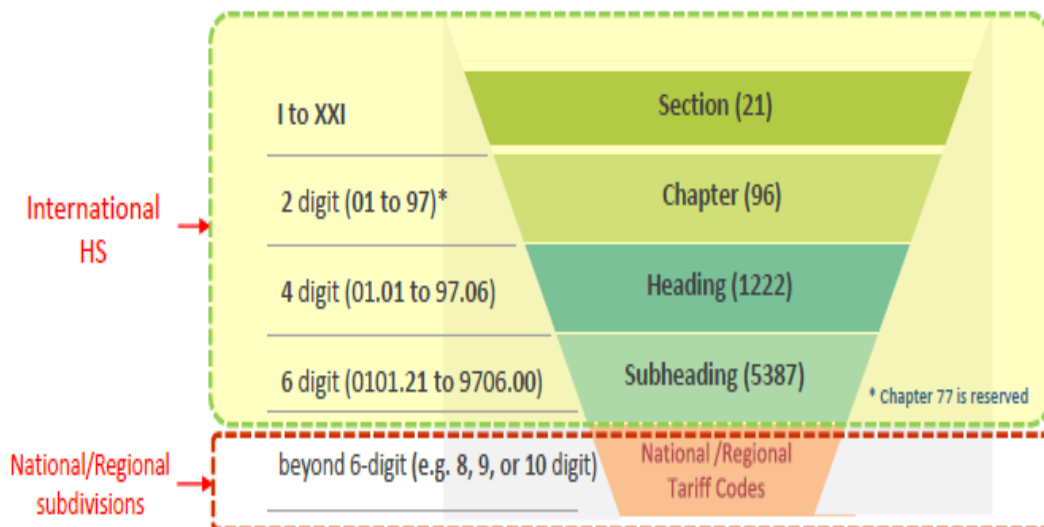
❖ INF/5: Customs codes

4/27: Customs codes

COP-2 considered a proposal from a number of Parties to develop draft customs codes for the mercury-added products covered in annex A, in order to facilitate the implementation of Article 4, improve national reporting and foster better communication among trading partners.

COP-3 further considered this matter, and **Decision MC-3/3** requested the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Global Mercury Partnership and involving relevant experts, to:

- **Draft a guidance document** on the use of customs codes:
- Provide an assessment of whether the subsequent development of **six-digit harmonized codes** would be a useful complement to the guidance document



Comments and questions are encouraged to be submitted through the Online Technical Document Forum by 11 March 2022.

Item 4(a)(iii): Customs codes

Mandate from Decision MC-3/2	Draft guidance document
For the mercury-added products listed in Annex A, a list of possible customs codes of more than 6 digits that could be used by Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Proposed statistical codes of more than 6 digits for annex A mercury-added products, based on the Harmonized System, are set out in MC/COP.4/27.
For mercury-added products not listed in Annex A, a compilation of examples of customs codes of more than 6 digits currently in use by Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Examples of customs codes for mercury-added products that are not listed in Annex A to the Minamata Convention on Mercury have been compiled in INF/5 Annex II.
Examples of good practice where the use of customs nomenclature codes at the national level had been supplemented by the use of other control tools for the purpose of implementing trade provisions, such as those found in Article 4 of the Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Customs codes may be accompanied by information on legal regime applicable to the product in question, which may assist in defining whether the product is allowed.If customs officials find goods with the 6-digit codes included in the list proposed above, they may request information from the importers or exporters on whether the goods are mercury-added products listed in annex A to the Convention.
Assessment of whether the subsequent development of 6-digit harmonized codes would be a useful complement to the guidance document	<ul style="list-style-type: none">International harmonization could enhance collection of data and comparisons with other parties, including data cross-checking between imports and exports.WCO has a formal process for creating and amending six-digit HS codes, which operates on a five-year cycle for proposal, review, approval and implementation.

Item 4(b): Artisanal and small-scale gold mining

- ❖ **4/6:** Article 7: Artisanal and small-scale gold mining: Update to the guidance document for the preparation of a national action plan to reduce and, where feasible, eliminate mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining
- ❖ **INF/6:** Guidance document on the management of artisanal and small-scale gold mining tailings

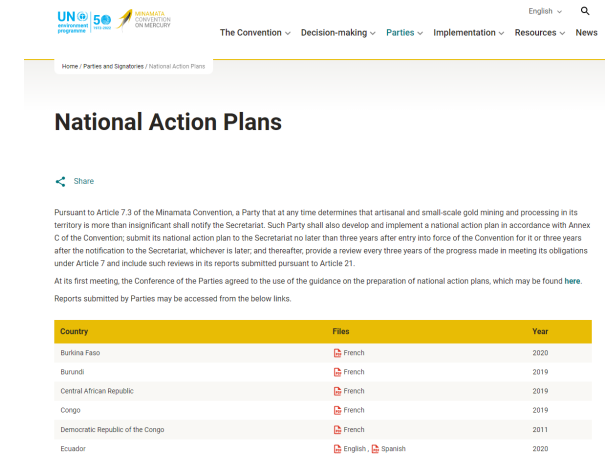
Article 7: ASGM

Parties that have ASGM within their territory shall take steps to reduce, and where feasible eliminate, the use of mercury and mercury compounds and the emissions and releases to the environment of mercury.

If Parties notify the Secretariat that ASGM in their territory is more than insignificant, they shall:

- Develop and implement a **national action plan (NAP)** in accordance with Annex C;
- **Submit NAP** to the Secretariat in no later than **3 years**
- **Review the progress every 3 years** and include such reviews Article 21 reports

The Secretariat received 40 notifications and 16 NAPs (INF/2/Rev.1: Info provided by Parties).



UN Environment MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

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National Action Plans

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Pursuant to Article 7.3 of the Minamata Convention, a Party that at any time determines that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing in its territory is more than insignificant shall notify the Secretariat. Such Party shall also develop and implement a national action plan in accordance with Annex C of the Convention; submit its national action plan to the Secretariat no later than three years after entry into force of the Convention for it or three years after the notification to the Secretariat, whichever is later; and thereafter, provide a review every three years of the progress made in meeting its obligations under Article 7 and include such reviews in its reports submitted pursuant to Article 21.

At its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties agreed to the use of the guidance on the preparation of national action plans, which may be found [here](#). Reports submitted by Parties may be accessed from the below links.

Country	Files	Year
Burkina Faso	French	2020
Burundi	French	2019
Central African Republic	French	2019
Congo	French	2019
Democratic Republic of the Congo	French	2011
Ecuador	English, Spanish	2020

Item 4(b): Artisanal and small-scale gold mining

- ❖ **4/6:** Article 7: Artisanal and small-scale gold mining: Update to the guidance document for the preparation of a national action plan to reduce and, where feasible, eliminate mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining
- ❖ **INF/6:** Guidance document on the management of artisanal and small-scale gold mining tailings

Comments and questions are encouraged to be submitted through the Online Technical Document Forum by 11 March 2022.

4/6: ASGM: update to guidance document for NAP

COP-1 in 2017 considered the guidance on the preparation of NAP and agreed to its use by Parties.

COP Decision MC-3/3 on mercury waste thresholds requested the Secretariat to seek comments from parties and other stakeholders to improve the NAP guidance regarding the management of **ASGM tailings**, in cooperation with the Global Mercury Partnership.

The Secretariat worked with the Partnership to develop a guidance document on the management of ASGM tailings (INF/6) and included its summary as a draft annex to the NAP guidance document (Annex II to MC/COP.4/6).

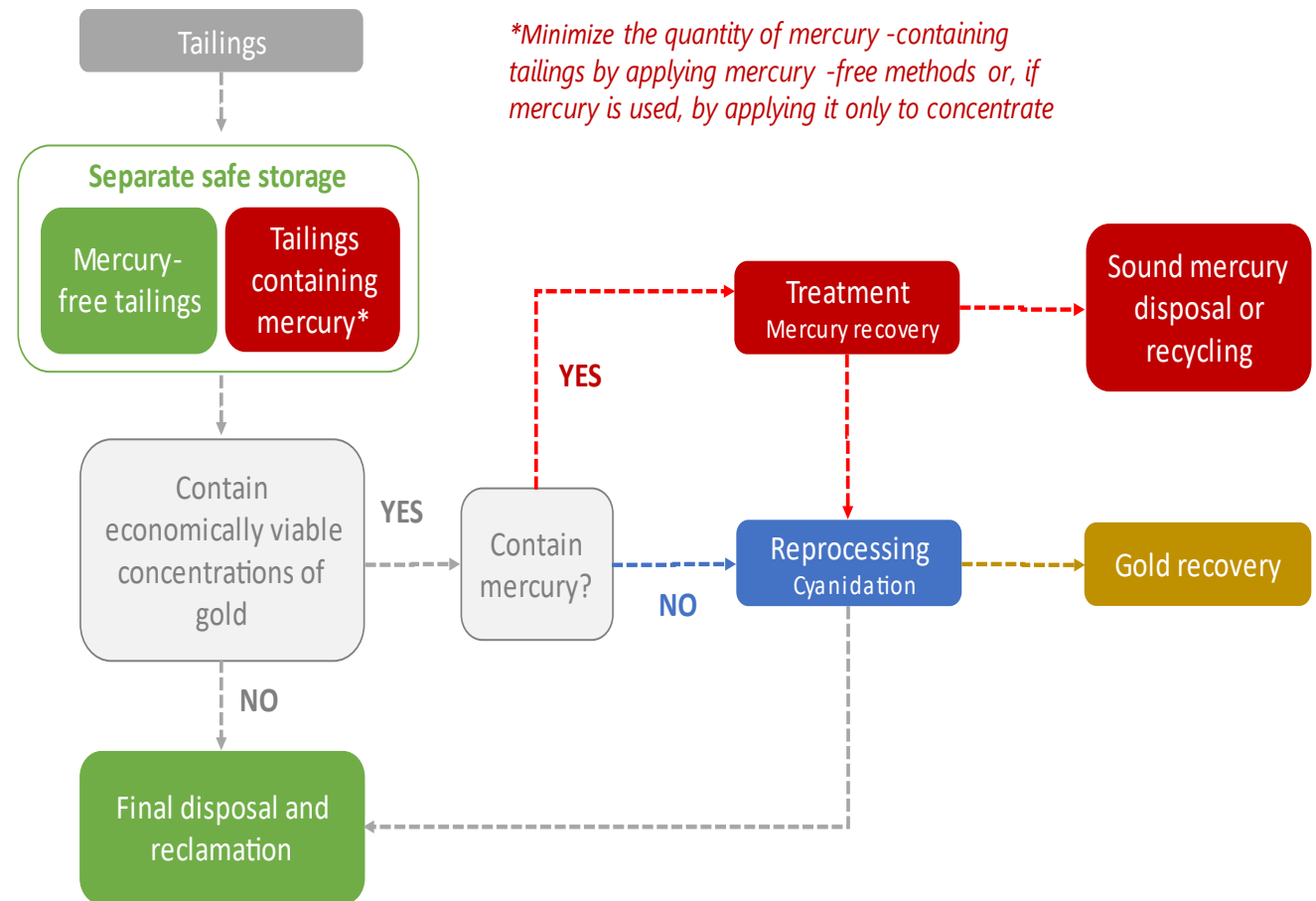
The NAP guidance document also indicated that WHO was developing recommendations on matters related to **public health** for future update of the guidance. WHO provided an update to relevant sections as can be found in Annex I to 4/6.

Item 4(b): Artisanal and small-scale gold mining

- ❖ **4/6:** Article 7: Artisanal and small-scale gold mining: Update to the guidance document for the preparation of a national action plan to reduce and, where feasible, eliminate mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining

- ❖ **INF/6:** Guidance document on the management of artisanal and small-scale gold mining tailings

INF/6: Guidance document on the management of ASGM tailings



ASGM workflow showing best practices in tailings management, including separation of mercury-contaminated tailings, mercury recovery before reprocessing, and sound storage and disposal

Info Stop on Customs Codes and ASGM

Customs Codes

- ❑ The COP may invite Parties to **use the guidance**.
- ❑ The COP may request the Secretariat to keep the guidance under review, support Parties and cooperate with the Partnership in supporting its use.

ASGM

- ❑ The COP may wish to **adopt the revised guidance**.
- ❑ The COP may request the Secretariat to cooperate with the Partnership in supporting its use.

Comments and questions are encouraged to be submitted through the Online Technical Document Forum by 11 March 2022.

Item 4(c): Releases of mercury

❖ 4/7: Report on the intersessional work on mercury releases

Article 9 (releases to land and water) defines relevant source as significant anthropogenic point source of release as identified by a party that is not addressed in other provisions of this Convention.

Each Party shall:

- **Identify the relevant point source categories, in 3 years**
- **Take measures to control releases**
- **Establish an inventory of releases from relevant sources, in 5 years**

The COP shall **adopt guidance** on best available techniques (BAT) and best environmental practices (BEP) and on inventories of releases.

Decision MC-3/4 requested the group of experts established by COP-2 to produce a report including:

- Draft guidance on inventories
- Proposed categories of point source
- Road map for the development of guidance on BAT/BEP.

The expert group, co-chaired by Ms. Bianca Dlamini (Eswatini) and Mr. Greg Helms (United States), developed a report through 13 online meetings, including draft guidance on the methodology for **preparing inventories of releases**.

Next Steps: To develop BAT/BEP guidance

Item 4(c): Releases of mercury

► 4/7: Report on the intersessional work on mercury releases

4/7 Annex III: Draft guidance on the methodology for preparing inventories of releases pursuant to article 9 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

- Background
- Use of existing inventories (e.g. pollutant release and transfer register - PRTR)
- Steps to follow to establish an inventory of releases
- Identification of relevant point source categories and facilities
- Collection of release information from individual facilities
- Development of a reporting and data management system
- Ensuring that the data are publicly accessible and searchable
- UNEP mercury inventory toolkit
- Appendix: List of potentially relevant point source categories

Table 1
List of potentially relevant point source categories (Excerpt)

Source category in the UNEP mercury inventory toolkit	Release sources (not addressed in other provisions of the Minamata Convention) ⁶	Documentation of the releases
Source category: Extraction and use of fuels/energy sources		
5.1.1	Coal combustion in power plants	Releases to land and water from coal storage, coal washing and air-pollution-control systems. Global Mercury Assessment 2018. Reference report of the UNEP mercury inventory toolkit.
5.1.4	Extraction, refining and use of natural gas	Releases to land and water from natural-gas extraction and refining. Reference report of the UNEP mercury inventory toolkit. Pollutant release and transfer registers of the European Union and the United States.
Source category: Primary (virgin) metal production		
Source category: Production of other minerals and materials with mercury impurities		
Source category: Intentional use of mercury in industrial processes		
Source category: Manufacturing of products with intentional use of mercury		
Source category: Other intentional products/process uses		
Source category: Production of recycled metals (secondary metal production)		
Source category: Waste incineration		
Source category: Waste deposition/landfilling and wastewater treatment		
Source category: Crematoria		

Comments and questions are encouraged to be submitted through the Online Technical Document Forum by 11 March 2022.

Item 4(c): Releases of mercury

❖ 4/7: Report on the intersessional work on mercury releases

4/7 Annex IV: Draft road map for the development of guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices to control releases from relevant sources

- Secretariat starts **collecting technical information** on BAT/BEP.
- Secretariat invites Parties to confirm or change the **membership** of the group of experts.
- Secretariat **compiles information** on relevant point sources based on the Article 21 reports and other submissions.
- Secretariat circulates a **call to submit existing information** on national regulations or industry practices.
- **Expert Group reviews** the information compiled by the secretariat, including the submissions by parties and other stakeholders.
- **Expert Group prepares a first draft of the BAT/BEP guidance**, to be posted on the Convention website for comments and input.
- **Expert Group revises the draft guidance** taking into consideration the comments received.
- Draft guidance finalized for **submission to COP-5**.

Info Stop on Releases

- ❑ The COP may wish to **adopt the draft guidance on inventories.**

Note: Parties are to establish and maintain an inventory of releases of relevant sources five years after entry into force of the Convention for it.

- ❑ The COP may request the expert group to **develop draft BAT/BEP guidance.**

4/7: Annex I: Draft Decision

Comments and questions are encouraged to be submitted through the Online Technical Document Forum by 11 March 2022.

Item 4(d): Mercury waste: Consideration of the relevant thresholds



- ❖ **4/8:** Report on the intersessional work on mercury waste
- ❖ **INF/24:** Basel Convention technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds
- ❖ **INF/27:** Report on intersessional work on mercury waste: additional technical information

Definition of mercury waste

Article 11 **defines** mercury wastes as substances or objects:

- A: Consisting of mercury or mercury compounds;
- B: Containing mercury or mercury compounds; or
- C: Contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds, in a quantity above the relevant thresholds defined by COP, that are disposed of or are intended to be disposed of or are required to be disposed of by the provisions of national law or the Convention.

The definition **excludes** overburden, waste rock and tailings from mining, except from primary mercury mining, unless they contain mercury or mercury compounds above thresholds defined by COP.

COP Decision MC-3/5 provided definition for:

- Category A (mercury or mercury compounds listed in MC-3/5)
- Category B (mercury-added products that become waste)

Decision MC-3/5 requested the Expert Group to work on, inter alia,:

- Category C waste (threshold options and values)
- Mine tailings

Item 4(d): Mercury waste: Consideration of the relevant thresholds



- ❖ **4/8:** Report on the intersessional work on mercury waste
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- ❖ **INF/27:** Report on intersessional work on mercury waste: additional technical information

4/8: Report on the intersessional work on mercury waste

The Expert Group, co-chaired by Ms. Oluwatoyin Olabanji (Nigeria) and Mr. Andreas Gössnitzer (Switzerland), in 11 online meetings:

Agreed that an approach to establishing thresholds based on **total concentration of mercury in waste** is currently the most appropriate for Category C waste.

Could not reach consensus on thresholds for Category C waste, and **presented two options.**

Agreed that ASGM tailings were addressed by Article 7 and that there was currently no need for a threshold under Article 11.

Proposed the following **two-tier thresholds for mine tailings:**

- Tier-1 threshold: total mercury content of 25 mg/kg;
- Tier-2 threshold: 0.15 mg/L in the leachate using a test method appropriate for the site.

Item 4(d): Mercury waste: Consideration of the relevant thresholds

- ❖ **4/8:** Report on the intersessional work on mercury waste
- ❖ **INF/24:** Basel Convention technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds
- ❖ **INF/27:** Report on intersessional work on mercury waste: additional technical information

4/8: Report on the intersessional work on mercury releases: Two options for Category C waste

Option 1:

- Establish a **total** mercury content as **25 mg/kg**
- Invite Parties to consider establishing relevant threshold(s) **between 1 and 25 mg/kg at a national or local level**
- Decide that waste contaminated with a total mercury content **below 1 mg/kg** shall not be regarded as Category C waste
- Requests the Expert Group to develop **voluntary guidance** on the establishment of risk-based thresholds between 1 and 25 mg/kg and on other measures to prevent mercury pollution from the depositing and spreading of waste onto land.

Option 2:

- Request the group of technical experts to consider and propose a threshold **between 1 and 25 mg/kg** total mercury content that provides for the protection of human health.

Info Stop on Waste Thresholds

- ❑ The COP may wish to **resolve the remaining issue** and adopt a decision.

4/8: Annex I: Draft Decision

Info Stop on Technical Matters

Customs Codes

- ❑ The COP may invite Parties to **use** the guidance prepared.

ASGM

- ❑ The COP may wish to **adopt the revised guidance**.

Releases

- ❑ The COP may wish to **adopt the draft guidance on inventories**.
- ❑ The COP may request the expert group to **develop draft BAT/BEP guidance**.

Waste Thresholds

- ❑ The COP may wish to resolve the **remaining issue** and adopt a decision.

Tentative Schedule of Work

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Online Budget Forum



Link : <https://forum.mercuryconvention.org>

Open from 14 February until 04 March 2022.

Invitation link with login details sent to delegates pre-registered for COP-4.2.

Forum for Parties to review, comment or ask questions about the proposed programme of work and budget for 2023. The Secretariat will provide responses.

Information session for Parties only on 9 March 2022.

Item 6: Programme of Work and Budget - Process

During in-person segment (COP-4.2) Budget contact group:

- Normally Parties only
- English only (no interpretation)
- Proposed budget for 2023 and as such, for the 2022-2023 biennium

Plenary:

- Considers and adopts budget decision for the 2023 programme of work and budget, and thus the full programme of work and budget for the biennium 2022-2023.

Item 6: Programme of Work and Budget - Documents



- ❖ **UNEP/MC/COP.4/24** Programme of work and budget: proposed operational budgets for the two funding scenarios for the biennium 2022-2023 and its corrigendum
- ❖ **UNEP/MC/COP.4/24 Add.1** Programme of work and budget: proposed operational budget for 2023
- ❖ **UNEP/MC/COP.4/24 Add.2** Programme of work and budget: indicative scale of assessments and contributions to the general trust fund for 2023
- ❖ **UNEP/MC/COP.4/INF/21** Information on financial matters
- ❖ **UNEP/MC/COP.4/INF/22** Budget activity fact sheets

Item 6: Programme of Work and Budget 2023 – Highlights



COP-4.1 **approved** the programme of work and budget for **2022** (decision MC-4/2).

COP-4.2 **to approve** a programme of work and budget for **2023** (and 2022-2023 biennium) based on the two scenarios presented by the Secretariat:

- 0 nominal growth scenario
- 5% scenario

Difference between the two scenarios in the effectiveness evaluation area.

Additional funds to replenish the working capital reserve needed.

Info Stop on Programme of Work and Budget



- ❑ The COP to adopt a decision on the **programme of work and budget for 2023.**

4/24 Add.1 Annex I: Draft Decision

**Information Session on Wednesday,
9 March 2022 for Parties on the
Programme of Work and Budget**

Tentative Schedule of Work

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Item 4(f): Capacity Building, Technical Assistance and Technology Transfer



- ❖ **4/14: Capacity-building and technical assistance programme of the Minamata Convention on Mercury**
- ❖ **INF/23: Compilation of submissions on capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer**

4/14: Capacity-building and technical assistance programme of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

In **decision MC-3/8**, the Conference of the Parties emphasized the relevance of using, as appropriate, regional, subregional and national arrangements, including the existing **regional and subregional centres** in the delivery of capacity-building and technical assistance.

MC-3/8 also asked the Secretariat to compile a **report based on submissions received** on the capacity-building and technical assistance provided to support parties in their implementation of the Convention, as requested by COP-3.

The present note provides **this report**, information on the capacity-building and technical assistance activities of the **Secretariat**, including engagement with regional, subregional and national arrangements and other partners; and **activities** considered for the next biennium.

INF/23 provides a **compilation of submissions** on capacity-building, technical assistance, and technology transfer received from 13 Parties.

Info Stop on CBTA

- ❑ The COP is invited to consider the **information provided** including in the **submissions**, including the activities, initiatives and reports mentioned in the submissions, and the needs and challenges described in the submissions.
- ❑ Parties may wish to take note also of the **Article 21 reporting requirements** on this matter and use the opportunity to provide supplemental information their receipt of, and needs for, capacity-building and technical assistance.

Item 4(j): Secretariat

- ❖ **4/20:** Report on the implementation of decision MC-3/11 on enhanced cooperation between the secretariat of the Minamata Convention and the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions
- ❖ **4/INF/17:** Joint report on cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

4/20: Report on the implementation of decision MC-3/11 on enhanced cooperation between the secretariat of the Minamata Convention and the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

Overview of the implementation of **COP-3 decision MC-3/11** on enhanced cooperation between Minamata and BRS secretariats on the **organization of COP-4** and the work of the **Task Force on Programmatic Cooperation** comprising of the Minamata Secretariat, the BRS secretariat and Chemicals and Health Branch of UNEP.

- The co-chairs of the **Task Force** finalized an initial list of areas of cooperation.
- The two executive Secretaries established inter-secretariat working groups on administrative matters, programmatic matters, scientific and technical matters and technical assistance matters, and identified lead officers in the respective entities for the various areas of cooperation on which the proposed working groups would focus.

The Task Force produced a **report**, drafted by the co-chairs in December 2020 and endorsed by the heads of the entities in March 2021, describing the **joint framework for future collaboration** that had been agreed between the three entities in the context of the implementation of decision MC-3/11. The report is set out in the **annex** to the document.

Item 4(I): Gender

❖ 4/22: Mainstreaming gender



All people are exposed to **mercury** on some level, but the greatest concern revolves around the **exposure of women** of child-bearing age because of its impact on future generations.

The **Minamata Convention** pays specific attention to these effects on women and mentions the need to establish strategies to prevent the exposure of vulnerable populations to mercury found in: **artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), seafood consumption, dental amalgam, skin whiteners**, and emissions from **coal-fired power plants** and other industries.

Children, infants and fetuses are at the highest risk because of the development of their nervous systems.



How bad is the problem?

Mercury in maternal blood is **directly transferred** to the **developing fetus through the placenta**, and usually cord blood levels are slightly higher than those in the mother's blood system.

Although levels of mercury in blood, hair and breast milk are gradually decreasing in most parts of the world, **levels remain too high for human health**.

50%
women

Of reproductive age in the **Yaijojé Apaporis National Natural Park** (Colombian Amazon) are at risk of having children with their IQ reduced by up to four points because of their levels of mercury.

58%
women

Had **hair mercury levels > 1 ppm** [=1µg/g] (US EPA reference level)

4/22 Mainstreaming Gender

With the generous financial support of **Sweden**, the Secretariat carried out several activities geared towards mainstreaming gender into its work.

In January 2021, the Secretariat developed the "**Gender road map** of the Minamata Convention on Mercury".

The gender road map includes a **list of prioritized actions** to be undertaken by the Secretariat to ensure that principles of gender equality are firmly embedded in the activities, projects and programmes it undertakes. The road map is contained in Annex II of the document.

Two **top priorities** were identified in the road map:

- the development of a **gender plan** of action under the Convention for mainstreaming gender considerations into all aspects of the work under the Convention, with clear indicators for monitoring progress
- the appointment of a **gender focal point** within the Secretariat.

- ❑ The COP is invited to note the **gender road map**.
- ❑ Parties are invited to support the secretariat in **mainstreaming gender**, including thorough the development of a gender action plan for the Minamata Convention during the biennium 2022–2023.

Annex I: Draft Decision

Item 5: International cooperation & coordination



- ❖ **4/23:** International cooperation and coordination
- ❖ **4/INF/13:** Joint study by the secretariats of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions entitled “Interlinkages between the chemicals and waste multilateral environmental agreements and **biodiversity**”
- ❖ **4/INF/14:** Joint study by the secretariats of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions entitled “Chemicals, wastes and **climate change** interlinkages and potential for coordinated action”

4/23 International cooperation and coordination

Document 4/23 provides an **overview** on activities undertaken by the Secretariat to cooperate and coordinate, as appropriate, with other entities, particularly in the chemicals and waste cluster (including two joint studies with the BRS Secretariat).

Item 5 (I): International cooperation & coordination



- ❖ **4/INF/15:** Report of the Executive Director of the **United Nations Environment Programme** to the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury at its fourth meeting
- ❖ **4/INF/16:** Report on activities undertaken within the **Global Mercury Partnership** of the United Nations Environment Programme
- ❖ **4/INF/17:** Joint report on cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and of the **Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions**
- ❖ **4/INF/18:** Report on cooperative activities with the **World Health Organization** and the **International Labour Organization**
- ❖ **4/INF/19:** Report on the activities on mercury of **relevant international bodies**
- ❖ **4/INF/20:** Update on the **Strategic Approach** to International Chemicals Management and the intersessional process considering the strategic approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste **beyond 2020**

The INF documents contain information on activities carried out by **various organisations and bodies** under their respective mandates which are relevant to the Minamata Convention.

- ❑ The COP is invited to consider a draft decision on international cooperation and coordination.

Annex: Draft Decision

Info Stop on various matters

Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance

- ❑ The COP may consider **information** and **submissions**.
- ❑ Parties may use Article 21 reporting to transmit further information on CBTA.

Secretariat

- ❑ The COP may note the **report** of the Secretariat.

Gender

- ❑ The COP may wish to note the **gender road map** and support the Secretariat in **mainstreaming gender**.

International cooperation and coordination

- ❑ The COP may wish to consider all the **information** and adopt a decision.

Tentative Schedule of Work

COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
<p>10:00 - 13:00</p> <p>Morning Session</p>	<p>Item 1: Opening of the meeting</p> <p>Item 2: Organizational matters (b) Organization of work (c) Election of Officers for the intersessional period and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (d) Report on the credentials of representatives to the fourth meeting</p> <p>Item 3: Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties: consideration of rule 45</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (k) Financial Rules</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties: (a) Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used: (i) Review of annexes A and B; (ii) Information on dental amalgam (iv) Proposals for amendments to annexes A and B</p>	<p><i>Reports of contact groups</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (h) National reporting (g) Implementation and Compliance Committee</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (e) Financial resources and mechanism (i) Global Environment Facility (ii) Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance (iii) Review of the financial mechanism</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (cont.)</p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties (f) Capacity-building and technical assistance and technology transfer (j) Secretariat (l) Gender</p> <p>Item 5: International cooperation and coordination</p>	<p><i>Consideration of remaining outcomes and draft decisions</i></p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget (cont.) <i>Adoption of the budget decision</i></p> <p>Item 7: Venue and dates of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>Item 8: Other matters</p>
COP-4.2	Monday, 21 March 2022	Tuesday, 22 March 2022	Wednesday, 23 March 2022	Thursday, 24 March 2022	Friday, 25 March 2022
<p>15:00-18:00</p> <p>Afternoon Session</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (i) Effectiveness evaluation</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration and/or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(a) (iii) Customs codes (b) Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (c) Releases of mercury (d) Mercury waste: consideration of the relevant thresholds</p>		<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p>	<p>Item 9: Adoption of the report of the meeting</p> <p>Item 10: Closure of the meeting</p>

Item 2 (c) Election of officers

❖ 4/1/Add.2: Election of officers

COP-4.2 is expected to elect the officers to the **Bureau of COP-5**. To that end, two nominations from each United Nations regional group should be submitted to the Secretariat no later than the second day of COP-4.2. In accordance with both paragraph 3 of rule 22 of the rules of procedure and past practice of following an alphabetical order, for the purposes of regional rotation the president of the Bureau for COP-5 is expected to be elected from among the Eastern Europe States.

COP-4.2 is also expected to elect for two terms nine new members of the **Implementation and Compliance Committee** to replace those members whose period of office is about to expire. Nominations from each United Nations regional group should be submitted to the Secretariat no later than the second day of the in-person segment of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Finally, COP-4.2 is expected to confirm, based on the nominations received from the regional groups, 10 members of the **SIP Governing Board**.

❖ **4/3 Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury: consideration of rule 45**

4/3 Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury: consideration of rule 45

At its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury **adopted**, in decision **MC-1/1**, its rules of procedure, with the exception of the second sentence of paragraph 1 of **rule 45** and paragraph 3 of rule 45, which remained in brackets.

The bracketed text remaining in paragraph 1 **relates to the option to take a decision on matters of substance by means of voting should all efforts to reach consensus fail**. The bracketed text in paragraph 3 relates to the mechanism used to decide whether a matter before the Conference of the Parties should be considered a matter of substance or a matter of procedure.

COP-3 agreed to **defer** further consideration of the bracketed text.

❖ **4/21 Financial rules for the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, its subsidiary bodies and the secretariat of the Convention**

4/21 Financial rules for the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, its subsidiary bodies and the secretariat of the Convention

By its decision **MC-1/10**, the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury **adopted the financial rules** for the Conference of the Parties and any of its subsidiary bodies, as well as financial provisions governing the functioning of the secretariat of the Convention.

Some bracketed text remained, however, in paragraph 3 (e) of rule 5 on contributions and in the annex to the financial rules, on the **procedure for the allocation of funding from the special trust fund for facilitating the participation of parties in meetings** of the Conference of the Parties.

Paragraph 2 of the annex remained in brackets in its entirety, and some text in the paragraph was further bracketed. Lastly, there were brackets in paragraph 5 of the annex.

COP-3 agreed to **defer** further consideration of the bracketed text.

Logistical Matters







Please visit our dedicated webpage on all COP-4 preparations
<https://www.mercuryconvention.org/en/meetings/cop4>



Fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury (COP-4) - Second segment

 Bali, Indonesia, 21 Mar 2022 - 25 Mar 2022

 Meeting Information  Documents  Newsroom  Intersessional Work  Regional meetings  Information for Participants

The [information for participants document](#) (4 February 2022) provides logistical and other general information about the meeting's arrangements, specifically on health and safety protocols, the meeting venue, accreditation, visa requirements, accommodation, and transportation.

Information for participants at the second segment of the Fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury (COP-4)

DOWNLOAD  Other | 04.02.2022 | 1.40 MB

Credentials for the head of delegation, alternate representatives and advisers are issued either by the **Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs**. Information regarding any change in the composition of the delegation should be submitted using the same procedure.

Samples of credentials are available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish on the Minamata Convention website's [COP-4 webpage](#).

The COP-4 Bureau, at its meeting of 16 June 2021, agreed on its approach for preparing the report on credentials for the two segments of COP-4. Bureau members agreed that if copies of credentials in good order were submitted instead of originals, they would accept such copies with the understanding that the originals would be submitted as soon as possible thereafter.

Parties are invited to submit original or electronic versions of credentials **latest by 18:00 on Monday, 21 February 2022** to facilitate the clearance process.

Parties who have already submitted their credentials for participation in both COP-4.1 and COP-4.2 **do not need to re-submit** their credentials for COP-4.2 but are **welcome to update** their credentials as needed.

NB: At the latest, credentials shall be submitted to the Secretariat no later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the meeting. Only credentials submitted by **the deadline** can be considered in time for the finalisation of the credentials report.

Other matters: Bali Declaration



Bali Declaration

- **2 November 2021:** Consultation on Bali Declaration held during COP-4.1
- **31 January 2022:** Deadline for comments on first consolidated draft text
- **February:** Distribution of second consolidated draft text
- **16 March 2022:** Deadline for comments on second consolidated draft text
- *Text to be finalized prior to opening plenary of COP-4.2*

Comments and inputs to the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the
Republic of Indonesia with attention to
Mr. Aditia Nugraha at **subditkonvensib3@gmail.com**.

Kindly also copy mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org and marianne.bailey@un.org



MINAMATA
CONVENTION
ON MERCURY

Thank you for your attention

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