

Ref: MC/COP4/2022/8

13 April 2022

**Subject:** Call for information and information on follow-up with regard to the decisions adopted by the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention (COP-4)

Dear Madam/Sir,

At the online segment and second segment of COP-4, which took place from 1 to 5 November 2021, and from 21 to 25 March 2022 respectively, the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury adopted a number of decisions that invited parties and other stakeholders to provide information and make contributions to the work of the Convention in the intersessional period.

The full set of decisions adopted at both segments of the meeting will be contained in an annex to the COP-4 meeting report, which will be made available on the Convention website in due course at: <http://www.mercuryconvention.org>

To facilitate the preparation by parties to provide response to the various invitations and requests for information, please find enclosed a summary of the individual decisions, some of which include immediate calls for information from parties and other stakeholders.

Please note that this letter is also available on the Convention website in [Notifications](#) from Secretariat.

May I also take this opportunity to highlight that in Decision MC-4/8 on "national reporting pursuant to article 21 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury", the COP noted that many Minamata Initial Assessments (MIAs) have been completed and are available on the website of the Minamata Convention. The COP further encourages parties that are developing MIAs to complete them as soon as possible so that the assessment may be of support to implementing measures and national reporting efforts.

Should you have any queries on this follow-up letter, kindly contact the contact person assigned under each specific issue, with a copy to: [mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org)

We look forward to receiving your submissions and your active participation and contribution to this intersessional period to make mercury history.

Sincerely,



Monika Stankiewicz,  
Executive Secretary



To: Minamata Convention National Focal Points  
Members of the Bureau of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Observers admitted to the meetings of the Conference of the Parties

Cc: Representatives of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva  
Permanent Representative to the United Nations Environment Programme  
Participants in the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Enc: Follow-up on the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention at its fourth meeting

## Follow-up on the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention at its fourth meeting

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## **Decision MC-4/1: Dates of the resumed fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury**

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In this decision, the Conference of the Parties noted that the Bureau of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties had agreed that the fourth meeting the Conference of the Parties would be held in two segments: an online segment scheduled for 1 to 5 November 2021 and an in-person segment to be held in the first quarter of 2022.

The Conference of the Parties also decided to adjourn the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention and to resume the meeting in an in-person format in Bali, Indonesia, from 21 to 25 March 2022.



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## Decision MC-4/2: Programme of work and budget for 2022

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### BACKGROUND

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties (COP) approved the budget for the general trust fund for 2022 of USD 3,397,684, which includes the extraordinary additional costs for holding COP4 in two parts, and authorized the Executive Secretary to draw down from the estimated available surplus of the general trust fund the amount of up to USD 500,962 to cover a portion of the additional costs of COP4, to meet the commitment of the P-3 programme management position to be carried forward from the biennium 2020-2021, and to finalize the trade report budgeted for in the biennium 2020-2021.

To reduce contributions for Parties, the COP also decided to withdraw USD 149,725 from the working capital reserve and to use savings amounting to USD 67,800 from the 2020-2021 funding allocated to the trade report. Therefore, the total contributions to be covered by contributions from parties and the host country contribution amounts to USD 3,180,159.

The COP also adopted the indicative scale of assessments for the apportionment of expenses for 2022 based on the 2019-2021 scale of assessment.

Furthermore, the COP took note of the estimates for the special trust fund for 2022 of USD 1,921,000 and noted that implementation of the planned activities was subject to the availability of resources contributed to the special trust fund.

### FOLLOW UP

Calls for information	Respondents	Methods of submission	Deadlines for submission
The secretariat sent out invoices for 2022 and will issue letters for fundraising for the special trust fund. Monthly reporting (via the Convention website) is done for the status of contributions to the general trust fund as well as the special trust fund.	Minamata Convention secretariat	letters	ongoing

### CONTACT POINT

Sandra Ruecker (Email: [sandra.ruecker@un.org](mailto:sandra.ruecker@un.org)).

With a copy to: Secretariat of the Minamata Convention (Email: [mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org))



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## Decision MC-4/3: Review of and amendments to annexes A and B to the Minamata Convention

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### BACKGROUND:

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided to amend part I of annex A to the Convention by adding the following mercury-added products and providing that the manufacture, import and export of those products not be allowed after 2025:

- Compact fluorescent lamps with an integrated ballast (CFL.i) for general lighting purposes that are  $\leq 30$  watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner
- Cold cathode fluorescent lamps (CCFL) and external electrode fluorescent lamps (EEFL) of all lengths for electronic displays, not included in the current listing
- Strain gauges to be used in plethysmographs;
- Melt pressure transducers, melt pressure transmitters and melt pressure sensors except those installed in large-scale equipment or those used for high precision measurement, where no suitable mercury-free alternative is available
- Mercury vacuum pumps
- Tire balancers and wheel weights
- Photographic film and paper
- Propellant for satellites and spacecraft.

COP also agreed to amend part II of annex A by adding the following provisions for dental amalgam;

- In addition, Parties shall:
  - (i) Exclude or not allow, by taking measures as appropriate, the use of mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners;
  - (ii) Exclude or not allow, by taking measures as appropriate, or recommend against the use of dental amalgam for the dental treatment of deciduous teeth, of patients under 15 years and of pregnant and breastfeeding women, except when considered necessary by the dental practitioner based on the needs of the patient.

These amendments will be communicated from the depositary to the parties, pursuant to article 27 of the Convention.

Furthermore, the COP decided to consider at its 5<sup>th</sup> meeting the phase-out dates in Part I of Annex A for the following categories:

- Button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content  $< 2\%$  and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content  $< 2\%$
- 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 [except those used for research and development purposes]
- Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes:
  - (a) Halophosphate phosphor  $\leq 40$  watts with a mercury content not exceeding 10 mg per lamp
  - (b) Halophosphate phosphor  $> 40$  watts



- Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes:
  - (a) Triband phosphor < 60 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg/lamp

The COP also decided to further consider adding the production of polyurethane using mercury-containing catalysts to part I of Annex B at its 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, and requested the secretariat to compile information on the availability and technical and economic feasibility of mercury-free alternatives of the production of polyurethane using mercury-containing catalysts for submission to its 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Furthermore, the COP requested the secretariat to prepare a short report on the technical and economic feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for the two processes (vinyl chloride monomer and sodium or potassium methylate or ethylate) listed in Part II of Annex B that refer to the COP establishing such feasibility. In preparing this short report, the secretariat is to first identify those parties that reported the use of these two processes in their national reports under Article 21, and then request information from those parties regarding whether the two processes continue to be utilized by the relevant party, whether either is scheduled to be phased out nationally, and to what extent mercury-free alternatives are technically and economically feasible. If necessary, the secretariat may request additional information be provided from other parties and stakeholders.

## FOLLOW UP

	<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
(1)	Parties are invited to submit any information on mercury-added products, mercury-using manufacturing processes and their alternatives that may support consideration of the addition of products and processes pursuant to decision MC-4/3 by the Conference of the Parties at its 5 <sup>th</sup> meeting.	Parties and stakeholders, as appropriate.	Please make submissions to the <a href="#">secretariat</a> .	<b>31 December 2022</b>
(2)	Parties are invited to submit to the secretariat information on the availability and technical and economic feasibility of mercury-free alternatives of the processes listed in part II of annex B. The information may include whether these processes continue to be utilized by the relevant party, and whether either is scheduled to be phased out nationally.	Parties that may have relevant processes in their territory based on the article 21 reporting. Other parties and stakeholders may be requested to provide additional information.	Please make submissions to the <a href="#">secretariat</a> .	<b>30 June 2023</b>

## CONTACT POINT

Eisaku Toda (Email: [eisaku.toda@un.org](mailto:eisaku.toda@un.org))

With a copy to: Secretariat of the Minamata Convention (Email: [mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org))



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## Decision MC-4/4: Artisanal and small-scale gold mining

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### BACKGROUND

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties (COP) adopted the updated guidance on developing a national action plan to reduce and, where feasible, eliminate mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), with additional and revised chapters relating to the management of ASGM tailings and health aspects.

The COP called upon parties to engage indigenous peoples, local communities and other relevant stakeholders in the development and implementation of national action plans, and requested the secretariat to compile views on the needs and priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities with regard to the use of mercury in ASGM.

the COP also requested the secretariat, in cooperation with the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership, to disseminate the aforementioned guidance on developing a national action plan, support its use by parties, and keep it under review.

### FOLLOW UP

	<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
	The secretariat will compile views on the needs and priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities.	Indigenous organizations, local community groups, and other relevant organizations	To be decided.	To be decided.

### CONTACT POINT

Manoela Miranda (Email: [manoela.miranda@un.org](mailto:manoela.miranda@un.org)).

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## Decision MC-4/5: Mercury releases

### BACKGROUND

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties, among other things, welcomed the report of the group of technical experts on guidance in relation to mercury releases established pursuant to decision MC-2/3, and given an updated mandate in decision MC-3/4.

The COP invited parties to consider the list set out in the appendix to annex III to UNEP/MC/COP.4/7/Rev.1 when identifying relevant point source categories pursuant to paragraph 3 of article 9 of the Convention.

The COP adopted the guidance on the methodology for preparing inventories of releases pursuant to paragraph 7 of article 9 of the Convention, as set out in annex III to UNEP/MC/COP.4/7/Rev.1, and invited parties to take into account the guidance when preparing their inventory of releases from relevant sources pursuant to paragraph 6 of article 9.

The COP invited parties to confirm the current members of the group of technical experts, nominate new members or replace members, as appropriate, through the Bureau representatives of each of the five United Nations regions, taking into account the expertise needed for developing guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices to control releases from relevant sources.

The COP requested the group to work electronically to develop the guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices, in line with the road map contained in annex IV to document UNEP/MC/COP.4/7/Rev.1, with a view to adopting the guidance pursuant to paragraph 7 of article 9 of the Convention;

The COP further requested the secretariat to compile inputs from parties on the use of guidance on the methodology for preparing inventories of releases for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting.

### FOLLOW UP

	<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
(1)	Parties are invited to confirm, through the Bureau members representing their region, the current members of the group of technical experts as listed below, nominate new members or replace members as appropriate. Bureau members are invited to coordinate the nominations and provide the name, contact details and the curriculum vitae to the secretariat, considering the recommended qualification of members as set out in decision MC-2/3 <sup>1</sup> , and noting that	Parties, through Bureau members representing their region	Please make submissions to the secretariat through the Bureau members representing their respective region.	<b>31 May 2022</b>

<sup>1</sup> Decision MC-2/3 provides that members shall have at least one of the following:

(a) Knowledge of the mass flow/mass balance of mercury in relevant mercury source subcategories (e.g., from technical work in/with the relevant sectors);



	<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
	the group will work on developing guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices to control releases from relevant sources			
(2)	Parties and other stakeholders are invited to submit existing information on national regulations or industry practices relating to the control of mercury releases from relevant sources.	Parties and stakeholders	Please make submissions to the <a href="#">secretariat</a> .	<b>30 June 2022</b>
(3)	In line with the road map set out in document UNEP/MC/COP/4/7, the group of technical experts may advise on further information collection. The road map also includes commenting on draft guidance, which is likely to take place in early 2023.	As advised by the group	As advised by the group	As advised by the group

## Current members of the group of technical experts

### Africa

- Ms. Bianca Hlobisile Mkhathshwa-Dlamini (Eswatini)
- Mr. Jean Aubin Ondo (Gabon)
- Mr. Olubunmi Olusanya (Nigeria)
- Mr. Jacques Nsengiyumva (Rwanda)
- Mr. James Nyirenda (Zambia)

### Asia and the Pacific

- Ms. YE Jing (China)
- Ms. Kania Dewi (Indonesia)
- Mr. SUZUKI Noriyuki (Japan)
- Mr. Ahmed Mohammad Ajabnoor (Saudi Arabia)
- Mr. Ajith Priyal de Alwis (Sri Lanka)

### Eastern European States

- Mr. Alex Radway (European Union)
- Mr. Ian Marnane (European Union)
- Three experts to be nominated

### Latin America and the Caribbean

- Ms. Lic. Lucía Muntaner (Argentina)
- Ms. Zuleica Castilhos (Brazil)

(b) Expertise relevant to different approaches for monitoring, measuring and calculating emissions and releases;

(c) Knowledge of pollution release and transfer registers;

(d) Expertise concerning or experience in using the United Nations Environment Programme Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases.



- Mr. Cristián Enrique Brito Martínez (Chile)
- Mr. Carlos Calleja-Amador (Costa Rica)
- Mr. Darcy Walrond (Guyana)

#### Western Europe and Others

- Ms. Alison Dickson (Canada)
- Mr. Rafael Zubrzycki (Germany)
- Ms. Ine Merethe Lorgen (Norway)
- Ms. Petra Hagström (Sweden)
- An expert from the United States of America retired in 2021

#### **CONTACT POINT**

Eisaku Toda (Email: [eisaku.toda@un.org](mailto:eisaku.toda@un.org))

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## Decision MC-4/6: Mercury waste thresholds

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### BACKGROUND

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties, among other things, welcomed the report of the group of technical experts on mercury waste thresholds, and decided that no threshold needs to be established for tailings from artisanal and small scale gold mining (ASGM) in which mercury amalgamation is used to extract gold from ore, and that all tailings from such mining should be managed in an environmentally sound manner pursuant to article 7 and in line with the national action plans. COP also defined two-tier thresholds above which tailings from mining other than primary mercury mining are not excluded from the definition of mercury waste pursuant to paragraph 2 of article 11.

The COP decided that, with a view to recommending and facilitating a decision on waste falling under subparagraph 2 (c) of article 11 at the fifth meeting of the COP or as soon as possible thereafter, to extend the mandate of the group of technical experts to develop and consider new information and opportunities in a report to be submitted to the COP at its fifth meeting.

The COP invited parties to share information and data on the waste categories listed in the indicative list contained in table 3 of decision [MC-3/5](#), including with respect to any relevant national or local thresholds and their establishment, and requested the secretariat to compile such information and distribute it to the group of technical experts as soon as possible and to make it available electronically.

The COP invited interested parties to submit information, when appropriate or at the request of the group of technical experts, on approaches other than on the total mercury concentration approach to the secretariat for consideration by the group of technical experts.

COP also requested the group of technical experts to develop a guidance document on test methods to be used for the tier-2 threshold for tailings from mining other than primary mercury mining.

The COP provided guidance on how the group of technical experts would work, including:

- To cooperate with the small intersessional working group under the Basel Convention;
- To work primarily by electronic means and hold one face-to-face meeting of sufficient duration, subject to the availability of resources, and to report on the work to the COP at its fifth meeting; and
- To invite, as appropriate, scientific and technical contributions from a roster of additional experts identified by parties.

The COP invited parties to review the membership of the group of technical experts as necessary and to inform the secretariat of any change in the membership through the Bureau representatives of the five United Nations regions.



## FOLLOW UP

	<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
(1)	Parties are invited to confirm, through the Bureau members representing their region, the current members of the group of technical experts as listed below, nominate new members or replace members as appropriate, taking into account the need for expertise in areas covered by the mandate of the group. <sup>2</sup> Bureau members are invited to coordinate the nominations and provide the name, contact details and curriculum vitae to the secretariat.	Parties, through Bureau members representing their region	Please make submissions to the secretariat through the Bureau members representing their respective region.	<b>31 May 2022</b>
(2)	Parties are invited to share information and data on the waste categories listed in the indicative list contained in Table 3 of decision <a href="#">MC-3/5</a> , including with respect to any relevant national or local thresholds and their establishment. Information already submitted and compiled in <a href="#">UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/10</a> need not be resubmitted.	Parties	Please make submissions to the secretariat via the contact point provided below.	<b>30 June 2022</b>
(3)	Interested parties are also invited to submit information, when appropriate or at the request of the group of technical experts, on approaches other than the total mercury concentration approach to the secretariat for consideration by the group of technical experts.	Interested parties	As advised by the group	As advised by the group
(4)	Parties are invited to identify additional experts for a roster to provide scientific and technical contributions to the work of the group of technical experts.	Parties	Through a template for the nomination of scientific and technical experts to be developed by the secretariat.	No specific deadline.

<sup>2</sup> Decision MC-2/2 provides that members of the group should have at least one of the following:

- (a) Significant experience in waste management and disposal issues, including management of different types of waste (industrial, domestic and hazardous waste);
- (b) Expertise relevant to different approaches for establishing thresholds, including hazard- and risk-based approaches, as well as other possible approaches;
- (c) Expertise in the environmental and health impacts of exposure to mercury;
- (d) Technical expertise in, knowledge of and experience in mining, particularly with regard to the environmentally sound management of overburden, waste rock and tailings.



## **Current members of the group of technical experts**

### **Africa**

- Ms. Hanitriniaina Liliane Randrianomenjanahary (Madagascar)
- Mr. Oumar Cisse (Mali)
- Mr. Rajiv Beedassy (Mauritius)
- Ms. Oluwatoyin Olabanji (Nigeria)
- Mr. Birane Niane (Senegal)

### **Asia and the Pacific**

- Mr. ZHENG Yang (China)
- Ms. Ajeng Arum Sari (Indonesia)
- Ms. Ladan Razikordmahaleh (Islamic Republic of Iran)
- Mr. Masaki Takaoka (Japan)
- Mr. R.M.S.K. Rathnayake (Sri Lanka)

### **Eastern European States**

- Mr. Artak Khachatryan (Armenia)
- Ms. Virna Milinov (Croatia)
- Mr. Rene Rajasalu (Estonia)
- Mr. David Grimeaud (European Union)
- Ms. Gabriela Denisia Vasiliu Isac (Romania)

### **Latin America and the Caribbean**

- Mr. Luis Mauro Gómes Ferreira (Brazil)
- Mr. Cristián Enrique Brito Martínez (Chile)
- Ms. Verónica Ruiz Solano (Colombia)
- Mr. Carlos Todd (Guyana)
- Ms. Leslie Hoofung (Jamaica)

### **Western Europe and Other**

- Mr. Pierre Hennebert (France)
- Mr. Rafael Zubrzycki (Germany)
- Mr. Dick Hedeklint (Sweden)
- Mr. Andreas Gössnitzer (Switzerland)
- An expert from the United States of America retired in 2021

## **CONTACT POINT**

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## Decision MC-4/7: Second review of the financial mechanism

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### BACKGROUND

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties adopted terms of reference for the second review of the financial mechanism, pursuant to paragraph 11 of article 13.

The terms of reference for the review specify that the review will cover the activities of the financial mechanism for the period from August 2019 to July 2022, which represents the time period from the conclusion of the first review of the financial mechanism to the end of the period of the seventh replenishment of the Global Environment Facility trust fund and inclusive of the first three rounds of applications to the Specific International Programme, with special emphasis on the activities concluded during that period.

The terms of reference specify the objective and methodology of the review and elements to be covered in the report of review. The terms of reference also set forth a set of performance criteria with which, among other things, the effectiveness and efficiency of the financial mechanism will be assessed.

The decision invites parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and stakeholders to submit information, consistent with the terms of reference for the review and organized by the listed performance criteria, on their experience gained through their interactions with the financial mechanism, as soon as possible and not later than 30 September 2022. The Secretariat will compile and submit information relevant to the second review of the financial mechanism to the COP for consideration at its fifth meeting.

### FOLLOW UP

	<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
(1)	Submissions are invited on information, consistent with the terms of reference for the review and organized by the listed performance criteria, on their experience gained through their interactions with the financial mechanism	Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and stakeholders	Please make submissions to the secretariat via the contact point provided below.	<b>30 September 2022</b>

### CONTACT POINT

Marianne Bailey (Email: [marianne.bailey@un.org](mailto:marianne.bailey@un.org))

With a copy to: Secretariat of the Minamata Convention (Email: [mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org))



## Decision MC-4/8: National reporting pursuant to article 21 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

### BACKGROUND

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the high rate of submission of the reports for the first reporting period. The COP also noted the efforts of the secretariat to support parties in fulfilling their reporting obligations, including through the online reporting tool. The COP considered the report of the Implementation and Compliance Committee, including the reporting challenges identified by the Committee. The COP also noted that many Minamata Initial Assessments (MIAs) have been completed and are available on the website of the Minamata Convention, and further encouraged parties that are developing MIAs to complete them as soon as possible so that the assessment may be of support to implementing measures and national reporting efforts.

Further recognizing the importance of clarity in the information transmitted in national reports, the COP encouraged parties to again achieve a high rate of reporting for the next reporting period.

The COP provided clarification on the reporting format as set out in the annex (on questions 3.1, 3.5 and 11.2) to the decision and requested the secretariat to reflect those clarifications in the reporting format and the online reporting tool.

The COP requested parties to continue their ongoing efforts to endeavor to identify individual stocks and sources of mercury in accordance with paragraph 5 of article 3 of the Convention.

The COP called on all parties that have received consent to export mercury to parties, and/or non-parties to provide to the secretariat either copies of the consent forms used or other suitable information in their reports submitted pursuant to article 21 to show that the relevant requirements of article 3 of the Convention have been met.

The COP requested the secretariat: (a) On the basis of parties' experiences of completing the first full national reports, to identify any questions regarding the national reporting format that may pose challenges to parties in responding, and to propose related clarifications, as appropriate to COP-5. (b) To seek additional comments from parties and stakeholders on the draft reporting guidance by 15 December 2022, based on their experiences of completing the first reports. (c) To submit the draft reporting guidance for consideration and possible adoption at COP-5. (d) To report to COP-5 on the implementation of the present decision.

### FOLLOW UP

	<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
(1)	Additional comments are invited from parties and stakeholders on the <a href="#">draft reporting guidance</a> (UNEP/MC/COP.4/17)	Parties and stakeholders	Please make submissions to the secretariat via the contact point provided below.	<b>15 December 2022</b>
(2)	Parties that are developing MIAs are encouraged to complete them as soon as possible and to make them available on the website of the Minamata Convention.	Parties and Implementing Agencies	Please submit completed MIAs to the secretariat via the contact point provided below.	<b>Ongoing, and as soon as possible on completion.</b>





## **CONTACT POINT**

Claudia ten Have (Email: [claudia.tenhave@un.org](mailto:claudia.tenhave@un.org)) - *Submissions on the draft reporting guidance*

Richard Gutierrez (Email: [richard.gutierrez@un.org](mailto:richard.gutierrez@un.org)) - *Queries on submitting national reports*

Marianne Bailey (Email: [marianne.bailey@un.org](mailto:marianne.bailey@un.org)) - *Submissions of completed MIAs*

All with a copy to: Secretariat of the Minamata Convention (Email: [mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org))



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## Decision MC-4/9: Enhanced cooperation between the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

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### BACKGROUND

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties (COP) requested the Executive Secretary to continue, with the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and under the overall steering of the task force between the two secretariats and the United Nations Environment Programme Chemicals and Health Branch and inter-secretariat working groups established pursuant to decision MC-3/11, as appropriate, to cooperate on relevant administrative, programmatic, technical assistance and technical matters, in accordance with the programme of work and budget, and to explore potential ways to further strengthen cooperation and collaboration on such matters with the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.

The COP also requested the Executive Secretary to continue to implement shared services and the purchase of relevant services from the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions on a cost recovery basis, as appropriate and in accordance with the programme of work and budget for each biennium.

Finally, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of the present decision, including on the stable framework for cooperation and sharing of services, together with an outline of the cooperation activities planned under such a framework for the period 2024–2025, for the consideration of and, as necessary, further guidance by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting.

### FOLLOW UP

Calls for information	Respondents	Methods of submission	Deadlines for submission
The Minamata Convention secretariat will continue to cooperate with the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and under the overall steering of the task force and inter-secretariat working groups as requested.	Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions	-	To be decided.

### CONTACT POINT

Lara Ognibene (Email: [lara.ognibene@un.org](mailto:lara.ognibene@un.org)).

With a copy to: Secretariat of the Minamata Convention (Email: [mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org))



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## Decision MC-4/10: Gender mainstreaming

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### BACKGROUND

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties (COP) took note of the gender road map of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, as set out in annex II to document UNEP/MC/COP.4/22 and welcomed the secretariat's efforts to mainstream gender into its activities, projects and programmes.

The secretariat received comments from one party on the gender roadmap. Inputs from other parties are welcome. The secretariat will incorporate all comments and make the roadmap available on the Convention's website.

The COP also invited parties to support the secretariat in its efforts to mainstream gender into all activities to be undertaken by the secretariat as well as by parties and other stakeholders, including through the development of a gender action plan for the Minamata Convention during the biennium 2022–2023.

The COP further requested the secretariat to continue collaborating with the United Nations Environment Programme, the secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements and relevant partners in the field of gender, and to report on the progress made in mainstreaming gender into the activities carried out under the Convention.

### FOLLOW UP

<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
The secretariat will start gathering information from Parties and observers in preparation for the development of a gender action plan for the Minamata Convention during the biennium 2022–2023.	Parties and observers	To be decided.	To be decided.
The secretariat invites comments on the gender action plan.	Parties and observers	To be decided.	To be decided.

### CONTACT POINT

Lara Ognibene (Email: [lara.ognibene@un.org](mailto:lara.ognibene@un.org)).

With a copy to: Secretariat of the Minamata Convention (Email: [mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org))



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## Decision MC-4/11: The first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

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### BACKGROUND

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties recalled article 22 which calls on the COP to evaluate the effectiveness of the Convention, beginning no later than six years after entry into force, and periodically thereafter at intervals to be decided by it. The COP acknowledged the indicators outlined in [Annex I to decision MC-3/10](#), and the views on these indicators submitted by Parties during the intersessional period and compiled by the secretariat in [UNEP/MC/COP.4/18/add.1](#) and [UNEP/MC/COP.4/INF/11](#).

The COP recognized the range of scientific and technical expertise from multiple disciplines necessary to inform the effectiveness evaluation and highlighted the need for an inclusive and transparent process that provides Parties with the opportunities to provide data and information, and to review and comment on draft plans and products.

The COP agreed to begin the first effectiveness evaluation at COP-4 and to further consider its timeline at COP-5. The COP decided to adopt the framework of the effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention as outlined in Annex I to the decision, and to continue consideration of effectiveness evaluation at COP-5, including the terms of reference of the Effectiveness Evaluation Group (EEG).

The COP established the Open-Ended Scientific Group (OESG) and to work in line with its terms of reference outlined in Annex II to the decision and requested the secretariat to call for nominations for the OESG by 15 April 2022.

The COP requested the secretariat to support the work on effectiveness evaluation, to continue to collect relevant information made available to the effectiveness evaluation, and to secure services to develop the reports requested by the COP.

As per the framework adopted at COP-4, the following products are requested by COP-5: (a) Article 21 Synthesis Report (plan and report), (b) Trade, Supply and Demand Report (plan and report), (c) Plan for Emissions and Releases Data Summary, (d) Plan for Monitoring Data Compilation and Summary, and (e) Plan for Data Analysis based on the Monitoring Guidance.

The COP also requested the secretariat to support an intersessional process to refine the list of indicators to be used in the effectiveness evaluation process, with a view to providing the final list of indicators for adoption at COP-5.

The COP encourages parties to undertake, continue, or expand upon their efforts to provide support for capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer under article 14, and research, development and monitoring under article 19, considering the geographic and scientific data gaps identified for the effectiveness evaluation of the Convention.



## FOLLOW UP

	<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
(1)	Each party is invited to identify and nominate one expert to the OESG. Among the nominated experts, 5 experts will be nominated by each of the five UN regions, through the Bureau members representing their region.	Parties, through their NFPs, are invited to nominate one expert to the OESG. Bureau members are invited to communicate, from among the nominations received from parties, 5 experts to be nominated by each of the five UN regions, parties.	A separate communication will follow inviting nominations to the OESG.	<b>13 May 2022</b> (nomination by parties)
(2)	Parties are invited to participate in the intersessional process supported by the secretariat to refine the list of indicators to be used in the effectiveness evaluation, with a view for the secretariat to provide a final list of indicators for adoption by COP-5.	Parties	Please make submissions to the secretariat via the contact point provided below.	No deadline is specified in the decision. The secretariat will produce a roadmap to ensure there is an inclusive and transparent process to support parties' full participation.
(3)	Parties are invited to identify additional experts for a roster to provide scientific and technical contributions to the work of the OESG.	Parties	Through a template for the nomination of scientific and technical experts to be developed by the secretariat.	No specific deadline.

## CONTACT POINT

Manoela Miranda (Email: [manoela.miranda@un.org](mailto:manoela.miranda@un.org)) - *Nominations to the OESG and identified additional experts for the roster*

Claudia ten Have, Senior Policy and Coordination Officer, (Email: [Claudia.tenhave@un.org](mailto:Claudia.tenhave@un.org)) - *Queries on indicators*

Both with a copy to: Secretariat of the Minamata Convention (Email: [mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org))

### Furthermore, contact persons for the products identified for COP-5 are:

Article 21 Synthesis Report: Claudia ten Have, (Email: [Claudia.tenhave@un.org](mailto:Claudia.tenhave@un.org))

Trade, Supply and Demand Report: Manoela Miranda (Email: [manoela.miranda@un.org](mailto:manoela.miranda@un.org))

Plan for Emissions and Releases Data Summary: Eisaku Toda (Email: [eisaku.toda@un.org](mailto:eisaku.toda@un.org))

Plan for Monitoring Data Compilation and Summary: Manoela Miranda (Email: [manoela.miranda@un.org](mailto:manoela.miranda@un.org))

Plan for Data Analysis based on the Monitoring Guidance: Manoela Miranda (Email: [manoela.miranda@un.org](mailto:manoela.miranda@un.org))



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## Decision MC-4/12: International cooperation and coordination

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### BACKGROUND

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties (COP) agreed to keep under review the contribution made by the implementation of the Convention to the implementation of relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), welcomed UNEA resolutions 5/7, on the sound management of chemicals and waste, and 5/8, on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution, and requested the secretariat to contribute to their implementation, as appropriate.

Also, the COP invited parties, non-parties and other stakeholders to engage further with the Global Mercury Partnership, hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme, and with its partnership areas, to support the achievement of the goals of the Convention.

Further, the COP requested the secretariat: to continue gathering knowledge about, raising awareness of and demonstrating, through appropriate means, the contribution of implementation of the Minamata Convention to other relevant international regulations and policies, including those related to pollution, biodiversity and climate change; and to prepare, subject to the availability of resources, a report, including possible recommendations, on how the Convention could contribute to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, once adopted, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting.

### FOLLOW UP

<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
Parties, as well as non-parties and other stakeholders, are invited to engage further with the Global Mercury Partnership and its partnership areas.	Parties, non-parties and other stakeholders, UNEP Global Mercury Partnership	-	
Parties and other potential donors are invited to consider offering funding for preparation of a report on how the Convention could contribute to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.	Potential donors	-	

### CONTACT POINT

Marianne Bailey (Email: [marianne.bailey@un.org](mailto:marianne.bailey@un.org)) – *Queries on UNEP Global Mercury Partnership*

With a copy to: Secretariat of the Minamata Convention (Email: [mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org))



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## Decision MC-4/13: Programme of work and budget for 2023

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### BACKGROUND

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties (COP) approved the budget for the general trust fund for 2023 of USD 4,516,686, which completes the approval of the full budget of the Convention for the 2022-2023 biennium and decided to replenish the working capital reserve to 15 per cent by additional apportioned contributions of USD 148,071 and to maintain the working capital reserve at the level of 15% of the budget in accordance with the financial rules of the Minamata Convention. The COP also adopted the indicative scale of assessments for the apportionment of expenses for 2023.

Furthermore, the COP took note of the estimates for the special trust fund for 2023 of USD 2,841,950 and noted that implementation of the planned activities was subject to the availability of resources contributed to the special trust fund.

The COP also requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a budget for the 2024-2025 biennium for consideration by COP-5, consisting of a zero nominal growth scenario and a scenario not exceeding a 5 per cent increase of the 2022-2023 level in nominal terms.

### FOLLOW UP

Calls for information	Respondents	Methods of submission	Deadlines for submission
The secretariat will send out invoices for 2023 towards the end of 2022 for the general trust fund and will follow-up on outstanding contributions. The secretariat will also issue letters for fundraising for the special trust fund. Monthly reporting (via the Convention website) is done for the status of contributions to the general trust fund as well as the special trust fund.	Minamata Convention secretariat	-	Various; ongoing

### CONTACT POINT

Sandra Ruecker (Email: [sandra.ruecker@un.org](mailto:sandra.ruecker@un.org)).

With a copy to: Secretariat of the Minamata Convention (Email: [mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org))



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## Decision MC-4/14: Venue and dates of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

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### BACKGROUND

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided to hold the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties from 30 October to 3 November 2023, in Geneva.

### FOLLOW UP

<b>Calls for information</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Methods of submission</b>	<b>Deadlines for submission</b>
The secretariat will inform COP-5 Bureau as soon as the booking of the venue of COP-5 can be confirmed; parties will be notified accordingly,	COP-5 Bureau and parties	-	as soon as information is available

### CONTACT POINT

Alexandru Sofroni (Email: [alexandru.sofroni@un.org](mailto:alexandru.sofroni@un.org))

With a copy to: Secretariat of the Minamata Convention (Email: [mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org))





## Appendix 1: Elected officers

### Members of COP-5 Bureau

<b>Africa:</b> Oarabile Serumola (Botswana) Roger Baro (Burkina Faso)	<b>Asia Pacific:</b> Syed Mujtaba Hussain (Pakistan) Dr. Saeed A. Alzahrani (Saudi Arabia)
<b>EES:</b> Claudia Dumitru (Romania), <i>President</i> Anahit Aleksandryan (Armenia)	<b>GRULAC:</b> Osvaldo Patricio Álvarez Pérez (Chile) Cheryl Eugene-St.Romain (Saint Lucia)
<b>WEOG:</b> Marie-Claire Lhenry (France) Sverre-Thomas Jahre (Norway)	

### Members of the Implementation and Compliance Committee

<b>Africa:</b> Mve Beh Jean Hervé (Gabon) Musa Kuzumila Ngunila (Tanzania) Christopher Kanema (Zambia)	<b>Asia Pacific:</b> Itsuki Kuroda (Japan) Mohammed Khashashneh (Jordan) Abbas Torabi (Iran)
<b>EES:</b> Atanas Stoyanov Dishkelov (Bulgaria) Dubravka Marija Kreković (Croatia) Jelena Kovačević (Montenegro)	<b>GRULAC:</b> Paulina Riquelme (Chile) Jimena Nieto Carrasco (Colombia) Meredith Henry-Cumberbatch (Suriname)
<b>WEOG:</b> Helga Schrott (Austria) Anik Beaudoin (Canada) Karoliina Anttonen (Finland)	

### Members of Governing Board of the Specific International Programme

<b>Africa:</b> Olubunmi Olusanya (Nigeria) Anne Nakafeero (Uganda)	<b>Asia Pacific:</b> Dr. Satyendra Kumar (India) Mr. Wasantha Dissanayake (Sri Lanka)
<b>EES:</b> Mario Vujić (Croatia) Suzana Andonova (North Macedonia)	<b>GRULAC:</b> Helges Samuel Bandeira (Brazil) Gina Griffith (Suriname)
<b>WEOG:</b> Rafael Zubrzycki (Germany) Andrew Clark (USA)	