

Ref: MC/ES/2024/11

Geneva, 16 February 2024

**Subject:** Invitation regarding the effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Dear Madam, Sir,

In its decision MC-5/14 on the first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention (COP) established the Effectiveness Evaluation Group to work in accordance with the terms of reference outlined in annex I to the decision and reproduced in annex 1 to the present letter.

The Effectiveness Evaluation Group will oversee the development of the effectiveness evaluation report. The Group will do so by integrating the information and knowledge collected and synthesized during the effectiveness evaluation process into a final report, along with recommendations for improvement, lessons learned and best practices, to be submitted to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in 2027.

The members of the Effectiveness Evaluation Group will be appointed based on equitable geographical distribution, taking into account the need for gender balance and various types of expertise. The Effectiveness Evaluation Group will consist of 25 participants from Parties, comprising five representatives of Parties from each of the five United Nations regions, nominated by the region.

Accordingly, I am pleased to invite Parties to identify and nominate candidates to become members of the Effectiveness Evaluation Group. **Nominations should be sent to the Bureau members of the relevant region**, with a copy to the Secretariat ([mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org)), as soon as possible and no later than **31 March 2024**. For ease of reference, annex 2 to the present letter contains a list of Bureau members.

In accordance with its terms of reference, the Effectiveness Evaluation Group will work online and will convene up to two face-to-face meetings, as needed and within allocated resources, during the first effectiveness evaluation cycle. The Group will elect two co-chairs from among its members, one from a developed country and one from a developing country, to facilitate its work and meetings. To give effect to the decision, the Secretariat plans to convene the first online meeting of the Group in mid-June 2024. Further information will be available in due course.

Further in relation to the first effectiveness evaluation of the Convention, I would like to recall my [letter](#) of 26 September 2023 and reiterate my invitation to Parties, through their technical experts, to submit an expression of intent to provide data to support the first effectiveness evaluation of the Convention. Parties and stakeholders who submitted an expression of intent will be contacted for data submission shortly. Additional expressions of interest may be submitted by 31 March 2024 as per further information provided under the "Intersessional work" page of the Convention's [website](#).

Furthermore, I am pleased to also invite Parties to review the draft "Article 21 Synthesis Report", as contained in annex II to document [UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/23](#), and send their inputs, if any, to the Secretariat ([mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org)) by 31 March 2024.

I thank you for your continued support to the implementation of the Minamata Convention and look forward to working with each and every Party during the intersessional period leading to COP-6.



Yours sincerely,

*Monika Stankiewicz*

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Executive Secretary

To: National Focal Points to the Minamata Convention on Mercury  
Members of the Bureau of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Observers to the meetings of the Conference of the Parties

Cc: Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office in Geneva  
Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme