

MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS: AMENDMENTS OF ANNEX A AND COP DECISION ON COSMETICS

The Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Minamata Convention on Mercury in November 2023 decided to amend Annex A to the Convention, adding mercury-added products to be phased out including all the fluorescent lamps for general lighting purposes. The amendments will enter into force on 25 April 2025, one year after the amendments were communicated to Parties. The COP also decided to collect information on the challenges in controlling mercury-containing cosmetics for the discussion at the next COP in 2025. This Minamata Online session is to respond to any question on the amendments and the work on cosmetics.

MINAMATA ONLINE
SEASON 4 / 2024

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1. The amendments of Annex A (and Annex B) adopted at COP-5
 - Amended annex – what mercury-added products and measures were added.
 - When and how the amendments enter into force.
2. Information collection on mercury-added cosmetics.
3. Capacity building for addressing mercury-added products.
4. Q & A session

Amended Annex A (and Annex B)



Overview of Annex A on mercury-added products



Article 4

Mercury-added products

1. Each Party shall not allow, by taking appropriate measures, the manufacture, import or export of mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annex A after the phase-out date specified for those products, except where an exclusion is specified in Annex A or the Party has a registered exemption pursuant to Article 6.

3. Each Party shall take measures for the mercury-added products listed in Part II of Annex A in accordance with the provisions set out therein.

Annex A

Part I:

Lists the mercury-added products and the respective **phase-out date** after which the **manufacture, import or export** of the product shall not be allowed as obligated by **Article 4, paragraph 1**.

Product list includes:
Batteries, switches and relays, fluorescent lamps, non-electronic measuring devices, cosmetics etc.

Part II:

Lists the products (currently only dental amalgam) subject to **Article 4, paragraph 3** and the measures for **phasing down** their use.

Product list includes:
Dental amalgam

What are mercury-added products?

“Mercury-added products (MAPs)” are products or product components that contain mercury or a mercury compound that was intentionally added. (Minamata Convention Article 2 (f))

Selective representation of the original list of products to be phased down and phased out



Dental Amalgam



Dry cells



Button cells (with mercury content $\geq 2\%$)



Skin cosmetics (with mercury content $>1\text{ppm}$)



Mercury sphygmomanometer



Mercury thermometer



Compact Fluorescent Lamp ≤ 30 watts with a mercury content >5 mg



High Pressure Mercury Vapour Lamp



Linear Fluorescent Lamp

Selective representation of the amended list of products to be phased out



Mercury diffusion pump



Cold cathode lamp



All previously allowed button cells



Propellant for satellite and spacecraft



All previously allowed fluorescent lamps for general lighting

Amendment of Annex A

- The Conference of the Parties may amend the Convention, including its annexes, pursuant to Articles 26 and 27.
- Annex A was amended twice:
 - **At COP-4 in 2022** (Decision [MC-4/3](#))
 - Addition of 8 mercury-added products to Annex A Part I, with a phase out date of 2025.
 - Addition of 2 mandatory measures for dental amalgam to Annex A Part II.
 - **At COP-5 in 2023** (Decision [MC-5/4](#))
 - An additional 9 mercury-added products were included under Annex A Part I, with phase-out dates of 2025, 2026 or 2027.
 - Addition of 1 mandatory measures for dental amalgam to Annex A Part II.

For more details on COP-4 and COP-5 amendments, see Convention [website](#).

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.
3. The following procedure shall apply to the proposal, adoption and entry into force of additional annexes to this Convention: 47 |
 - (a) Additional annexes shall be proposed and adopted according to the procedure laid down in paragraphs 1–3 of Article 26;....

COP-5 Decision on mercury-added products

- ▶ Having considered the information made available pursuant to Decision [MC-4/3](#) (Document [UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/5](#)) and the three proposals for amendments to Annex A submitted by the Africa region (Documents [UNEP/MC/COP.5/5, Add.1](#), [Add.2](#) and [Add.3](#)), COP-5 decided to amend Part I of Annex A to the Convention by adding the following:

ANNEX A, PART I

Product	Phase-out date
Button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content < 2% and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content < 2%	2025
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	2025
Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) for general lighting purposes that are >30 watts	2026
Compact fluorescent lamps with a non-integrated ballast (CFL.ni) for general lighting purposes that are ≤ 30 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner	2026
Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes: (a) Halophosphate phosphor ≤ 40 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 10 mg per lamp (b) Halophosphate phosphor > 40 watts	2026
Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes: (a) Triband phosphor < 60 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg/lamp (b) Triband phosphor ≥ 60 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg per lamp (c) Triband phosphor ≥ 60 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp	2027
Non-linear fluorescent lamps (NFLs) (e.g., U-bend and circular) for general lighting purposes: (a) Triband phosphor, all wattages	2027
(b) Halophosphate phosphor, all wattages	2026
Cosmetics, including skin-lightening soaps and creams, and not including eye area cosmetics where mercury is used as a preservative and no effective and safe substitute preservatives are available	2025

1/: The intention is not to cover cosmetics, soaps or creams with trace contaminants of mercury.

ANNEX A, PART II

Product	Provision
Dental amalgam	In addition, Parties that have not yet phased out dental amalgam shall: (i) Submit to the Secretariat a national action plan or a report based on available information with respect to progress they have made or are making to phase down or phase out dental amalgam every four years as part of national reporting

ANNEX B, PART I

Manufacturing process	Phase-out date
Production of polyurethane using mercury containing catalysts	2025

COP-5: also decided to consider the following amendments at COP-6

ANNEX A, PART I

Product	Phase-out date
[Dental amalgam]	[2030]

ANNEX A, PART II

Product	Provisions
Dental amalgam	In addition, Parties shall: (iv) [[Exclude or not allow] [Phase down], by taking measures as appropriate, the use of dental amalgam in government insurance policies and programmes.] (Alternative to (iv)) [Take measures, as appropriate, to exclude, not allow, [or phase down] dental amalgam in government policies or programmes]

Amended Annex A Part I – Consolidated list

Mercury-added products	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
Button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content < 2% and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content < 2%	2025
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 except those used for research and development purposes	2025

Mercury-added products	phase out date
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 (CFLs) for general lighting purposes that are > 30 watts	2026
Compact fluorescent lamps with an integrated ballast (CFL.i) for general lighting purposes that are ≤ 30 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner	2025
Compact fluorescent lamps with a non-integrated ballast (CFL.ni) for general lighting purposes that are ≤ 30 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner	2026
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
Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes: (a) Halophosphate phosphor ≤ 40 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 10 mg per lamp (b) Halophosphate phosphor > 40 watts	2026
Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes: (a) Triband phosphor < 60 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg/lamp (b) Triband phosphor ≥ 60 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5mg per lamp (c) Triband phosphor ≥ 60 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5mg per lamp	2027

Annex A Part I consolidated list (continued)

Mercury-added products	Phase-out date
Non-linear fluorescent lamps (NFLs) (e.g., U-bend and circular) for general lighting purposes: (a) Triband phosphor, all wattages	2027
(a) Halophosphate phosphor, all wattages	2026
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: (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) of all lengths for electronic displays, not included in the listing directly above	2025

Mercury-added products	Phase-out date
Cosmetics (with mercury content above 1ppm), including skin lightening soaps and creams, and not including eye area cosmetics where mercury is used as a preservative and no effective and safe substitute preservatives are available ^{1/}	2020
Cosmetics, including skin-lightening soaps and creams, and not including eye area cosmetics where mercury is used as a preservative and no effective and safe substitute preservatives are available ^{1/}	2025
Pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics	2020
The following non-electronic measuring devices except non-electronic measuring devices installed in large-scale equipment or those used for high precision measurement, where no suitable mercury-free alternative is available: (a) Barometers; (b) Hygrometers; (c) Manometers; (d) Thermometers; (e) Sphygmomanometers.	2020
Strain gauges to be used in plethysmographs;	2025
The following electrical and electronic measuring devices, except those installed in large-scale equipment or those used for high precision measurement, where no suitable mercury-free alternative is available: (a) Melt pressure transducers, melt pressure transmitters and melt pressure sensors	2025
Mercury vacuum pumps	2025
Tyre balancers and wheel weights	2025
Photographic film and paper	2025
Propellant for satellites and spacecraft	2025

^{1/} The intention is not to cover cosmetics, soaps or creams with trace contaminants of mercury

Phase-out dates for fluorescent lamps



Compact fluorescent lamps	Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) ≤ 30 Watts and > 5 mg Hg		CFLs > 30 Watts <i>(high wattage CFLs, includes both CFL.i and CFL.ni)</i>
	Integrally Ballasted (CFL.i) ≤ 30 Watts and ≤ 5 mg Hg	Non-integrally Ballasted (CFL.ni) ≤ 30 Watts and ≤ 5 mg Hg	
Linear fluorescent lamps	Linear fluorescent, triband phosphor < 60 Watts and > 5 mg Hg		Linear fluorescent, triband phosphor, ≥ 60 Watts
	Linear fluorescent, triband phosphor < 60 Watts and ≤ 5 mg Hg		
	Linear fluorescent, halophosphate ≤ 40 Watts and > 10 mg Hg		Linear fluorescent, halophosphate, > 40 Watts
	Linear fluorescent, halophosphate ≤ 40 Watts and ≤ 10 mg Hg		
Non-linear fluorescent lamps	Non-linear fluorescent (U-bend, circular), triband phosphor, all wattages		
	Non-linear fluorescent (U-bend, circular), halophosphate phosphor, all wattages		
Cold cathode fluorescent lamps (CCFL) and external electrode fluorescent lamps (EEFL)	CCFL and EEFL for electronic displays with mercury content exceeding 3.5 (short length), 5 (medium length) or 13 (long length) mg per lamp	CCFL and EEFL for electronic displays with mercury content below 3.5 (short length), 5 (medium length) or 13 (long length) mg per lamp	

Phase-out date



2020



2025



2026



2027

Entry into force of the amendments



Procedure for entry into force for COP-5 amendments

- ▶ Pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 26, the Secretary General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as Depositary, has issued a communication following the adoption of [Decision MC-5/4 “Amendments to annexes A and B and the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing processes listed in Annex B”](#). The communication, including the texts of the amended Annex A in the six UN official languages, was posted on 25 April 2024 on the UN Treaty Collection website at <https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/CN/2024/CN.138.2024-Eng.pdf>
- ▶ Pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 27, amendments to annexes to the Convention shall enter into force:
 - for a Party on the expiry of one year from the date of the communication by the Depositary, on **25 April 2025**, pursuant to paragraph 3 (c) of Article 27;
 - except for any Party that, pursuant to paragraph 3(b) of Article 27, has notified the Depositary in writing that it is unable to accept the amended text;
 - for any Party that made a declaration with regard to amendment of annexes in accordance with paragraph 5 of article 30.

Procedure for entry into force for COP-4 amendments



- ▶ A Party that made a declaration with regard to amendment of annexes in accordance with **paragraph 5 of Article 30** is to deposit with the Depositary its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with respect to the amendment to trigger entry into force. In this case any amendment shall enter into force for such a Party **on the ninetieth day** after the date of deposit.

- ▶ As at May 2024, the Depositary has not received any instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in respect of the amendment to Annex A adopted at COP-4, which therefore entered into force on **28 September 2023** for all Parties **except** the following:
 - (a) One Party that notified the Depositary in accordance with subparagraph 3 (b) of Article 27 of the Convention (**China**);

 - (b) Parties that made a declaration in accordance with paragraph 5 of Article 30 of the Convention with regard to the amendment of the annex (**Argentina, Armenia, Canada, Czechia, Germany, India, Iran, Jamaica, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Peru, Republic of Moldova, Seychelles, Suriname, Thailand, Türkiye, USA**).

- ▶ A **table** providing an overview of the status of entry into force of the amendment to Annex A adopted at COP-4 is available on the Convention [website](#). A separate table of Parties will be uploaded on the Convention's website, after 25 April 2025, with respect to entry into force of COP-5 amendments to Annex A.

Exemptions for phase-out dates in Annex A

- ▶ The date of entry into force of amendments to Annexes has implications for a Party wishing to register an exemption pursuant to Article 6.
- ▶ **Article 4, paragraph 1**, states that Each Party shall not allow, by taking appropriate measures, the manufacture, import or export of mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annex A after the phase-out date specified for those products, except where an exclusion is specified in Annex A or the Party has a registered exemption pursuant to Article 6.
- ▶ Pursuant to **paragraph 1 (b) of Article 6**, Parties may register for one or more exemptions from the phase-out dates associated with any mercury-added product added by amendment to Annex A.
- ▶ **Formats** to be used in registering for an exemption from the phase-out dates listed in Annex A and Annex B and for the register of exemptions were adopted by COP-1 and available on the [Convention's website](#).

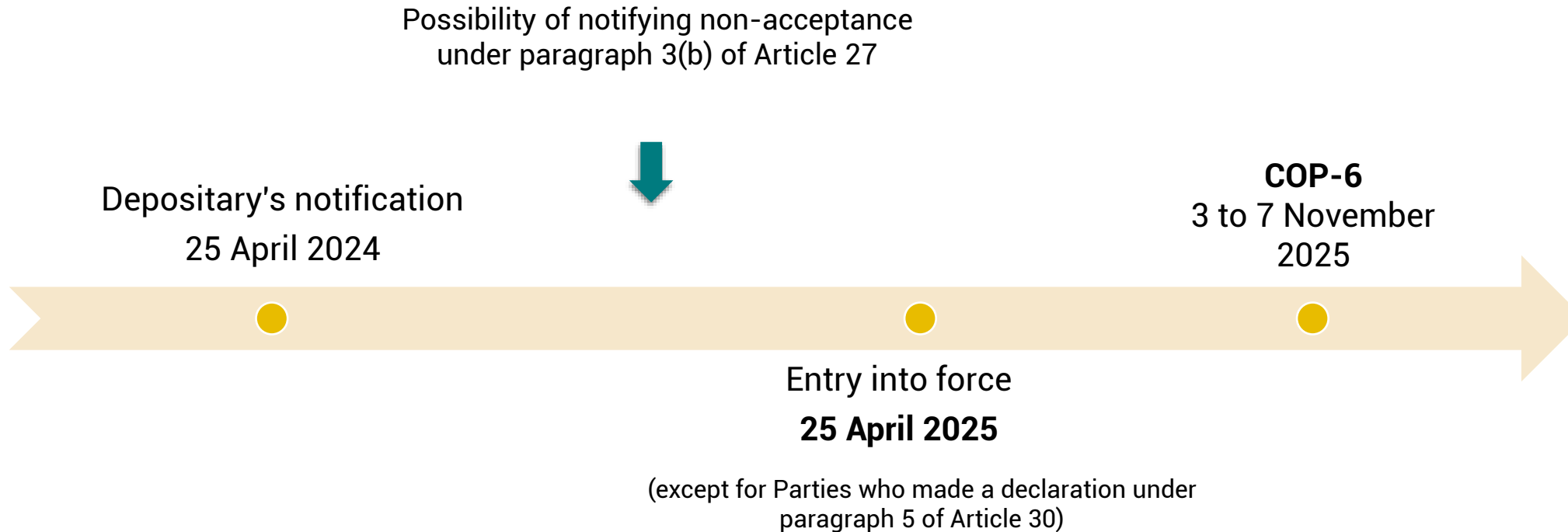


Exemptions for phase-out dates in Annex A

- ▶ Parties shall notify the Secretariat the exemption registration in writing **no later than the date upon which the applicable amendment enters into force** for the Party. This date can be:
 - within one year after communication by the Depositary of the adoption of the amendment to the annex in the absence of a notification of non-acceptance under paragraph 3 (b) of Article 27; or
 - upon withdrawal of a notification of non-acceptance under paragraph 3 (b) of Article 27; or
 - 90 days after the date of deposit of the instrument of ratification of the amendment for those Parties who have submitted a declaration according to paragraph 5 of Article 30.
- ▶ Pursuant to **paragraph 2 of Article 4**, Parties may indicate at the time of ratification or upon entry into force of an amendment to Annex A for it, that it will implement different measures or strategies to address products listed in Part I of Annex A. The United States is the only Party who has notified its decision to use this alternative at the time of ratification.



Timeline for entry into force pursuant to Article 27



Parties shall notify the Secretariat any exemption registration in writing no later than the date upon which the applicable amendment enters into force for the Party.

Strengthening the multisectoral collaboration between ministries of health and environment – in light of the new dental amalgam requirement and upcoming COP6 discussions

Dr Benoit Varenne

Dental Officer, Oral Health Programme

MND Unit/NCD Department/WHO HQ



World Health
Organization



HEALTH
FOR ALL

DECISION ADOPTED BY COP5 OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION RELEVANT TO DENTAL AMALGAM

WHO recommends strengthening (or establishing) the multisectoral collaboration between Ministries of Environment and Ministries of Health to implement the COP 5 amendment and discuss the proposal to be considered at COP6

Annex A Part II was amended to add a mandatory requirement:

“In addition, Parties that have not yet phased out dental amalgam shall: (i) Submit to the secretariat a national action plan or a report based on available information with respect to progress they have made or are making to phase down or phase out dental amalgam every four years as part of national reporting”

The following proposals will be considered at COP6:

Amend Annex A Part I by adding dental amalgam with 2030 as the phase out date

<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>
[Dental amalgam]	[2030]

Amend Annex A Part II by adding the following provision

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Provisions</i>
Dental amalgam	In addition, Parties shall: (iv) [[Exclude or not allow] [phase down], by taking measures as appropriate, the use of dental amalgam in government insurance policies and programmes.] <i>(Alternative to (iv))</i> [Take measures, as appropriate, to exclude, not allow, [or phase down] dental amalgam in government policies or programmes.]

WHO MANDATE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MINISTRIES OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Role of ministries of public health

- Sign, ratify and implement the Convention
- Active participation
- Address the health aspects of exposure to mercury
- Close cooperation with Ministry of Environment, and other ministries
- Promote appropriate health care services for prevention, treatment and care for populations affected by the exposure to mercury

Resolution WHA67.11 (2014)

SIXTY-SEVENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY WHA67.11
Agenda item 14.5 24 May 2014

Public health impacts of exposure to mercury and mercury compounds: the role of WHO and ministries of public health in the implementation of the Minamata Convention

The Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on public health impacts of exposure to mercury and mercury compounds: the role of WHO and ministries of public health in the implementation of the Minamata Convention;

Recalling World Health Assembly resolutions WHA60.17 on oral health: action plan for promotion and integrated disease prevention, WHA63.23 on the improvement of health through safe and environmentally sound waste management, and WHA59.15 on the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, as well as the strategy for strengthening the engagement of the health sector in the implementation of the strategic approach adopted by the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its third session;

Recognizing the importance of dealing effectively with the health aspects of the challenges that chemicals and wastes, including mercury, may pose, particularly to vulnerable populations, especially women, children, and, through them, future generations;

Recalling the renewed commitments on sustainable development set out in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Rio+20 outcome document "The future we want", of June 2012, as well as the Adelaide Statement on Health in All Policies of 2010, and the 8th Global Conference on Health Promotion, held in Helsinki in 2013, which promoted intersectoral collaboration across all sectors to achieve healthy populations;

Taking note that negotiations on the text of a new multilateral environmental agreement on mercury were concluded in October 2013 with the adoption of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, being the first time that a multilateral environmental agreement includes a specific article on health, as well as other relevant provisions, and that the Convention places certain obligations on Parties that will require action, as applicable, by the health sector, together with other competent sectors, including the progressive phase-out, resulting from banning the manufacture, import or export by 2020 of mercury thermometers and sphygmomanometers, of mercury-containing cosmetics, including skin-lightening soaps and creams, and mercury-containing topical antiseptics, measures to be taken to

¹ Document A67/24.

Resolution WHA74.5 (2021)

SEVENTY-FOURTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY WHA74.5
Agenda item 13.2 31 May 2021

Oral health

The Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the consolidated report by the Director-General;¹

Recalling resolutions WHA60.17 (2007) on oral health: action plan for promotion and integrated disease prevention, WHA69.3 (2016) on the global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016–2020: towards a world in which everyone can live a long and healthy life, WHA72.2 (2019) on primary health care, and decisions WHA72(11) (2019) on the follow-up to the political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and WHA73(12) (2020) on the Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020–2030;

Mindful of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages), and recognizing the important intersections between oral health and other Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 1 (End poverty in all its forms and everywhere), Goal 2 (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture), Goal 4 (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all) and Goal 12 (Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns);

Recalling the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (2011), recognizing that oral diseases pose a major challenge and could benefit from common responses to noncommunicable diseases;

Recalling also the political declaration of the high-level meeting on universal health coverage (2019), including the commitment therein to strengthen efforts to address oral health as part of universal health coverage;

Mindful of the Minamata Convention on Mercury (2013), a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds, calling for phase-down of the use of dental amalgam taking into account domestic circumstances and relevant international guidance; and recognizing that a viable replacement material should be developed through focused research;

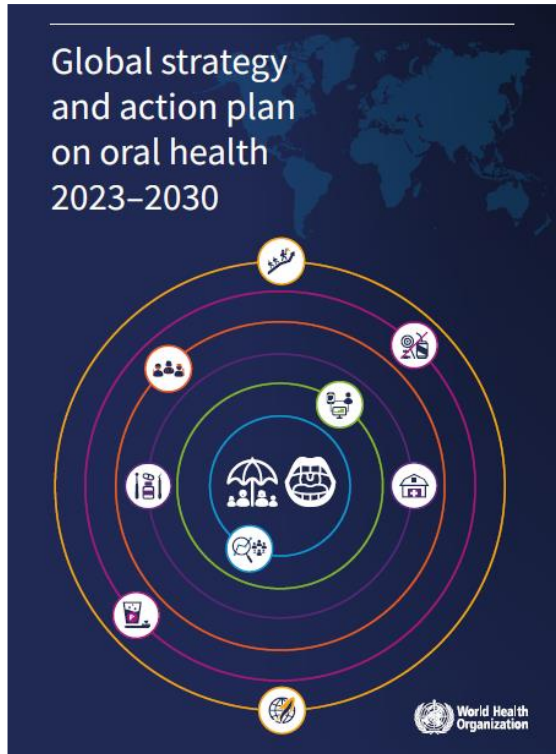
Recognizing that oral diseases are highly prevalent, with more than 3.5 billion people suffering from them, and that oral diseases are closely linked to noncommunicable diseases, leading to a

¹ Document A74/10 Rev.1.

Role of WHO:

- Provide advice and technical support to Member States to support the implementation of the Convention
- Cooperate closely with COP of the Minamata Convention, other international organizations, mainly UNEP
- Develop of the technical guidance on environmentally friendly and less-invasive dentistry to support countries with their implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, including supporting preventative programmes

WHO GLOBAL ORAL HEALTH ACTION PLAN (2023-2030)



[Link coming soon](#)
Available in English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Russian and Chinese



Global target 1.2: Environmentally-sound oral health care

By 2030, 90% of countries have implemented measures to phasedown the use of dental amalgam as stipulated in the Minamata Convention on Mercury or have phased it out

Examples of relevant proposed actions for Member States

- Action 7. Phase down the use of dental amalgam
- Actions 23, 29 and 32. Forty upstream, mid-stream and downstream health promotion and prevention measures
- Action 67. Promote safe, environmentally sound, mercury-free products and minimal intervention
- Action 68. Reinforce best environmental practices

Examples of relevant proposed actions for the WHO Secretariat

- Action 13. Fulfil the mandates given to the WHO Secretariat in the resolution on oral health
- Action 72. Accelerate implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

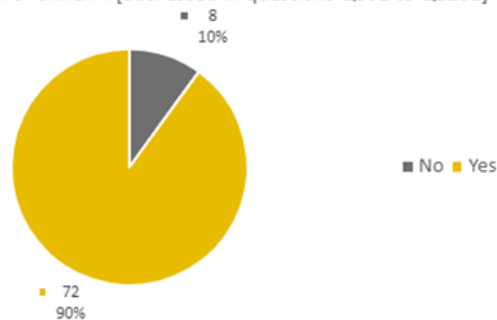
****Proposed actions can be adapted to national circumstances taking into account national and sub-national contexts.*

****Actions are also proposed for international partners, civil society organizations and the private sector.*

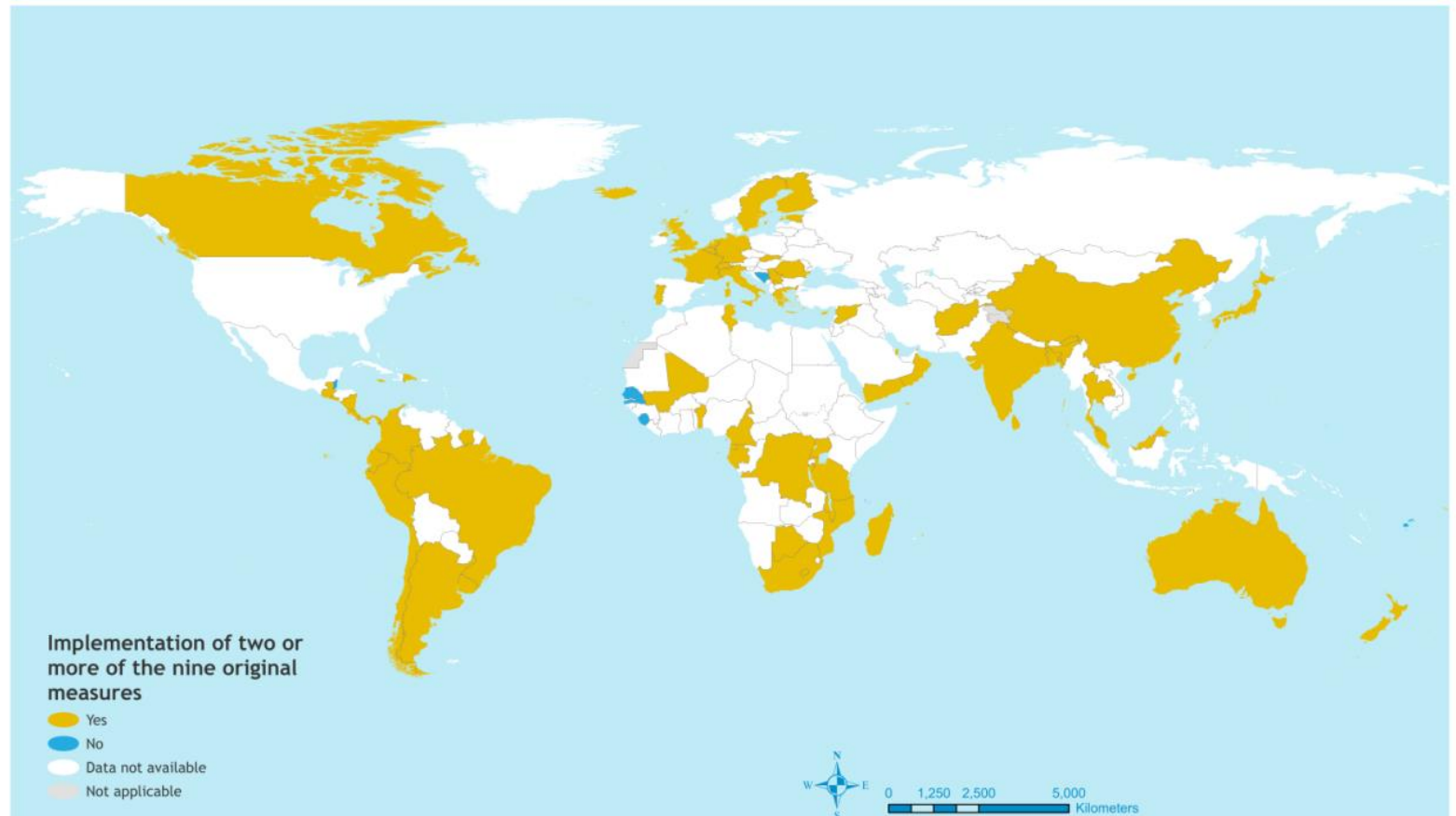
WHO and Minamata Convention Secretariat Survey

- The survey was distributed amongst national focal point of the Minamata Convention and the responsible staff for oral health at Ministries of Health, with the expectation that it would be completed in collaboration.
- 80 countries participated.

E1: Countries that have implemented two or more measures listed in (i) to (ix) of part II of annex A [addressed in questions Q301 to Q1101]



Implementation of two or more of the nine original measures to phase down the use of dental amalgam, 2023 survey



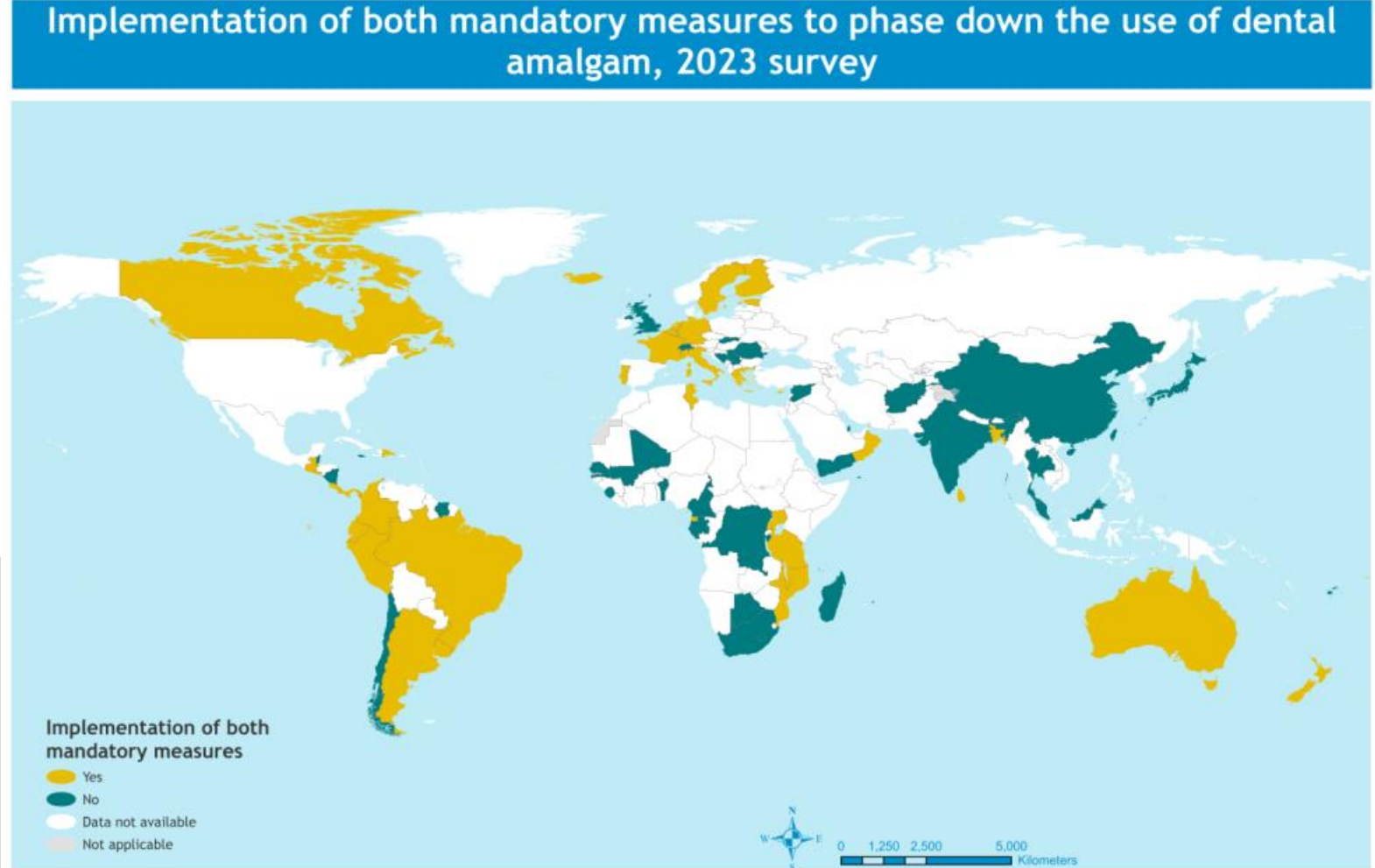
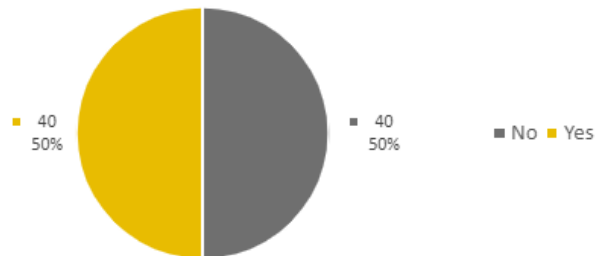
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Data Source: WHO Phasing down the use of dental amalgam - survey on the progress of implementation
Map Production: WHO HQ/UCN/NCD/MND unit
Map Creation Date: 22 enero 2024

WHO and Minamata Convention Secretariat Survey

- The survey was distributed amongst national focal point of the Minamata Convention and the responsible staff for oral health at Ministries of Health, with the expectation that it would be completed in collaboration.
- 80 countries participated.

E2: Countries that have implemented both mandatory measures adopted at COP4 [addressed in Q1201 to Q1301]



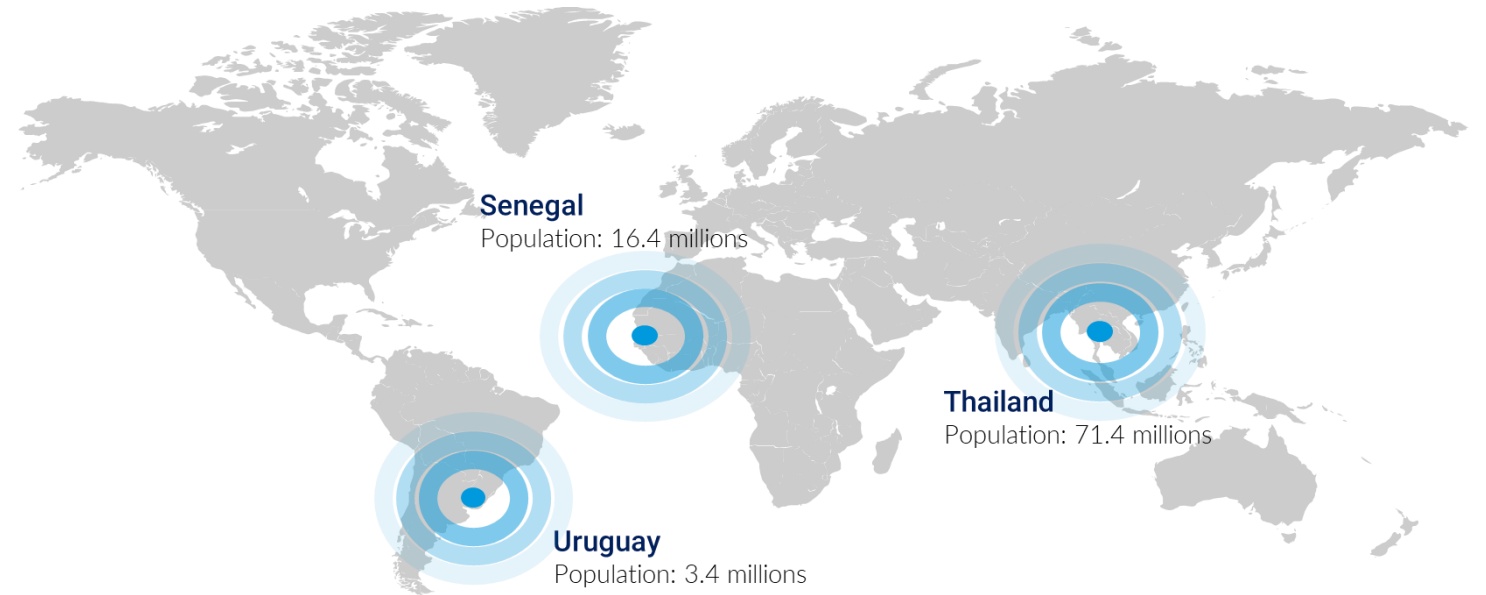
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Map Production: WHO HQ/UCN/HCD/MND unit
Map Creation Date: 22 enero 2024

GEF7 PHASING DOWN DENTAL AMALGAM PROJECT SCOPE: OBJECTIVE AND COMPONENTS

Project objective

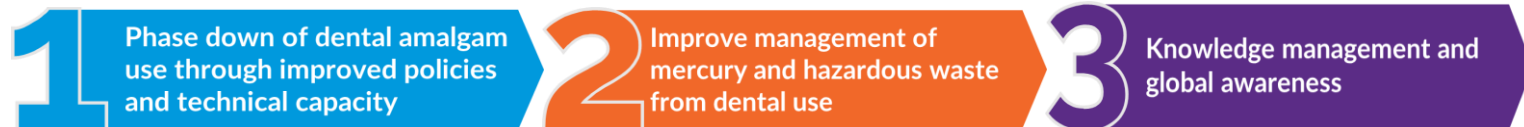
To protect human health and the environment from harmful effects of mercury through implementation of policies and improved practices to phase down the use of dental amalgams



Timeline:
March 2023 – February 2026



Multisectoral collaboration between Ministry of Health and Ministry of Environment in project countries



World Health Organization



HEALTH FOR ALL

Thank you very much for your attention

For more information, contact: varenneb@who.int

- WHO Oral health page: <https://www.who.int/health-topics/oral-health>
- GEF7 Phasing Down Dental amalgam project knowledge hub: www.unep.org/phasedowndentalamalgam
- WHO/MCSEC (2023): Analysis by the World Health Organization of the preliminary results of a global survey to monitor progress in phasing down the use of dental amalgam: https://minamataconvention.org/sites/default/files/documents/information_document/UNEP-MC-COP.5-INF30-Rev1-WHO-ILO-reports_English.pdf [Note that one country was added after the original publication.]
- WHO. (2023). WHO Model List of Essential Medicines - 23rd list, 2023: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-MHP-HPS-EML-2023.02>
- WHO. (2022). Report of the informal global WHO consultation with policymakers in dental public health, 2021: monitoring country progress in phasing down the use of dental amalgam: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240038424>
- WHO. (2022). Prevention and treatment of dental caries with mercury-free products and minimal intervention
- WHO. (2019). Ending childhood dental caries: WHO implementation manual. <https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/330643>



Information on mercury-added cosmetics



Decision MC-5/5: Preparation of a report on cosmetics listed in Part I of Annex A to the Minamata Convention



The Conference of the Parties

- 1. Invites Parties and relevant stakeholders to submit information to the Secretariat by **30 June 2024** on challenges in preventing the manufacture, import and export of cosmetics listed in Part I of Annex A to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, as well as on current or proposed measures for addressing these challenges taken by Parties and others, including the Global Mercury Partnership;*
- 2. Requests the Secretariat to prepare a draft report, compiling and synthesizing the information described in paragraph 1 above, addressing topics such as, but not limited to, the following: phasing out sales and offers of sales of mercury-added cosmetics; strategies for discouraging the marketing, advertising and display of mercury-added cosmetics; advisories, detention lists and prohibited substances lists concerning mercury-added cosmetics; licensing and product ingredient approvals for cosmetics manufacturing facilities; developing and implementing product safety pledges for online platforms; and raising awareness of the hazards of skin-lightening product use among physicians, dermatologists and beauty centre staff, as well as consumers and family members;*
- 3. Also requests the Secretariat to make the draft report mentioned in paragraph 2 above available to Parties and relevant stakeholders by **31 March 2025** so that they can review it and comment on it;*
- 4. Further requests the Secretariat to prepare a final report, taking into account the comments submitted by Parties and relevant stakeholders in accordance with paragraph 3 above, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting.*

The Executive Secretary issued a [letter](#) inviting submission of information on 5 March 2024.

Decision MC-5/5: Preparation of a report on cosmetics listed in part I of Annex A to the Minamata Convention



Information on challenges in preventing the manufacture, import and export of mercury-added cosmetics, as well as on current or proposed measures for addressing these challenges, is to be reported by 30 June 2024 using the [format](#) attached to the Executive Secretary's letter.

The Executive Secretary's [letter](#) describes the plan as follows (Some dates have been adjusted):

- 8 May 2024: Convene a Minamata Online session on COP-5 Decisions 5/4 and 5/5
- 2-29 May 2024: [Advertise](#) to hire a consultant to draft the report (with financial contribution from the European Union)
- 30 June 2024: Information submission deadline
- July-August 2024: Consultant to develop a draft report
- Sep-Dec 2024: Internal review of the draft report and consultation with UNEP, WHO and Global Mercury Partnership
- Jan 2025: Make the draft report available to Parties and relevant stakeholders on the website for comments; A webinar will be convened to present the draft report
- April 2025: Commenting deadline
- June 2025: Final report for submission to COP-6.

Challenges in preventing the manufacture, import and export of mercury-added cosmetics and measures for addressing these challenges.

INFORMATION SUBMISSION FORM

Note: This form is to be used for submission of information on challenges in preventing the manufacture, import and export of cosmetics listed in Part I of Annex A to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, as well as on current or proposed measures for addressing these challenges taken by Parties and others, pursuant to COP decision MC-5/5 (See Annex).

Parties and stakeholders are invited to submit information using this form and email it to the Secretariat (secretariat@unep.org) by 30 June 2024.

Should you have any specific questions for clarification, kindly send an email to: secretariat@unep.org with a copy to esaika.jodanis@unep.org.

Contact information	
Country/Organisation:	
Family Name:	
Given Name:	
affiliation:	
Address:	
E-mail:	
Challenges in preventing the manufacture, import and export of cosmetics listed in Part I of Annex A to the Convention	
1. Please describe the challenge:	
Current and planned measures: Please describe current and planned measures with regard to the following:	
2.1. Regulation of manufacture of mercury-added cosmetics	
2.2. Regulation of import and export of mercury-added cosmetics	
2.3. Regulation of sales and offers of sales of mercury-added cosmetics ¹	

¹ If there is a substantial difference in a Party or entity's regulatory approach, please provide the name of the country, in case of a submission by a non-Party or stakeholder, please provide the name of the organisation.
² Please indicate the priority activities, appropriate options, etc. to which the contact person belongs.
³ The information provided should not be used for any other purpose.
⁴ This might include sales on online platforms.

1

2.4. Strategies for discouraging the marketing, advertising and display of mercury-added cosmetics	
2.5. Advertisements, detection lists and prohibited substances lists concerning mercury-added cosmetics (only overlap with 2.1)	
2.6. Licensing and product registration approaches for cosmetics manufacturing facilities (may overlap with 2.1)	
2.7. Developing and implementing product safety pledges for online platforms	
2.8. Raising awareness of the hazards of skin-lightening product use among physicians, dermatologists and beauty salon staff, as well as consumers and family members	
2.9. Other measures of general interest	
Other comments	
3.1. Matters to be considered in developing a report based on the submissions	
3.2. Any other comments	
Additional information	
4. Please attach relevant documents or links to relevant information	

Other measures might include: strengthening the existing enforcement capacity, establishing national manufacturing or distribution of cosmetics, etc.

2

Capacity building for addressing mercury- added products



Capacity building on mercury-added products

- ▶ In order to support Parties in catching up with the 2020 phase-out deadline and address the amendments to Annex A, the Convention Secretariat organized a global workshop in Geneva from 21 to 23 June 2023, with financial support from the European Union.
- ▶ Participants, invited from Parties having reported in their Article 21 national reports 21 that they had not yet implemented the 2020 phase-out obligations, worked to develop national strategies to implement Article 4 of the Convention using the guide and checklist developed by the Zero Mercury Working Group ([ZMWG](#)).
- ▶ For 2024, the Secretariat cooperate with six partners, as well as ZMWG, to develop training material ([PDF](#), [PPT](#)) and convene webinars to build capacity to address mercury-added products in 6 UN languages.
 - Basel Convention Coordinating Centre Nigeria (English)
 - Basel Convention Regional Centre Argentina (Spanish)
 - Basel Convention Regional Centre China (Chinese)
 - Basel Convention Regional Centre Senegal (French)
 - Experts Association PRO MEDIU (Russian)
 - Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea & Gulf of Aden (Arabic)
- ▶ Parties and stakeholders may ask questions on Article 4 and Annex A of the Convention and comment on the training material through the online “Minamata Convention Forum”



Upcoming webinars on mercury-added products

MINAMATA ONLINE

SEASON 4 - 2024


The fourth season of Minamata Online will feature webinars on implementation review and support and mercury science from March to November 2024.

Join us again; registration is available at the Minamata Convention website. <http://www.minamataconvention.org>



Tentative calendar. Geneva time.
Last update: 24 April 2024

THURSDAY 7 MARCH 14H00-15H00 Mainstreaming gender in capacity-building projects: practical approaches	THURSDAY 2 MAY 14H00-15H00 International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant and the Minamata Convention	WEDNESDAY 8 MAY 09H00-10H00 16H00-17H00 Mercury-added products: amendment of Annex A and COP decision on cosmetics	THURSDAY 9 MAY 14H00 - 15H00 Support to Parties through the Minamata Convention Financial Mechanism	THURSDAY 6 JUNE 11H00-12H00 Mercury-added products (Russian)
TUESDAY 11 JUNE 13H00-14H00 Mercury-added products (English)	TUESDAY 11 JUNE 16H00-17H00 Mercury-added products (Spanish)	WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE 09H00-10H00 Mercury-added products (Chinese)	WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE 14H00-15H00 Mercury-added products (French)	TUESDAY 25 JUNE TIME TBC Implementing COP5 decisions related to mercury trade
WEDNESDAY 3 JULY 14H00-15H00 Mercury-added products (Arabic)	WEEK OF 9 SEPTEMBER TIME TBC Manufacturing processes using mercury	WEEK OF 30 SEPTEMBER TIME TBC Indigenous Peoples, local communities and mercury pollution	WEEK OF 14 OCTOBER TIME TBC Mercury releases and BAT/BEP guidances	WEEK OF 11 NOVEMBER TIME TBC Mercury waste thresholds



- Scheduled meetings to support Parties in fulfilling the Article 4 obligations as well as to present training materials designed to enable Parties to develop national strategies for phasing-out and phasing down MAPs.
 - Online meetings will be conducted in the 6 UN languages.
 - ✓ Thursday 6 June: 11h-12h, Russian
 - ✓ Tuesday 11 June: 13h-14h, English: 16h-17h, Spanish
 - ✓ Wednesday 12 June: 9h-10h, Chinese: 14h-15h, French
 - ✓ Wednesday 3 July: 14h-15h, Arabic
- (Time in CEDT, GMT+2)

The Minamata Convention Online Forum on Training Material Development



- ▶ The **Minamata Convention Online forum on Training Material Development** provides a secure space for Parties and observers to review, comment or pose questions about the working documents for the Conference of the Parties or other policy and technical documents with respect to:
 - Article 4: Mercury-added products (MAPs), and
 - Article 11: Mercury waste
- ▶ Forum access is granted through a simple registration process. Please follow the steps below.

Steps to access the forum

Step 1: Enter the following invitation link into their preferred web browser:

<https://bit.ly/MCforumInvite>



Step 2: Log in your personal details and hit the **"Accept invitation"** button.

Step 3: An email confirming your registration and containing a link to activate your forum membership will be sent to you. If it doesn't appear, check your Spam folder. Please follow the instructions, including clicking the link included in that confirmation email.

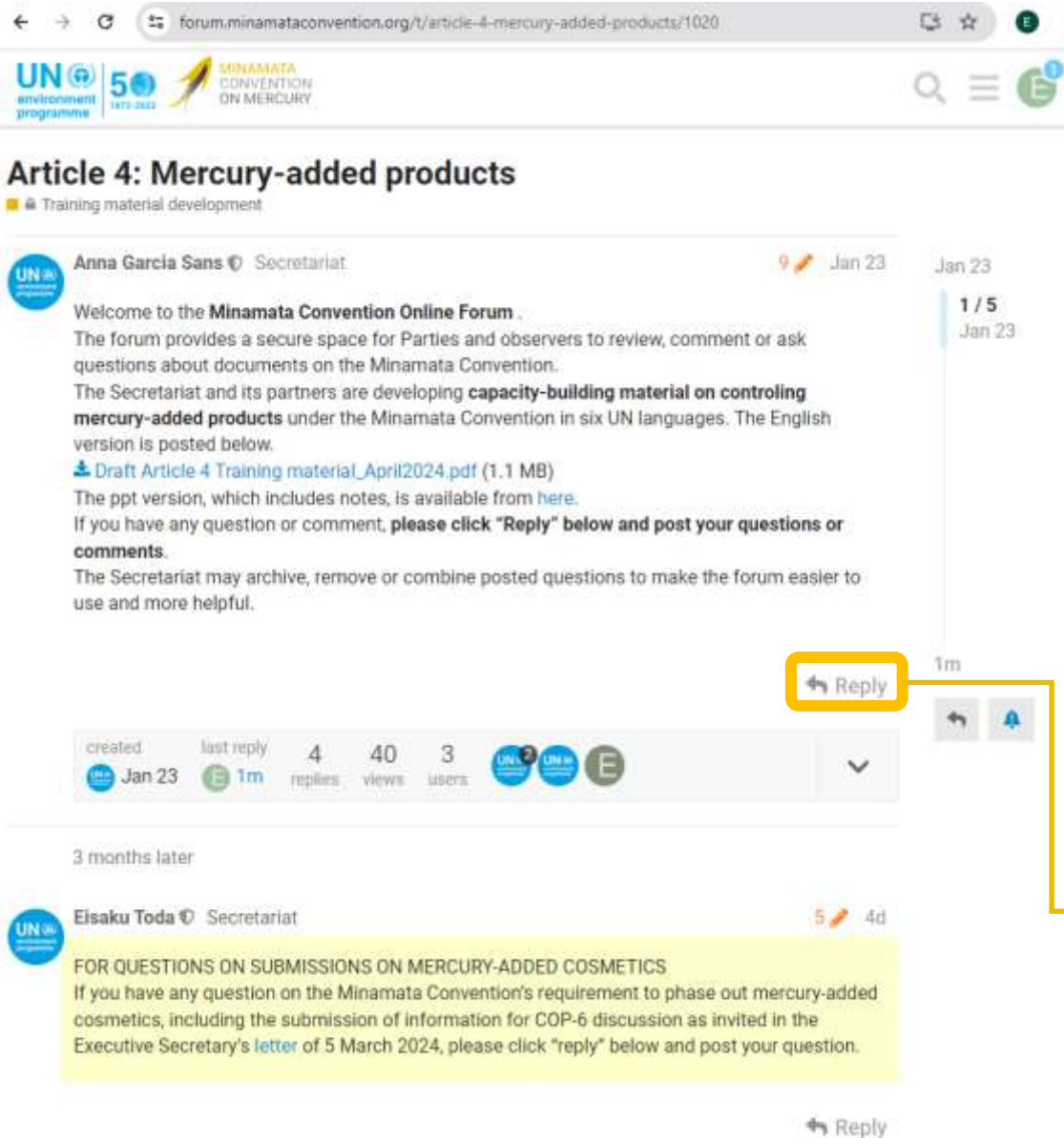
Step 4: Click on the button labelled **"Click here to activate your account"**, and by so doing, your registration on the forum is considered successful.

Step 5: Now, you can view the forum, download documents, and post questions using the Forum link below:

<https://bit.ly/MinamataForum>



How do I post on the forum?



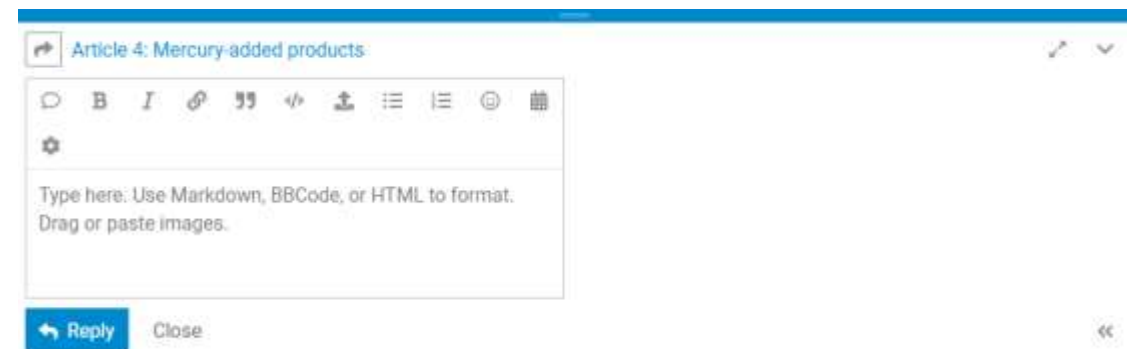
The screenshot shows a web browser at the URL `forum.minamataconvention.org/t/article-4-mercury-added-products/1020`. The page header includes the UN Environment Programme logo and the Minamata Convention on Mercury logo. The article title is "Article 4: Mercury-added products" with a sub-header "Training material development". The main content is a welcome message from Anna Garcia Sans, Secretariat, dated Jan 23. It includes a link to a PDF draft and instructions to click "Reply" to post questions or comments. A yellow box highlights the "Reply" button in the article's interaction bar. Below the article, there is a section titled "3 months later" with a post from Eisaku Toda, Secretariat, regarding mercury-added cosmetics. A yellow box highlights this post. At the bottom, another "Reply" button is visible.

You will always see the welcome message. You can download the document from the link.

To begin composing your post, select either of the **Reply** buttons indicated above. This will open the following popup screen in which you may type in and hit the **Reply** button.

You may also "reply" to other user's posting.

Your question will become visible to all (scroll down to see the thread), and the Secretariat will respond.



The screenshot shows a popup window titled "Article 4: Mercury-added products". It contains a rich text editor with a toolbar featuring icons for bold, italic, link, quote, list, and image. Below the toolbar is a text input area with the placeholder text "Type here: Use Markdown, BBCode, or HTML to format. Drag or paste images." At the bottom of the popup, there are two buttons: "Reply" and "Close".

And in addition...



National Reporting: Second Short Reports

- ▶ Article 21 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury provides that **each Party shall report to the Conference of the Parties, through the Secretariat** on:
 - measures taken by the Party to implement the Convention's provisions,
 - effectiveness of such measures, and
 - possible challenges in meeting the objectives of the Convention.
- ▶ Decision 5/13, para. 1, "*Encourages Parties to achieve a high rate of reporting for the second short reports, due by 31 December 2023*".
- ▶ Submit reports to the Secretariat by **24 May 2024 for inclusion in the Secretariat's report to the Implementation and Compliance Committee.**

New edition of reporting guidance to be used for second full report (due by 31 December 2025) has been posted.

National reporting pursuant to Article 21



Second short national reports of the Minamata Convention on Mercury due by 31 December 2023

Article 21 of the Convention requires each Party to report to the Conference of the Parties, through the Secretariat, on the measures the Party has taken to implement the provisions of the Convention, on the effectiveness of such measures and on possible challenges in meeting the objective of the Convention.

The second short national report covers the reporting period from 1 January 2021 until 31 December 2022, and was due on 31 December 2023.

Online Reporting Tool (ORT)

Parties are invited to report electronically through the ORT. The tool follows the annex to Decision MC-1/8, as amended by Decision MC-4/8. The ORT is available in the six official languages of the UN.

Access to the ORT

The **National Focal Point** of each Party is provided by the Secretariat with the login credentials to access the ORT and submit the report every reporting cycle. If your National Focal Point has not received the credentials, or if your government is unaware whom the credentials have been sent to, please immediately alert MEA-MinamataSecretariat@un.org.

National reports submitted by the Parties to the Minamata Convention for the third reporting cycle (second short national reports):

[Read the submitted reports here](#)

Specific International Programme: Fourth round launched



Specific International Programme to support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance

< Share

The **Specific International Programme** to support Capacity Building and Technical Assistance (SIP) is one of the two components of the **financial mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury**, together with the Global Environment Facility (GEF). It was defined by Article 13 of the Convention, and in 2017 the First Conference of the Parties (COP-1) decided on its duration and the arrangements for its operation (Decision MC-1/6). As requested by decision MC-1/6, UNEP established the **Specific Trust Fund**, effective 1 January 2018, to receive funds for the SIP.

Overview Governing Board Dashboard **Fourth Round** Third Round Second Round First Round Donors Reso

Fourth Round

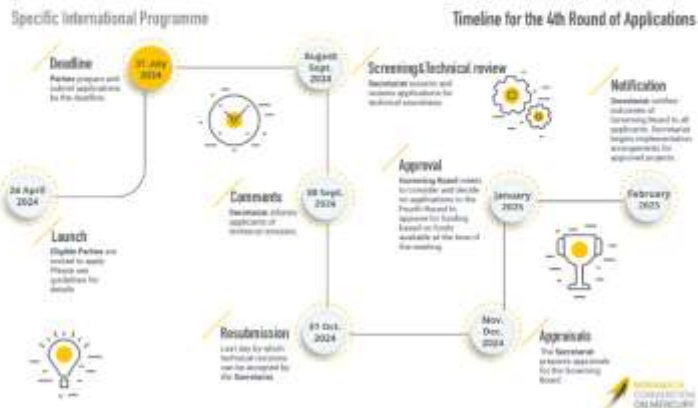
The Fourth Round of applications to the Specific International Programme opened for submissions on Wednesday, 24 April 2024.

Applications need to be submitted to the Secretariat by Wednesday, 31 July 2024.

Eligible Parties are invited to submit their applications for project funding between USD50,000 and USD250,000 following the **Application Guidelines** and using the following forms:

Form A - Project Application Form B - Project Budget Form C - Letter of Transmittal

To support and clarify the development of the applications, the Secretariat will hold several webinar sessions in English, French and Spanish and in different time zones.



The **Fourth Round** of applications to the **Specific International Programme** opened for submissions on Wednesday, 24 April 2024.

Applications need to be submitted to the Secretariat by **Wednesday, 31 July 2024**.

Join Minamata Online on 9 May 2024: <https://bit.ly/MO9MAY24>

SUPPORT TO PARTIES THROUGH THE MINAMATA CONVENTION FINANCIAL MECHANISM

9 MAY 2024

14H00-15H00 CEST

[BIT.LY/MO9MAY24](https://bit.ly/MO9MAY24)

MINAMATA ONLINE 2024



MINAMATA
CONVENTION
ON MERCURY

Thank you for your attention

Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
United Nations Environment Programme
11-13, Chemin des Anémones - 1219 Châtelaine, Switzerland

WEB: www.minamataconvention.org
MAIL: MEA-MinamataSecretariat@un.org
X: @minamataMEA
[#MakeMercuryHistory](https://twitter.com/MakeMercuryHistory)



World Health
Organization

Input from the GEF project on skin lightening products

Minamata online webinar
Mercury added products

8 May 2024

Lesley Onyon
Chemicals Safety & Health Unit
WHO

Exposure to mercury – one of the top 10 chemicals of major public health concern

WHA Resolution 67.11 (2014)

Encourages Member States

- Promptly sign, ratify & implement Minamata Convention
- Address health aspects of exposure to mercury
- Recognize inter-relationship between health & environment & ensure close cooperation
- Promote appropriate health-care services for prevention, treatment & care
- Facilitate exchange of epidemiological information



Requests WHO

to facilitate & support Member States & work in cooperation with Minamata Convention bodies, UNEP, and others

Hyperpigmentation of the skin is a condition of a number of diseases & conditions



Skin damage – sun exposure
Side effects of drugs eg contraceptives
Pregnancy
Injury, scarring, acne etc



Melasma
Autoimmune disease – Addisons disease
& Vertiligo

Skin lightening is another story

Often referred to as “skin bleaching” or “skin toning”



GEF Project 10810 Eliminating Mercury in Skin Lightening Products

Three year project 2022 – 2025

To reduce the risk of exposure to mercury – added skin lighting products (SLPs)

Funding Agency:  and Co-Financing Partners

Implementation Agency: 

Co-Executed by:  

Project Countries:   

Technical Assistance:  GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP



1 Building capacity on legislation, enforcement, compliance and awareness-raising

2 Reducing or stopping the production, trade and distribution of SLPs in project countries

3 Knowledge management at global level

GEF Eliminating Mercury Skin Lightening Products

Highlights of progress

Gabon



- June 2023 - Inception
- Oct 2023 Ministerial Decree
- Feb 2024 Sensitization meetings on new SLP regulations
- May 2024 Knowledge, attitudes and practices research
- June 2024 Sampling & Analysis of products on the market planned

Jamaica



- June 2023 – Stakeholder meeting
- Initial assessment of regulatory landscape
- Adaptation of training materials for public health professionals
- Initial sampling of products on market

Sri Lanka



- June 2024 - Inception meeting planned
- National multi-ministerial committee to oversee the project associated with the National Minamata Convention
- Sampling plan work in progress

WHO

Key public health interventions based on evidence and field research to strengthen and target prevention and behavioural change

Understanding prevalence and nature of online sales marketing of SLP containing mercury,

Develops a model regulatory approach to be considered for a global technical product and guidance.

Toolbox for establishing laws to eliminate mercury in skin lightening products



- Need for regulating mercury in SLPs
- Status of laws in countries – global map
- Fact sheets and infographics that can be used in advocacy campaigns
- Guidance on analytical methods & sampling
- Results of product testing - database
- Elements of effective regulation
- Model law
- Case studies + Global repository of laws

Regulatory approaches differ according to how different products are defined

1) Type of product regulatory approach

Pharmaceuticals
Pesticides
Industrial chemicals
Cosmetics
Consumer products



2) Emission control - air, water, soil, contaminants

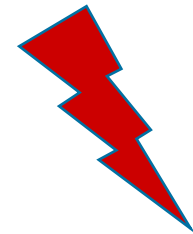
Definition of terms

- **Pharmaceutical/Drug:** substance that has physiological effect
- **Cosmetic:** Something to clean, beautify, altering the appearance, keeping skin or hair in good condition
- **Cosmeceutical** – no meaning under law – term used to promote cosmetic that have medicinal benefits

Mercury and Skin Lightening Products

Organic Mercury

Inorganic Mercury



Interfere with enzymes in the body to stop the production of melanin

Chemicals & Health Network + Minamata Focal points ++

Focus of Survey

- Laws, regulations or other legally binding measures to control cosmetic products
- Restriction of use of certain substances/ingredients especially mercury
- Labelling of cosmetic products
- Standards controlling advertising and marketing of cosmetic products
- Post-marketing surveillance and reporting of adverse effects

Results

- Responses from 75 countries incl. 59 Parties to the Minamata Convention (44%)
- 42 respondents (58%) had legislation in place that prohibited the manufacture/import of cosmetics containing more than 1 ppm mercury
- 14 countries provided copies/links to relevant legislation
- Limited responses from countries with significant global sales Hg cosmetics
- Many questions – gaps in answers – lack of awareness

Summary

- ❑ Three GEF project countries are expected to provide detailed assessment /inputs to the COP5 submissions process
- ❑ WHO survey results and Literature survey will be provided (timing issue)
- ❑ Project outputs – particularly toolbox will be useful for supporting the implementation of the Minamata Convention
- ❑ WHO committed to working in cooperation with Minamata Convention Secretariat

Thank you !

Lesley Onyon (Onyonl@who.int)
Chemicals Safety and Health website

<https://www.who.int/teams/environment-climate-change-and-health/chemical-safety-and-health/health-impacts/chemicals/mercury>



GLOBAL
MERCURY
PARTNERSHIP

Global Mercury Partnership

Mercury-added Cosmetics

**Mercury Added Products: Amendment of Annex A and
COP Decision on Cosmetics**

Minamata Online –Season 4 – 8 May 2024
9h00- 10h00 and 16h00-17h00 CEDT

Elena Lymberidi-Settimo / Michael Bender
Global Mercury Partnership Product Area Co-leads
Zero Mercury Working Group



**Mercury
Policy Project**



ZMWG Skin Lightening Campaign Partners

- AFRICA- Bio Vision Africa, **Uganda**; Center for Environment Justice and Development, **Kenya**; Centre Africain pour la Santé Environnementale, **Cote d'Ivoire**; groundWork, **South Africa**; Sustainable Research and Action for Environmental Development, **Nigeria**
- AMERICAS- Casa Cem, **Mexico**; Mercury Policy Project & WE-ACT, **United States**; Integrated Health Outreach (IHO), **Antigua and Barbuda**; Toxisphera Environmental Health Association, **Brazil**
- ASIA- BAN Toxics, **the Philippines**; Center for Public Health and Environment, **Nepal**; Earth, **Thailand**; Environmental and Social Development Organization, **Bangladesh**; NEXUS3Foundation, **Indonesia**; Toxics Link, **India**
- EUROPE- European Environmental Bureau, **Belgium**

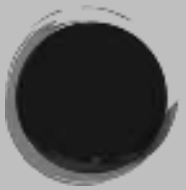




Overview

- Mercury-added skin lightening products (SLPs) are a global health crisis, often results from colorism
- Multidimensional and transboundary challenges
- Given the Minamata Convention ban on mercury SLPs, it's imperative to:
 - Enhance awareness of the hazards of toxic SLPs
 - Curtail (on-line) sales, marketing and merchandising
 - Spur interagency collaboration as well as regional and global coordination
 - Regulate and restrict trade of mercury compounds





Evidence Gathered by the ZMWG Campaign



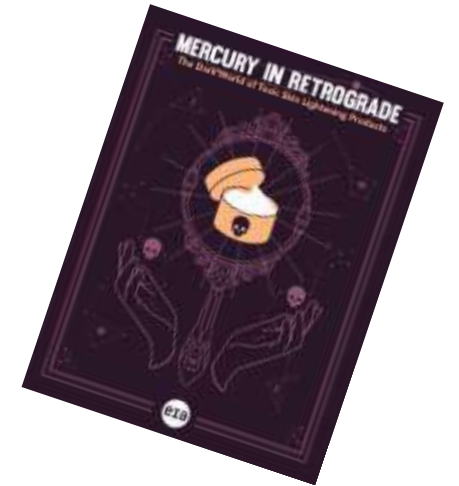
Global samplings in 2017- 2018, 2019 & 2022:

- ☐ Surveyed local markets and then online sales
- ☐ 775 products tested, engaging multiple NGO partners from around the globe
- ☐ **33% (256) with mercury over 1 ppm**



Fourth global sampling in 2022-2023:

- ☐ Focus on online platforms
- ☐ 213 products tested from 23 platforms
- ☐ **90% (191) of the products (60 different brands) had mercury above 1ppm.**

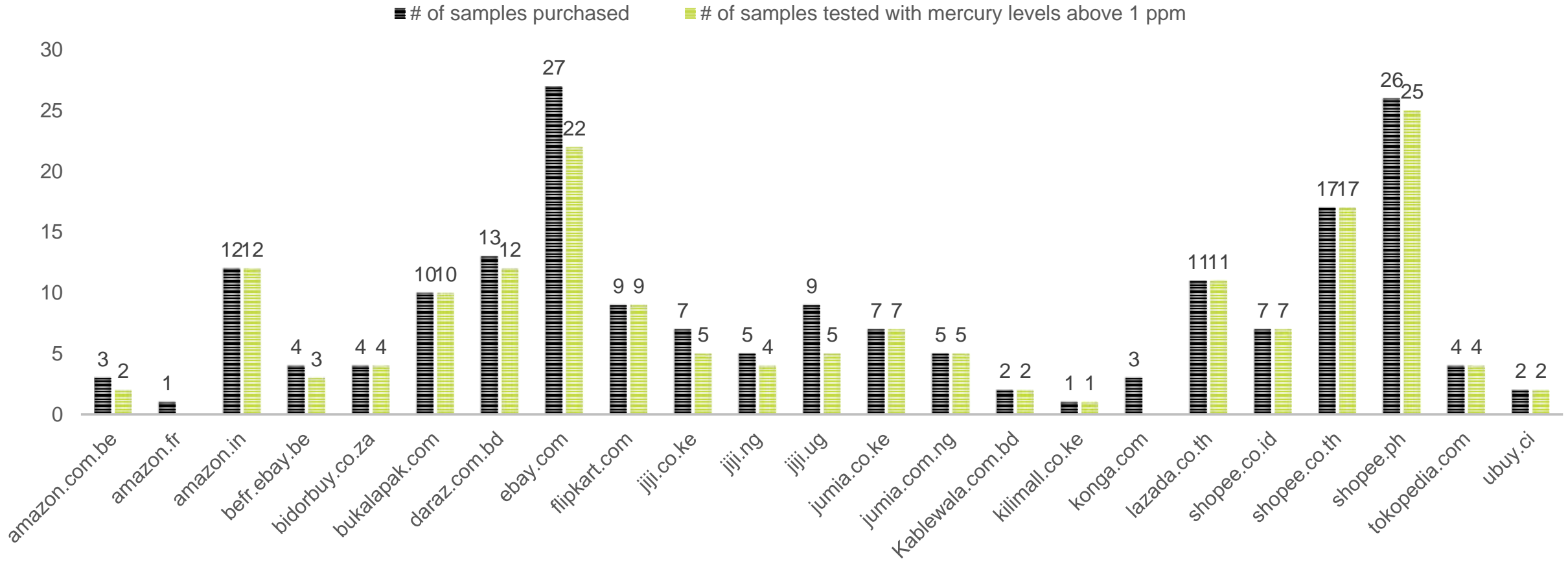


EIA investigation 2023

- ❖ Mercury compounds added in SLPs
- ❖ Production in Thailand, Jamaica, and Pakistan
- ❖ Intermediary transit ports in Spain, UAE, and USA.



High-Mercury vs. total SLPs purchased on e-commerce (Oct 2023)





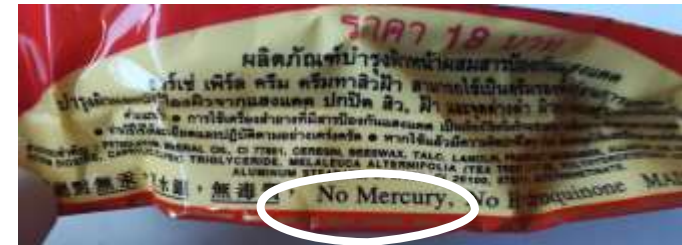
Challenges- Global level

Toxic SLP [online] trade continues:

- Illegal production and trade
- Clear lack of online accountability
- Non-domestic online sellers evade domestic laws
- Violations of consumer, health & safety laws
- Online platform liability reform necessary

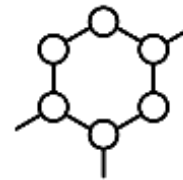


Misleading packaging and/or inaccurate information (e.g. Arché Formula AA Pearl Cream)



Country of origins:

- from Pakistan (34%), Thailand (17%) and China (13%),
- 13 other countries to a lower extend
- Unknown origin for 16% of them



Not just mercury, but compounds too (e.g. Deluxe Silken, manufactured in Jamaica)



Ammoniated Mercury 3%,



Gaps, Challenges & Response Measures (1)

Regulations



- Legal gap analysis
- List of allowed/banned ingredients
- Labelling Requirements

Advisories, Detention lists for non-compliant products:



- National Detention list/advisory
- Regional advisory/alert system

Licensing and product ingredient approvals



- Licensing of manufacturers
- Approval of ingredients used



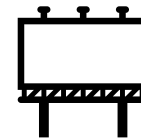
Enforcement /Inspections

- Clear mandates/responsibilities (e.g. inspect (in)formal companies, unannounced, production /storage /vehicles, samples, photos, report to police
- Formalised inspection programme
- Capacity building



Penalties and sanctions

- Types / level of penalties

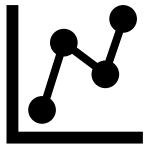


Advertising / Display and Marketing:

- National advertising/display restrictions
- Marketing restrictions



Gaps, Challenges and Response Measures (2)



Data collection

- Sources to act upon (e.g public, academia)
- Screening verification techniques (e.g. ingredients list, XRF, AAS)
- Accredited labs



Raising Awareness

- Initiatives to inform regulatory/enforcement agents, health professionals, consumers
- Collaboration with academia, health professionals, CSOs



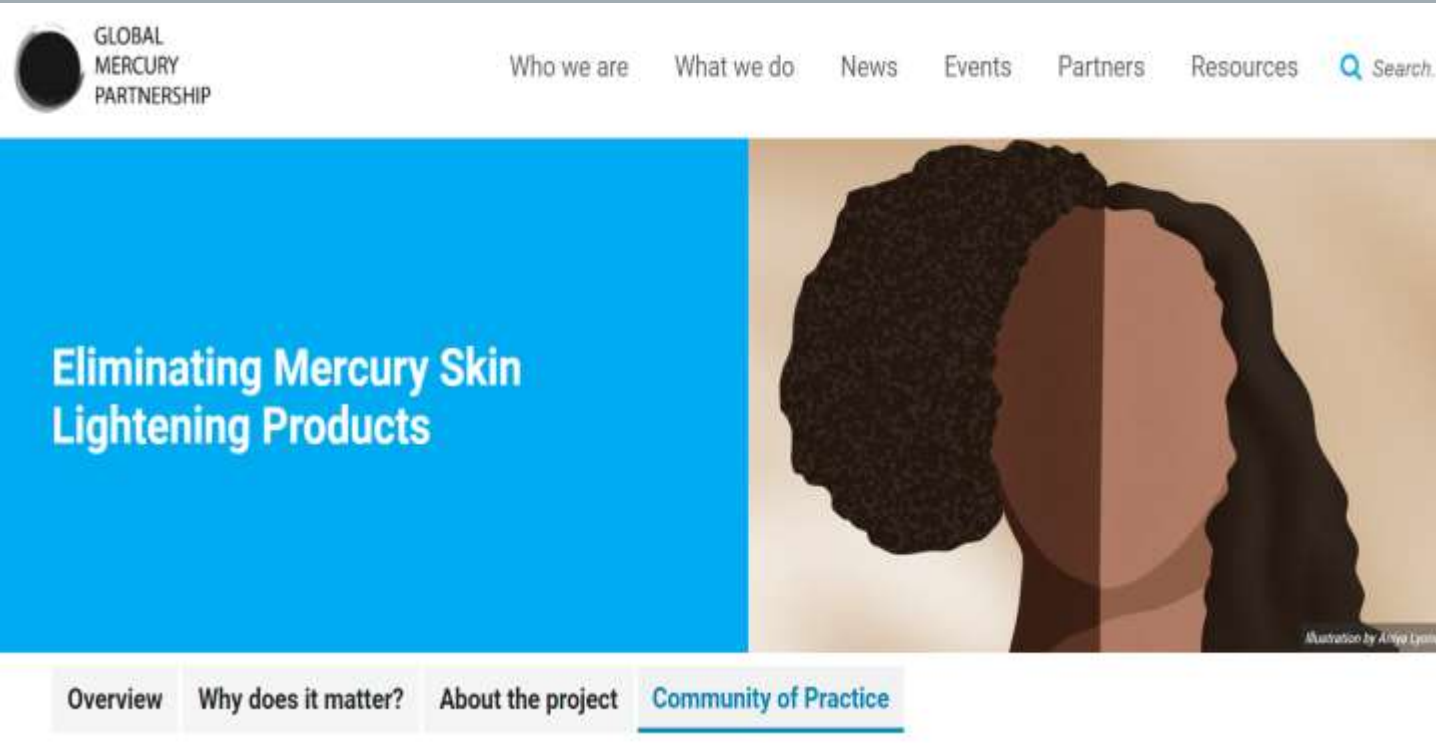
Intergovernmental and Interregional cooperation

- Mandates and responsibilities defined nationally
- Lead ministry, coordination role
- Police, customs mandates
- International/regional collaboration
- Harmonisation of laws, labelling, regulations, alerts systems

Online commerce and voluntary product safety pledges (PSP)

- Digital services related regulations
- Government's establish PSP structure
- Online platforms voluntarily agree to several commitments





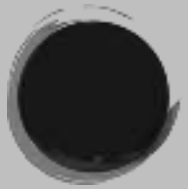
<https://www.unep.org/mercuryfreecosmetics>

Malgorzata Alicja Stylo <malgorzata.stylo@un.org>

Over 110 members on the mailing list of the group:
mercury-in-cosmetics@googlegroups.com

*2nd meeting
planned for 21st
May 2024*

Platform to
exchange
information
between project
and stakeholders
on the topic



GLOBAL
MERCURY
PARTNERSHIP

Thank you!



[ZMWG
online
database](#)



Our campaign page:

<https://www.zeromercury.org/mercury-added-skin-lightening-creams-campaign/>

