

**Subject:** Notification of Venue Change – Africa Regional Preparatory Meeting for COP-6

Dear Madam/Sir,

Reference is made to the invitation letter from the Executive Secretary of the Minamata Convention, Ms Monika Stankiewicz, sent on 27 June 2025, to attend the COP-6 Africa regional preparatory meeting, scheduled to take place from **7 to 9 October 2025, in Gaborone, Botswana**.

The Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury wishes to inform you of an **important update concerning the venue for the upcoming meeting**. Following close consultations with the Government of Botswana and its National Focal Point, the Secretariat has determined that it will not be feasible to proceed with organizing the meeting in Gaborone within the necessary timeframe.

To ensure the effective and timely preparation of the meeting, the Secretariat has decided to **relocate the venue to the UN Gigiri Complex, in Nairobi, Kenya**. Please note that the dates of the meeting remain unchanged: **7 to 9 October 2025**.

We understand that some participants may have already begun making travel or accommodation arrangements for Gaborone, and we sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this change may cause. The decision to relocate the venue was made after careful consideration and in close collaboration with the Government of Botswana, with the aim of ensuring a successful and well-organized meeting.

We kindly request that participants refrain from making any further travel or accommodation arrangements related to Gaborone. Updated logistical information, including travel guidance and hotel recommendations for Nairobi, will be shared shortly with all registered participants.

For registered participants eligible for travel support, the Secretariat will contact them individually.

If you require visa support letters for Kenya, or should you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us please contact us at: [mea-minamatameetings@un.org](mailto:mea-minamatameetings@un.org)

The Secretariat extends its sincere appreciation to the Government of Botswana for its generous offer and continued support of the Convention.

We look forward to welcoming you to Nairobi, Kenya and to a productive COP-6 African regional preparatory meeting.

With kind regards,  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury