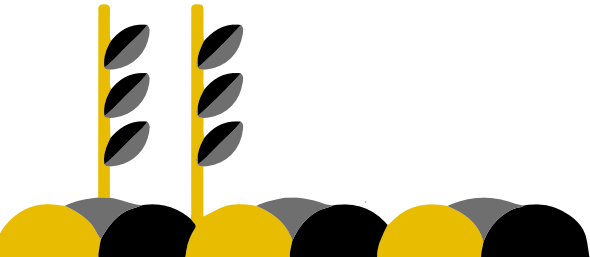


Eastern European States regional preparatory meeting for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury (COP-6)

16 and 17 September 2025
Geneva, Switzerland



Acknowledgement

The Eastern European States regional preparatory meeting for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury has been made possible with the financial contribution from Switzerland.





Opening of the meeting

Opening remarks

- Ms. **Monika Stankiewicz**, Executive Secretary of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- Co-Chairs: Ms. **Claudia Dumitru** (Romania) and Ms. **Irma Gurguliani** (Georgia)





Adoption of the agenda and overview of the programme of the regional meeting

Overview of the programme for the regional meeting – DAY 1 morning

DAY 1: Tuesday, 16 September		
8.30 – 9.00	REGISTRATION	
OPENING OF THE MEETING		
9.00 – 9.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening remarks from the Co-chairs and the Secretariat Adoption of the provisional agenda and overview of the programme of the regional meeting 	Open to Secretariat and Observers
Item 1: Organization of work at COP-6		
9.30 – 9.50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation of the tentative schedule of work, information on regional statements, credentials and other aspects of organization of work at COP-6 Status of registration and travel of sponsored delegates 	Open to Secretariat and Observers
Item 2: Matters for consideration or action by COP-6		
9.50 – 10.30	<p>COP-6 agenda item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(a) Mercury supply, sources and trade</p> <p>(b) Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used:</p> <p>(i) Amendments to annex A</p> <p>(iii) Consideration of the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing vinyl chloride monomer</p> <p>(ii) Cosmetics listed in part I of annex A</p> <p>(iv) Extensions for exemptions</p>	Open to Secretariat and Observers
10:30 – 11:00 COFFEE/TEA BREAK (30 MINUTES)		
11.00 – 12.30	<p>COP-6 agenda item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(d) Mercury waste</p> <p>(g) Implementation and Compliance Committee</p> <p>(h) National reporting</p> <p>(i) Effectiveness evaluation</p>	Open to Secretariat and Observers
12.30 – 13.00	<p>COP-6 agenda item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(l) Mercury and Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</p> <p>(k) Knowledge management</p>	Open to Secretariat and Observers
13:00 – 14:00 LUNCH BREAK		

Overview of the programme for the regional meeting – DAY 1 afternoon

14:00 – 14:30	COP-6 agenda item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (c) Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (j) Cross-cutting matters: (i) Implementation of decision MC-5/1 (ii) Implementation of decision MC-5/15	Open to Secretariat and Observers
14.30 – 15.30	COP-6 agenda item 6: Programme of work and budget	Open to Secretariat and Observers
15:30 – 16:00 COFFEE / TEA BREAK (30 minutes)		
16.00 – 16.15	COP-6 agenda item 2 (c): Organizational matters Election of officers - Introduction of matters for consideration – election of officers, development of regional statement and any other matters	Open to Secretariat and Observers
16.15 – 18.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of officers • Preparation of the regional statement 	Closed Session <i>(discussion by Parties only)</i>
END OF DAY 1		

Overview of the programme for the regional meeting – DAY 2 morning

DAY 2: Wednesday, 17 September

Item 2: Matters for consideration or action by COP-6 (continued)

9.00 – 9.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparation of the regional statement	Closed Session <i>(discussion by Parties only)</i>
9.30 – 11:00	COP-6 agenda item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (e) Financial resources and mechanism <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Global Environment Facility(ii) Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance(iii) Review of the financial mechanism (f) Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer	Open to Secretariat and Observers
11:00 – 11:30 COFFEE/TEA BREAK (30 minutes)		
11:30 – 12.45	COP-6 agenda item 5: International cooperation and coordination (i) Updates from the Chemicals and Waste Cluster, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions• UNEP Global Mercury Partnership• Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC)• Science-policy panel on chemicals, waste and pollution prevention (SPP) (ii) Other relevant updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• World Health Organization (WHO) - TBC	Open to Secretariat and Observers
12:45 – 13:00	Logistic preparations for COP-6	
13:00 – 14:00 LUNCH BREAK		

Overview of the programme for the regional meeting – DAY 2 afternoon

14:00 – 16:00	Special training session for Parties: Key institutions briefing and Negotiator’s training <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Key institutions of the Minamata Convention and mechanics of the Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings- Preparing for COP-6 Negotiating Effectively in a Contact Group
16:00 – 16:30 <i>Coffee/Tea BREAK (30 minutes)</i>	
16:30 – 16:45	COP-6 agenda item 7: Venue and dates for COP-7
Item 4: Any other business	
16:45 – 17:00	Any other business <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Montenegro - “Phasing out mercury measuring devices in healthcare”
Item 5. Closure of the meeting	
17.00 – 17.20	Conclusions and closure of the meeting
END OF THE REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING	

Can the provisional programme be adopted?

Some logistical notes



- All documents are available on the Convention's website: <https://www.minamataconvention.org>
- The meeting will be recorded only for record keeping purposes.
- The meeting is attended by 18 representatives from 15 Parties from the Eastern European States regional and a number of observers (*See the participants list emailed on 29 August 2025*)
- Observers will be requested to leave when the Parties decide to have a closed session (e.g., to consider elections, regional statements, etc.)
- On the second day from 11:30 to 12:45, there will be presentations on updates from the chemicals and waste cluster: BRS Convention Secretariat, UNEP Global Mercury Partnership, Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC), and ISP-CWP; and followed by updates from WHO.
- Daily subsistence allowance (DSA) for sponsored participants will be distributed on:
 - Day 1, 16 September: during registration, and coffee break
 - Day 2, 17 September: during morning coffee break
- The Secretariat will prepare a generic report of this regional meeting covering the main conclusions, rather than a detailed meeting record.

UN Code of Conduct:

Creating Safe, Respectful, and Inclusive UN Events



Executive Secretary issued on 29 August 2025, a reminder to all Parties and Observers about the [United Nations Code of Conduct](#) and its application.

- Code of Conduct ensures all participants at United Nations/Minamata Convention on Mercury events—including COP and subsidiary meetings—experience a **safe, inclusive, and respectful environment**.
- Applies to **ALL attendees**, including delegates, staff, observers, and contractors.
- Events covered include: meetings, workshops, side events, receptions, and any gathering organized or hosted by a UN entity.

The UN maintains a **Zero-Tolerance approach** to harassment. All forms of harassment, including sexual harassment, are unacceptable and prohibited

UN Code of Conduct:

Creating Safe,
Respectful, and
Inclusive UN Events



Participants are expected to:

- Behave with **integrity and professionalism**.
- Treat others with **respect**, regardless of gender, race, age, religion, nationality, or other identities.
- Avoid any **unwelcome conduct**, including verbal, non-verbal, physical, or digital harassment.

Examples of Prohibited Conduct:

- Derogatory comments or slurs
- Unwelcome touching or suggestive gestures
- Repeated unwanted advances
- Sharing inappropriate jokes or anecdotes

Reporting:

If you experience or observe misconduct, you are encouraged to contact the **designated focal point**. The UN system commits to taking appropriate action.



Organization of work at COP-6

Calendar until COP-6

July/August

7 Jul: Registration opens (invitations sent)

25 Jul: Deadline for application of online events, knowledge labs and exhibition booths

26-27 Aug: COP-6 Documents Briefing Sessions (online)

September

COP-6 Documents on the website

5 Sept: Deadline for registration of sponsored delegates

3-4 Sept: GRULAC regional meeting (Santiago, Chile)

9-10 Sept: Information sessions on supply sources and trade, and ASGM (online)

16-17 Sept: Eastern European States regional meeting (Geneva, Switzerland)

23-24 Sept: Asia-Pacific regional meeting (Bangkok, Thailand)

30 Sept: Info session on budget (online, for Parties only)

October/November

7-9 Oct: Africa regional meeting (**NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE: Nairobi, Kenya**)

13-17 Oct: pre-COP-6 Online Events Week

24 Oct: Deadline for registration (Non-sponsored delegates)

2 Nov: COP-6 Bureau meeting and regional meetings, in Geneva

COP-6

3-7 November
Geneva, CIGC



COP-6 President
Osvaldo Álvarez
(Chile)

Tentative Schedule of Work (INF/4)

COP-6	Monday, 3 November 2025	Tuesday, 4 November 2025	Wednesday, 5 November 2025	Thursday, 6 November 2025	Friday, 7 November 2025
<p>10:00-13:00</p> <p>Morning session</p>	<p>Item 1: Opening of the meeting</p> <p>Item 2: Organizational matters</p> <p>(a) Adoption of the agenda (b) Organization of work (c) Election of officers (d) Report on the credentials</p> <p>Item 3: Rules of procedure and financial rules</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(e) Financial resources and mechanism (i) Global Environment Facility (ii) Specific International Programme (iii) Review of the financial mechanism</p>	<p><i>Reports of contact groups</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(c) ASGM (d) Waste (f) Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer</p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes and reports of contact groups</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(j) Cross-cutting matters: (i) Implementation of decision MC-5/1 (ii) Implementation of decision MC-5/15</p> <p>(k) Knowledge management (l) Mercury and Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</p> <p>Item 5: International cooperation and coordination</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of decisions</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (cont.)</p>	<p><i>Consideration of remaining outcomes and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget (cont.)</p> <p>Adoption of the budget decision</p> <p>Item 7: Venue and dates of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>Item 8: Other matters</p>
13:00-15:00	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
<p>15:00-18:00</p> <p>Afternoon session</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(b) Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used: (i) Amendments to annex A (iii) Vinyl chloride monomer (ii) Cosmetics (iv) Extensions for exemptions (a) Mercury supply sources and trade</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(g) Implementation and Compliance Committee (h) National reporting (i) Effectiveness evaluation</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (cont.)</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p>	<p>Item 9: Adoption of the report of the meeting</p> <p>Item 10: Closure of the meeting</p>

COP-6 Overview and Schedule

Sunday, 2 November	COP-6 Schedule	Monday, 3 November	Tuesday, 4 November	Wednesday, 5 November	Thursday, 6 November	Friday, 7 November
-	08:00-8:45	-	Bureau meeting	Bureau meeting	Bureau meeting	Bureau meeting
-	09:00-9:45	Regional meetings	Regional meetings	Regional meetings	Regional meetings	Regional meetings
Bureau Meeting	10:00-13:00 Morning Session	COP-6 Plenary	COP-6 Plenary	COP-6 Plenary	COP-6 Plenary	COP-6 Plenary
13:00-14:30 COP-6 Secretariat Briefing with focus on the financial mechanism	13:00-15:00	13:15 – 14:30 High-level event: <i>Driving Effective and Inclusive Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury</i>	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
14:30-17:30 Regional meetings						
17:30-20:00 Special event: <i>From Science to Action: Protecting the Amazon from Mercury Pollution</i>	15:00-18:00 Afternoon Session	COP-6 Plenary	COP-6 Plenary	COP-6 Plenary	COP-6 Plenary	COP-6 Plenary
	18:00-19:00	Break	Break	Break	Break	-----
	19:00-22:00 Evening Session					-----

***Registration:** Onsite Registration opens at 10:00 on Sunday, 2 November.

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

*****Contact and other groups** that may be established during COP-6 tentatively identified for: (i) programme of work and budget; (ii) technical matters (for agenda item 4b); (iii) mercury supply sources and trade (for agenda item 4a). Groups may also be established for other items on the agenda of the meeting, as required.

Get ready for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention



- **Most COP documents are already available.**
- *Budget-related documents since 5th August 2025.*
- *COP-6 documents must be available on the website by 22 September according to the RoP.*

<https://minamataconvention.org/en/meetings/cop6>



Sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury (COP-6)

Geneva, Switzerland, 03 Nov 2025 - 07 Nov 2025

- Meeting Information
- Documents**
- Regional Meetings
- Newsroom
- Intersectoral Work
- Information for participants
- Activities: calls for proposals
- Pre COP events

Documents

Working Document Other

Agenda, Annotated Agenda, List of documents

- ❖ 6/1/Rev.1: Provisional Agenda
- ❖ INF/1: List of documents
- ❖ INF/2: Information provided by Parties
- ❖ INF/3: Annotations to the provisional agenda
- ❖ INF/4: Tentative schedule of work for COP-6

6/1/Rev.1: Provisional agenda

An **overview of agenda items** to be considered by COP-6.

INF/1: List of documents for COP-6

Serves as reference guide to the **documents** that have been prepared **per agenda item**.

INF/2: Information provided by the Parties to the Minamata Convention

Gives an overview of **information provided by the parties to the Minamata Convention**, including information on status of ratifications, Parties' notifications, national reports and other pertinent information.

INF/3: Annotations to the provisional agenda

Provides an **overview of agenda items** to be considered during the meeting, with a reference guide to the documents that have been prepared.

INF/4: Tentative schedule of work for COP-6

Provisional agenda (6/1/Rev.1)

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (b) Organization of work;
 - (c) Election of officers;
 - (d) Report on the credentials of representatives.
3. Rules of procedure and financial rules for the Conference of the Parties.
4. Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties:
 - (a) Mercury supply sources and trade;
 - (b) Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used:
 - (i) Amendments to annex A;
 - (ii) Cosmetics listed in part I of annex A;
 - (iii) Consideration of the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing vinyl chloride monomer;
 - (iv) Extensions for exemptions;
 - (c) Artisanal and small-scale gold mining;
 - (d) Mercury waste;
 - (e) Financial resources and mechanism:
 - (i) Global Environment Facility;
 - (ii) Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance;
 - (iii) Review of the financial mechanism;
 - (f) Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer;
 - (g) Implementation and Compliance Committee;
 - (h) National reporting;

- (i) Effectiveness evaluation;
 - (j) Cross-cutting matters:
 - (i) Implementation of decision MC-5/1;
 - (ii) Implementation of decision MC-5/15;
 - (k) Knowledge management;
 - (l) Mercury and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
5. International cooperation and coordination.
 6. Programme of work and budget.
 7. Dates and venue of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
 8. Other matters.
 9. Adoption of the report of the meeting.
 10. Closure of the meeting.



The screenshot shows the UNEP/MC/COP.6/1/Rev.1 - Provisional agenda webpage. At the top, there are logos for the UN Environment Programme and the Minamata Convention on Mercury. A navigation menu includes 'The Convention', 'Meetings', 'Parties', 'Implementation', and 'Focus areas'. The breadcrumb trail is 'Home / Documents / Provisional agenda'. The main heading is 'UNEP/MC/COP.6/1/Rev.1 - Provisional agenda'. Below this, it indicates 'Working Document' and the date '07.08.2025'. A language selection section shows 'EN' (English) as the selected language, with other options 'AR', 'CH', 'FR', 'RU', and 'SP'. A 'Files' section lists two documents: 'UNEP-MC-COP6-01-Rev1-Provisional-agenda_English.pdf' (177.22 KB) and 'UNEP-MC-COP6-01-Rev1-Provisional-agenda_English.docx' (148.67 KB).

Available in
languages on
the Convention
website

Organizational matters: Registration



2-step registration:

1. Delegate(s)' details should be communicated to the Secretariat using **Kronos online registration platform**. The link to access the registration platform with the instructions was sent to National Focal Points to the Minamata Convention on Mercury and/or Permanent Missions to the UNEP and to the UN in Geneva and observer organizations contact emails. Please contact us ASAP if you didn't receive the registration link.
2. Please send the **nomination letter**, addressed to the Executive Secretary, by e-mail as a scanned attachment to mea-minamatameetings@un.org:
 - **PARTIES** are requested to submit an official nomination letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or a *note verbale* from the Permanent Mission of the Party to the United Nations Office at Geneva.
 - **OBSERVERS** are required to submit a nomination letter signed by the head of the entity or other duly authorized representative.
3. Once the nomination is accredited, each member of the delegation will receive a **confirmation email**.

We highly encourage everyone to check visa, accommodation and other important information on COP-6 webpage.

Total registration to date: **455 participants** from Parties and observers:

EES registration: 16 delegates from 7 parties (Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Slovenia).

203 participants from 67 observer organizations from all regions.

Item 2(d) Organizational matters: Credentials



Credentials for the head of delegation, alternate representatives and advisers are to be issued either by the **Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs**. In the case of a regional economic integration organization, credentials should be issued by the competent authority of that organization. Information regarding any change in the composition of the delegation should be submitted using the same procedure.

Samples of credentials are available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish on the Minamata Convention [COP-6 webpage](#).

Original credentials must be submitted to the Secretariat no later than 24 hours after the opening of the meeting (therefore by 10 am on Tuesday, 4 November 2025). Parties are invited to submit their original credentials in advance of the meeting, **preferably by 17 October 2025**, in order to facilitate the clearance process, to:

*The Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
United Nations Environment Programme
Avenue de la Paix 8-14, 1211
Geneva 10, Switzerland*

**Credentials report
to be adopted by
plenary on
Thursday morning**

If not submitted in advance of the meeting, Parties can hand over original credentials of their representatives **at the registration desk** upon arrival at the meeting venue on the first day of the meeting. Advance electronic copies of credentials can be sent to MEA-MinamataMeetings@un.org.

Item 2(d) Organizational matters: Credentials

According to rule 21 of rules of procedure of the COP, representatives shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the meeting, pending a decision by the COP on their credentials.

The Bureau shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the COP. The credentials report is expected to be adopted by plenary on Thursday morning.

Parties without valid credentials will be considered as observers at COP-6. In this case, the participation of Parties to the decision-making process will be affected as follows:

- In plenary sessions, the President allows observers to speak after Parties, if time allows.
- Observers are not allowed to take the floor when the COP enters into decision-making mode.
- Observers do not have the right to vote.

Parties without valid credentials will not be listed as Parties in the report of COP-6.

Questions and Answers





**Matters for
consideration or
action by COP-6**



Item 4(a): Mercury supply sources and trade

Item 4(a): Mercury supply sources and trade

Background

Article 3 of the Convention addresses **sources of supply and trade in mercury**, laying down measures on primary mercury mining, identification of stocks, excess mercury from the decommissioning of chlor-alkali plants as well as on mercury export and import.

Article 3 requires Parties to take measures to **control trade of mercury** with other Parties as well as with non-Parties.

COP-5, in decision MC-5/2, requested the Secretariat, *inter alia*, to:

- Compile for consideration at COP-6 information submitted by Parties on **experiences and challenges faced in the implementation of Article 3** as well as information on activities undertaken in relation to the Bali Declaration on combating illegal trade in mercury by March 2025;
- Draft an **update to the existing guidance on stocks** adopted in decision MC-1/2;
- Develop guidance to assist Parties in identifying, managing and reducing mercury trade from **primary mercury mining**.

COP-5, in decision MC-5/3, requested the Secretariat to initiate a study of supply, production, trade and use of mercury compounds.

Item 4(a): Mercury supply sources and trade

- ❖ 6/5: Implementation of decision MC-5/2 on mercury supply sources and trade
- ❖ INF/6: Experiences and challenges in the implementation of Article 3, and activities undertaken in relation to the Bali Declaration
- ❖ INF/7: Additional information on types of actions that could be taken to identify individual stocks and sources of mercury and mercury compounds

6/5: Implementation of decision MC-5/2 on mercury supply sources and trade

- Provides information on the **implementation of decision MC-5/2** including on exports without consent, challenges in the implementation of Article 3, such as illegal trade of mercury for ASGM, illegal re-export and transit, as well as on activities undertaken in relation to the Bali Declaration on combating illegal trade in mercury.
- Also presents relevant **information from the second short national reports**, as well as previous reports, submitted by Parties pursuant to Article 21 of the Convention and on relevant work carried out by the **Implementation and Compliance Committee** pursuant to Article 15 of the Convention during the intersessional period between COP-5 and COP-6.

Bali Declaration: Non-binding political declaration launched by Indonesia at the margins of COP-4.2 in Bali (2022). It received expressions of support from regional groups & delegations.

Annex II: Updates to the guidance on stocks and sources adopted in decision MC-1/2.

Annex III: Updates to the guidance on the use of forms on import and export of mercury adopted in decision MC-1/2.

Item 4(a): Mercury supply sources and trade (cont.)

- ❖ 6/5: Implementation of decision MC-5/2 on mercury supply sources and trade
- ❖ INF/6: Experiences and challenges in the implementation of Article 3, and activities undertaken in relation to the Bali Declaration
- ❖ INF/7: Additional information on types of actions that could be taken to identify individual stocks and sources of mercury and mercury compounds

ANNEX II to 6/5: Updates to the guidance on stocks and sources adopted in decision MC-1/2

- In response to Decision MC-5/2, the Secretariat has developed a **draft supplemental guidance on the identification of individual stocks and sources** of mercury to include types of action that could be taken to fulfil the continuing obligation to endeavour to identify stocks and sources.

NOTE: The **Implementation and Compliance Committee** noted that Parties who solely rely on their MIA results may need to consider more up-to-date sources of information, considering that decision MC-4/8 requests Parties to continue their ongoing efforts to endeavour to identify individual stocks and sources of mercury.

Item 4(a): Mercury supply sources and trade (cont.)

- ❖ 6/5: Implementation of decision MC-5/2 on mercury supply sources and trade
- ❖ INF/6: Experiences and challenges in the implementation of Article 3, and activities undertaken in relation to the Bali Declaration
- ❖ INF/7: Additional information on types of actions that could be taken to identify individual stocks and sources of mercury and mercury compounds

Annex III to 6/5: Updates to the guidance on the use of forms on import and export of mercury adopted in decision MC-1/2.

- In response to decision MC-5/2, the Secretariat conducted a scoping of possible guidance to assist Parties in **identifying, managing and reducing mercury trade from primary mercury mining**.
- **Existing trade consent forms and guidance** already require exporting parties to indicate on the trade consent form if mercury is from primary mercury mining, and also require importing parties to indicate on the trade consent form whether the purpose of the import is for a use allowed to a party under the Convention.
- The Secretariat drafted an **update to the guidance on trade consent forms** to clarify the requirements for exporting parties to identify whether the mercury is from primary mercury mining that may be undertaken as what Parties regard as informal or illegal activities.
- The draft update was posted on the Convention website for review. Taking into consideration the comments from one Party and one stakeholder, the proposed update to the guidance is set out in **Annex III to document 6/5**.

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Item 4(a): Mercury supply sources and trade (cont.)

- ❖ 6/5: Implementation of decision MC-5/2 on mercury supply sources and trade
- ❖ INF/6: Experiences and challenges in the implementation of Article 3, and activities undertaken in relation to the Bali Declaration
- ❖ INF/7: Additional information on types of actions that could be taken to identify individual stocks and sources of mercury and mercury compounds

INF/6: Information on experiences and challenges faced in the implementation of article 3 as well as information on activities undertaken in relation to the Bali Declaration on combating illegal trade in mercury

- Provides a **summary of information submitted by Parties** in response to paragraph 4 of **decision MC-5/2**, which invited Parties to submit to the Secretariat information on experiences and challenges faced in the implementation of Article 3 as well as information on activities undertaken in relation to the **Bali Declaration** on combating illegal trade in mercury by March 2025.

Eight Parties submitted information in response to the decision: Burkina Faso, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Peru, Philippines, Senegal and Togo. The Secretariat made the submissions available on the Convention's [website](#).

NOTE: The **Implementation and Compliance Committee** expressed concern regarding the issue of illicit trafficking, illegal trade or smuggling of mercury raised by some Parties in their national reports and decided to re-examine this issue at its next meeting in light of the information compiled by the Secretariat pursuant to paragraph 4 of decision MC-5/2.

Suggested action for the COP



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision contained in document 6/5** and adopt a decision on mercury supply sources and trade.

The COP may wish to:

- ❑ **Adopt the update to the guidance on stocks** set out in Annex II to document 6/5 for Parties' use;
- ❑ **Adopt the updates to the guidance on the use of forms on import and export of mercury**, set out Annex III to document 6/5, to assist Parties in identifying, managing and reducing mercury trade from primary mercury;
- ❑ **Invite Parties** that reported on experiences and challenges faced in the implementation of paragraph 3 of Article 3 on primary mercury mining in their national reports under Article 21 **to provide further information** to the Secretariat with a view of sharing it with the ICC for further consideration;

Suggested action for the COP (cont.)



- ❑ **Encourage Parties**, including those benefitting from the ongoing projects of the GEF **to continue to share information** with the Secretariat about experiences in preventing and combatting illegal trade of mercury, including with respect to the use of the trade forms;
- ❑ **Request the Secretariat to develop**, in collaboration with Parties and subject to availability of resources, **case studies** on best practices in preventing and combating the illicit trafficking, illegal trade or smuggling of mercury and submit the case studies for consideration by COP-7;
- ❑ **Request the ICC to:**
 - Assess the reasons for which Parties have **challenges in implementing trade-related provisions** under Article 3 and what recommendations could be made to the COP;
 - **Initiate a dialogue** with relevant international organizations and compliance bodies of other MEAs on their activities aimed at supporting Parties in preventing and combating illegal trade.

Suggested action for the COP (cont.)



- ❑ **Encourage** UNODC, WCO, INTERPOL, the member organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, the Secretariat of the BRS Conventions, and relevant global and regional enforcement networks to **assist Parties in preventing and combating illegal trade in mercury**;
- ❑ **Request the Secretariat**, subject to availability of resources, to continue to **provide advice and conduct awareness-raising and technical assistance activities** to strengthen the capacity of Parties to fulfil their trade-related obligations under Article 3;
- ❑ **Further request the Secretariat to report to the COP** at its next meeting on the implementation of the decision.

Deep-dive
Information Session
on supply sources
and trade:

[Online resource link](#)

Item 4(a): Mercury supply sources and trade (cont.)

- ❖ 6/5/Add.1: Study of the global supply, production, trade and use of mercury compounds
- ❖ INF/5: Study of the global supply, production, trade and use of mercury compounds

6/5/Add.1: Study of the global supply, production, trade and use of mercury compounds

- Paragraph 13 of Article 3 provides that the COP shall evaluate whether the trade in specific mercury compounds compromises the objective of the Convention and consider whether specific mercury compounds should, by their listing in an additional annex, be made subject to paragraphs 6 and 8 of Article 3.
- COP-5, in decision MC-5/3, requested the Secretariat to initiate a study of supply, production, trade and use of mercury compounds.
- The study was conducted with the voluntary contribution of Canada and Spain.
- A draft was posted on the Convention website for review, and was finalized taking into account the comments from 11 parties and 3 organizations.
- The document contains a conclusion of the study that **the 6 mercury compounds listed in paragraph 1 (b) of Article 3, as well as others, could be produced and traded for the purpose of circumventing restrictions on trade in elemental mercury.**
- The full report is set out in **INF/5**.

Suggested action for the COP (cont.)

- ❑ The COP may also wish to **review the study on the trade in mercury compounds** and consider a decision as appropriate.

Deep-dive
Information Session
on supply sources
and trade:

[Online resource link](#)



Questions and Answers





Item 4(b): Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used

- i. Amendments to annex A**
- ii. Cosmetics listed in part I of annex A**
- iii. Consideration of the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing vinyl chloride monomer**
- iv. Extensions for exemptions**

Item 4(b): Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes

Background

Articles 4 and 5 and **Annexes A and B** of the Minamata Convention provide for mercury-added products and mercury-using manufacturing processes.

Article 6 provides for exemptions of phase-out requirements.

COP-4, in decision MC-4/3, amended Part I and Part II of Annex A.

COP-5, in decision MC-5/4:

- Amended Part I and Part II of Annex A and Part I of Annex B;
- Decided to consider at COP-6 the proposal to amend Part I and Part II of the Annex on dental amalgam.

COP-5, in decision MC-5/5:

- Requested the Secretariat to prepare a report on challenges in preventing the manufacture, import and export of cosmetics listed in Part I of Annex A, as well as on current or proposed measures, for consideration by COP-6.

COP-5, in decision MC-5/6:

- Requested the Secretariat to prepare a report for consideration by COP-6 on the technical and economic feasibility of mercury-free catalysts used to produce vinyl chloride monomer.

Item 4(b): Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes

- ❖ 6/6: Amendments to Annex A
- ❖ 6/6/Add.1: Cosmetics in Part I Annex A
- ❖ 6/6/Add.2: Consideration of the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing VCM
- ❖ 6/6/Add.3: Extension of exemptions pursuant to article 6 of the Convention

- ❖ INF/8: Report on cosmetics
- ❖ INF/9: Information on the economic and technical feasibility of mercury-free catalyst in VCM production
- ❖ INF/10: Information on the entry into force of amended annexes A and B
- ❖ INF/42: Thailand's request for an extension of the exemption for mercury-added products for COP consideration

Item 4(b): Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used

Document Overview:

- ❖ **Item 4(b)(i): Amendments to annex A**
 - 6/6: Amendments to Annex A
 - INF/10: Information on the entry into force of amended annexes A and B to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

- ❖ **Item 4(b)(ii): Cosmetics listed in part I of annex A**
 - 6/6/Add.1: Cosmetics listed in Part I of Annex A
 - INF/8: Report on cosmetics listed in part I of annex A to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

- ❖ **Item 4(b)(iii): Consideration of the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing vinyl chloride monomer**
 - 6/6/Add.2: Consideration of the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing vinyl chloride monomer
 - INF/9: Information on the economic and technical feasibility of mercury-free catalyst in vinyl chloride monomer production

- ❖ **Item 4(b)(iv): Extensions for exemptions**
 - 6/6/Add.3: Extension of exemptions pursuant to article 6 of the Convention
 - INF/42: Thailand's request for an extension of the exemption for mercury-added products for consideration by the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Item 4(b): Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes:

(i) Amendments to annex A

- ❖ 6/6: Amendments to Annex A
- ❖ INF/10: Information on the entry into force of amended annexes A and B

6/6: Amendments to Annex A

- COP-5 (MC-5/4) decided to amend Part II of Annex A, by adding a provision that Parties that have not yet phased out dental amalgam shall submit to the Secretariat a national action plan or a report on progress they have made or are making to phase down or phase out dental amalgam every four years as part of national reporting (see **INF/10** on the entry into force of this amendment).
- COP-5, in the same decision, **decided to consider the following amendment proposals at COP-6:**
 - Add dental amalgam to Part I of Annex A with a phase-out date of 2030;
 - Add the following provision on dental amalgam in Part II of Annex A:
In addition, Parties shall:
[[Exclude or not allow] [phase down], by taking measures as appropriate, the use of dental amalgam in government insurance policies and programmes.]
(Alternative text) [Take measures, as appropriate, to exclude, not allow, [or phase down] dental amalgam in government policies or programmes.]

The COP may wish to consider the proposed amendments to Annex A and decide as appropriate.

Item 4(b): Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes:

(ii) Cosmetics listed in part I of annex A

- ❖ 6/6/Add.1: Cosmetics in Part I of Annex A
- ❖ INF/8: Report on cosmetics listed in part I of annex A to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

6/6/Add.1: Cosmetics listed in Part I of Annex A

- Contains **information on and a summary of the report on challenges in preventing the manufacture, import and export of cosmetics** listed in Part I of Annex A prepared by the Secretariat pursuant to decision MC-5/5.
- In line with that decision, the report addresses **topics** including:
 - 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;
 - Raising awareness of the hazards of skin-lightening product use among physicians, dermatologists and beauty centre staff, as well as consumers and family members.
- The **full report** is set out in **INF/8**.

Item 4(b): Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes:

(ii) Cosmetics listed in part I of annex A (*cont.*)

- ❖ 6/6/Add.1: Cosmetics in Part I of Annex A
- ❖ INF/8: Report on cosmetics listed in part I of annex A to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

6/6/Add.1: Cosmetics listed in Part I of Annex A (cont.)

- The report was drafted compiling and synthesizing submissions from 23 Parties and 8 organizations, in cooperation with WHO and the Global Mercury Partnership.
- The draft report was posted on the website for review and was finalized taking into account comments received from 5 Parties and 8 organizations.

INF/8: Report on cosmetics listed in part I of annex A to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

- Provides the full **report on cosmetics listed in Part I of Annex A** to the Convention, prepared by the Secretariat.
- Also sets out as an annex a document submitted by Gabon entitled “**Libreville Commitment on the Elimination of Mercury-Containing Skin-Lightening Cosmetics in Africa**”, adopted at a high-level regional meeting of African ministers, international experts and civil society leaders held in Libreville, Gabon (20-22 January 2025).

The COP may wish to consider the final report contained in INF/8 with a view to adopting a decision as appropriate.

Item 4(b): Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes:

(iii) Consideration of the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing vinyl chloride monomer

- ❖ 6/6/Add.2: Consideration of the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing VCM
- ❖ INF/9: Information on the economic and technical feasibility of mercury-free catalyst in VCM production

6/6/Add.2: Consideration of the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing vinyl chloride monomer

- **Part II of Annex B to the Convention** provides that Parties are not to allow the use of mercury in vinyl chloride monomer (VCM) production 5 years after the COP has established that mercury-free catalysts based on existing processes have become technically and economically feasible.
- The document contains a **report on the technical and economic feasibility of mercury-free catalysts in VCM production**, developed pursuant to decision MC-5/6, drawing on the information submitted by 9 Parties and 3 organizations.
- The report concludes that while several submissions highlighted the **technical and economic feasibility of mercury-free catalysts** based on existing processes, others questioned such feasibility.

INF/9: Information on the economic and technical feasibility of mercury-free catalyst in VCM production

- Contains **information submitted by Parties and stakeholders** pursuant to decision MC-5/6.

The COP may wish to consider the report by the Secretariat, based on the information contained in INF/9, and decide as appropriate.

Item 4(b): Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes:

(iv) Extensions for exemptions

- ❖ 6/6/Add.3: Extension of exemptions pursuant to article 6 of the Convention
- ❖ INF/42: Thailand's request for an extension of the exemption for mercury-added products for COP consideration

6/6/Add.3: Extension of exemptions pursuant to Article 6 of the Convention

- **Article 6 paragraph 1:** any State or REIO may register exemptions from the phase-out dates listed in Annex A or B.
- **Article 6 paragraph 5:** such exemptions expire 5 years after the phaseout date listed in Annex A or B unless a shorter period is indicated by a Party.
- **14 parties have registered exemptions** (listed on the website).
- **Article 6 paragraph 6:** the COP may, at the request of a Party, decide to extend an exemption for 5 years unless the Party requests a shorter period.

INF/42: Thailand's request for an extension of the exemption

- Sets out **Thailand's request** to COP-6 to **decide to extend the exemptions from phase-out dates** listed in Part I of Annex A for six mercury-added products, pursuant to Article 6 paragraph 6.
- Any other requests for extension received by **8 September 2025** will be circulated as additional information documents.

The COP may wish to consider the request(s) for extension with a view to adopting decisions thereon.

Questions and Answers





Item 4(d): Mercury waste

Item 4(d): Mercury waste

Background

Article 11:

- **Mercury waste** is defined as waste consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds above the thresholds defined by the COP.
- Sets out the obligations of the Parties on mercury waste, including its **environmentally sound management** taking into account guidelines under the Basel Convention and in accordance with the requirements that the COP shall adopt as an additional annex (so far not considered by the COP).

COP-3, in decision MC-3/5, decided that **no thresholds** are needed for waste consisting of mercury and waste containing mercury, and provided definitions of such mercury waste.

COP-5, in decision MC-5/10:

- Established the **threshold for waste contaminated with mercury**.
- Decided to **consider the effectiveness** of these thresholds, as well as any need for updating the list of mercury waste contained in decision MC-3/5, **at COP-7**.
- Requested the Secretariat to **compile information** on waste management regulations and programmes **for consideration at COP-6**.

Item 4(d): Mercury waste

- ❖ 6/8: Mercury waste
- ❖ INF/12: Information submitted by parties regarding their waste management regulations and programmes

6/8: Mercury waste

- COP-5 adopted decision MC-5/10, which established mercury waste thresholds that are to be reviewed at COP-7, and provided for intersessional work for COP-6.
- **Information submitted pursuant to decision MC-5/10**
 - Decision MC-5/10, invited Parties to submit **information regarding waste management regulations and programmes** as mentioned in **Article 11(3)(a)**, requested the Secretariat to compile the information, and invited Parties to review the compiled information in preparation for COP-6.
 - Article 11(3)(a) provides that each Party shall take appropriate measures so that mercury waste is managed in an environmentally sound manner, taking into account the guidelines developed under the Basel Convention and in accordance with **requirements that the COP shall adopt in an additional annex.**
 - Article 11(3)(a) also provides that, in developing requirements, the COP shall take into account Parties' **waste management regulations and programmes.**
 - Document 6/8 provides an overview of the information submitted by eight Parties.

Item 4(d): Mercury waste (cont.)

- ❖ 6/8: Mercury waste
- ❖ INF/12: Information submitted by parties regarding their waste management regulations and programmes

6/8: Mercury waste (cont.)

- **Information submitted in national reports related ICC conclusions**
 - ICC reviewed the Art 21 national reports on **facilities for the final disposal of waste consisting of mercury and mercury compounds**, and encouraged Parties to further elaborate on final disposal methods in their second full national reports to be submitted by 31 December 2025.
- **Consideration by the Basel Convention COP**
 - Basel Convention COP-17 decided to update the **technical guidelines** on the environmentally sound management of mercury waste, in order to reflect adjustments consequential to the establishment of the threshold for mercury wastes by decision MC-5/10.

INF/12: Information submitted by parties regarding their waste management regulations and programmes

Contains information submitted by Parties pursuant to decision MC-5/10.

Suggested action for the COP



The **COP** may wish to adopt a **decision** on mercury waste, including:

- ❑ A **result of its consideration** regarding the development of requirements for environmentally sound management of mercury waste pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) of Article 11;
- ❑ A **process to prepare for the review of mercury waste thresholds** pursuant to paragraphs 5 and 8 of decision MC-5/10;
- ❑ **Actions in response to the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention** to update the technical guidelines.

Questions and Answers



GROUP PICTURE



Health Break (30 minutes)





Item 4(g): Implementation and Compliance Committee

Item 4(g): Implementation and Compliance Committee

❖ 6/14: Report on the work of the ICC

❖ INF/19: Reports of the sixth and seventh meetings of the ICC



6/14: Report on the work of the Implementation and Compliance Committee, including recommendations

- ICC6 met **online** (24-25 September 2024) and ICC7 met **in person** (18-20 February 2025). See **meeting reports in INF/19**.
- The meetings were chaired by **Anik Beaudoin** (Canada). **Musa Kuzumila Ngunila** (United Republic of Tanzania) acted as vice-Chair and Rapporteur.
- The Committee:
 - Adopted a decision regarding a **written submission from Mexico** with respect to its compliance with paragraph 2 of Article 5 and Part I of Annex B to the Convention.
 - Considered issues based on the Secretariat's report on the **second short national reports** submitted by Parties in accordance with Article 21.
 - Agreed on **conclusions** relating to reporting performance, primary mercury mining, stocks and sources, mercury trade, and mercury wastes, and one **recommendation to COP-6 on primary mercury mining**. These are listed in the annex to document 6/14.

Questions and Answers





Item 4(h): National reporting

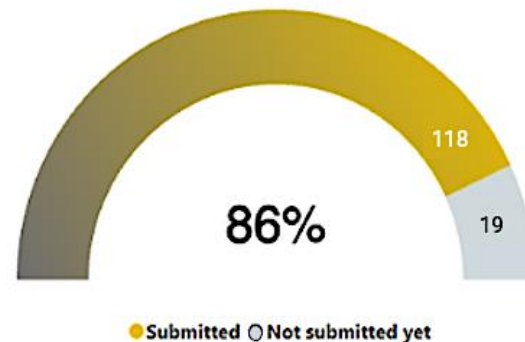
Item 4(h): National Reporting

- ❖ 6/15: National reporting (article 21): second short national reports
- ❖ INF/20: Report on the second short national reports under article 21 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- ❖ INF/21: Updated guidance for completing the national reports

6/15: National reporting (article 21): second short national reports

- Provides information on the following items:
 - **Periodic report** of the Secretariat to the COP;
 - **Update on intersessional work** conducted on the online reporting tool and reporting guidance pursuant to decision MC-5/13;
 - Updated guidance for completing the national reporting format (**INF/21**);
 - Timeline for the analysis of the **second full national reports** in preparation for COP-7;
 - **Draft decision** on national reporting for consideration by the COP in the light of Parties' responses in the second short reports.

Second short national reports –
Reporting rate (as at 31 May 2025)



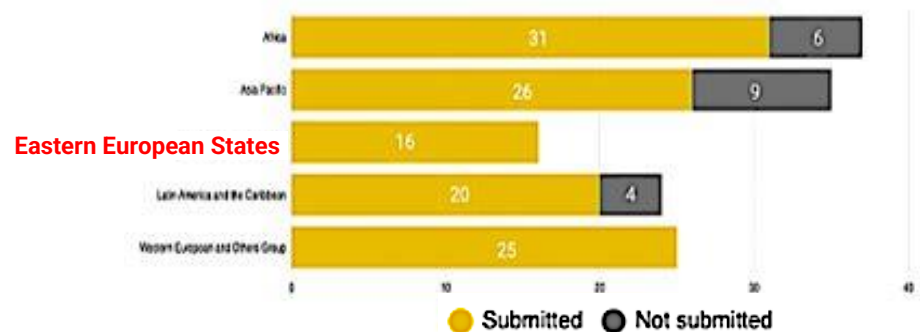
Item 4(h): National Reporting (cont.)

- ❖ 6/15: National reporting (article 21): second short national reports
- ❖ INF/20: Report on the second short national reports under article 21 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- ❖ INF/21: Updated guidance for completing the national reports

INF/20: Report on the second short national reports under article 21 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

- Contains the **Secretariat's review of the completed submitted national reports**. The review summarises the Parties' responses to the four recurrent questions (Q3.1, 3.3, 3.5 and 11.2).
- The report contains information on the following:
 - **Reporting performance;**
 - **Overview of the results** of the second short national reports; and
 - **Findings of the Secretariat** based on its review of the responses to the four recurrent questions as per Articles 3.3, 3.5, 3.6 and 11.2, as well as responses to parts C and D of the reporting format.

Second short national reports submission (as at 31 May 2025)



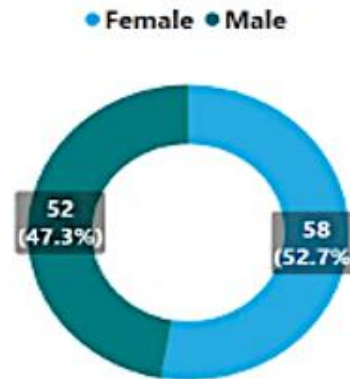
Item 4(h): National Reporting (cont.)

- ❖ 6/15: National reporting (article 21): second short national reports
- ❖ INF/20: Report on the second short national reports under article 21 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- ❖ INF/21: Updated guidance for completing the national reports

INF/21: Updated guidance for completing the national reporting format

- Contains the **updated guidance for completing the national reporting format**.
- **Decision MC-5/13**, adopted the guidance for completing the national reporting format and requested the Secretariat to reflect the amendments to the reporting format as adopted in the same decision in the guidance.
- Updates are indicated in the **underlined text**.
- Updated guidance has been posted on the Convention website to support the Parties in **completing the national reporting format for the second full national report**, which is due by 31 December 2025.

Distribution of reporting officers
(as at 31 May 2025)



Suggested action for the COP



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision contained in the annex to document 6/15** and adopt a decision on national reporting.

The COP may wish to:

- ❑ **Welcome** the **high rate of reporting** (86 per cent) and **encourage** Parties to achieve a **high rate of reporting for the second full reports**, due by 31 December 2025;
- ❑ **Reiterate** to Parties that have received consent to export mercury to Parties and/or non-Parties to provide to the Secretariat **copies of the consent forms or other suitable information**;
- ❑ **Take note** of the updates to the guidance for completing the national reporting format and **encourage** Parties to **use the guidance** in the current and next reporting rounds;
- ❑ **Request the Secretariat** to:
 - Collect **information on best practices for reporting** on informal or illegal activities with a view to identifying information that would help assess their scale and nature;
 - Continue **evaluating any issues that may arise** from the reporting format, and to develop proposals for enhancing its ease of use;
 - **Integrate relevant decisions** adopted by the COP into the guidance for completing the reporting format.

Are there specific questions on the documents prepared for Agenda Item 4(h)?

Questions and Answers





Item 4(i): Effectiveness evaluation

Item 4(i): Effectiveness evaluation

Background

Article 22 of the Convention: Effectiveness evaluation:

The Conference of the Parties shall evaluate the effectiveness of this Convention, beginning no later than six years after the date of entry into force of the Convention and periodically thereafter at intervals to be decided by the COP.

COP-4, in decision MC-4/11:

- Agreed to begin the first effectiveness evaluation;
- Established the Open-Ended Scientific Group (TOR in annex II).

COP-5, in decision MC-5/14:

- Agreed to consider the outcome of the first effectiveness evaluation at COP-7;
- Established the Effectiveness Evaluation Group (TOR in annex I);
- Adopted 36 indicators to support the evaluation of effectiveness of the Convention (annex II).

Item 4(i): Effectiveness evaluation

- ❖ **6/16: Progress report on the development of the effectiveness evaluation**
- ❖ INF/22: Preliminary draft outline of the first effectiveness evaluation report
- ❖ INF/23: Update on the work of the Open-ended Scientific Group

6/16: Progress report on the development of the first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Includes an overview of work done since COP-5 by the:

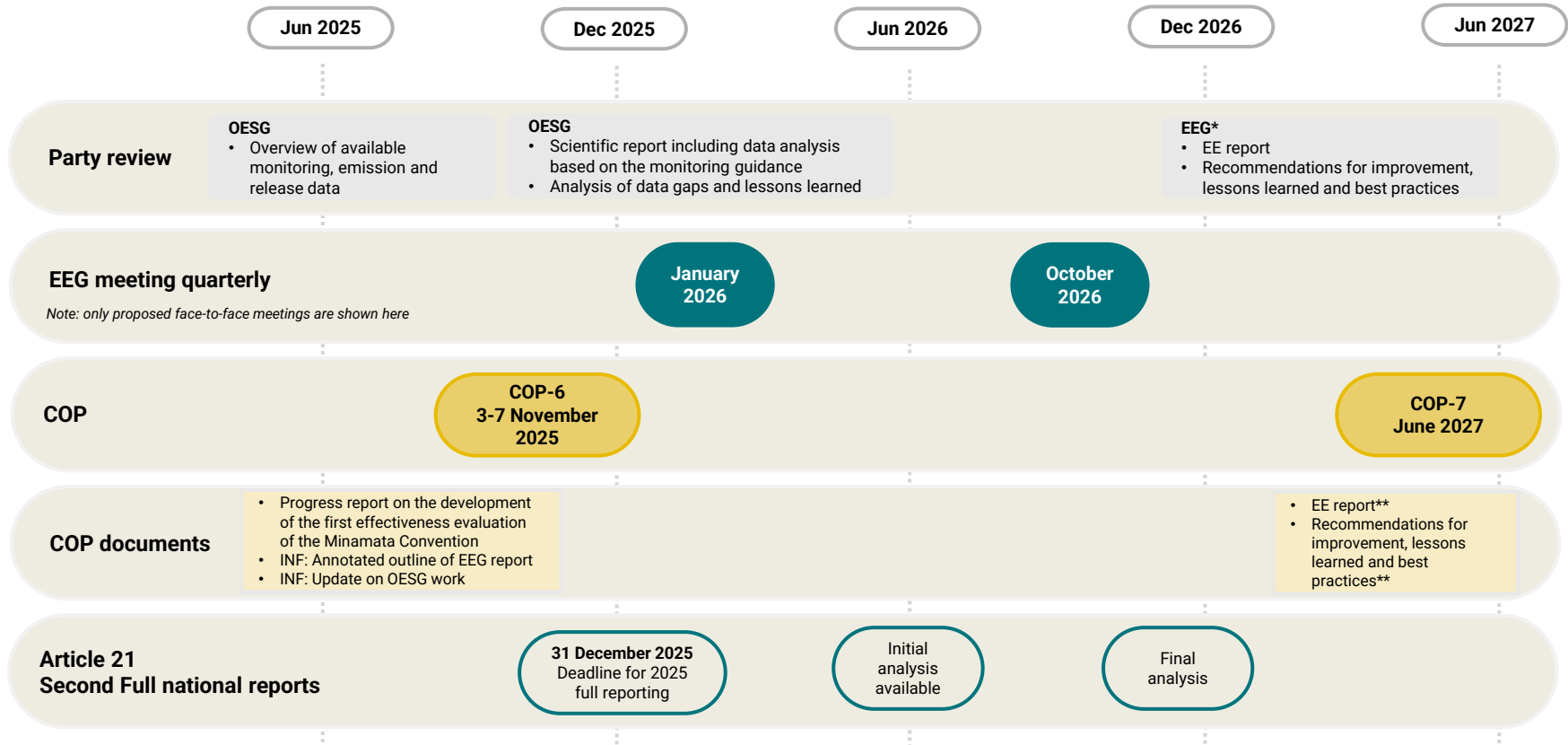
A. Effectiveness Evaluation Group

- Co-chaired by Linroy Christian (Antigua and Barbuda) and Itsuki Kuroda (Japan). Note: Itsuki Kuroda resigned in August 2025. The group is expected to elect a new co-chair.
- Met 6 times on-line since COP-5.
- Conducting the initial work through 6 sub-groups.

B. Open-ended Scientific Group

- Co-chaired by Dominique Bally Kpokro (Cote d'Ivoire) and Terry Keating (USA). Note: Terry Keating resigned in July 2025. The group is expected to elect a new co-chair.
- Met once face-to-face in Minamata (March 2025) hosted by Japan and ten times on-line since COP-5.

Timeline for the first evaluation of the effectiveness of the Minamata Convention on Mercury (Annex II)



* EEG integrates reports and develops final EE report and report on lessons learned and recommendations.

** As per the EEG's terms of reference, draft COP documents will be open for Party comments and finalized by the EEG at least four months before the next COP meeting.

Item 4(i): Effectiveness evaluation (cont.)

- ❖ 6/16: Progress report on the development of the effectiveness evaluation
- ❖ INF/22: Preliminary draft outline of the first effectiveness evaluation report
- ❖ INF/23: Update on the work of the Open-ended Scientific Group

INF/22: Preliminary draft outline of the first effectiveness evaluation report prepared by the Effectiveness Evaluation Group

INF/23: Update on the work of the Open-ended Scientific Group

- The **Open-ended Scientific Group (OESG)** was established pursuant to decision MC-4/11, to develop a scientific report based on available mercury monitoring, emission and release data.
- The OESG had two in-person meetings (Geneva in March 2025 and Minamata, Japan in March 2025) and 18 online meetings by August 2025.
- The OESG developed a **draft overview of monitoring, emission and release data**, posted it on the Convention website for review.
- The OESG continued to work on the **analysis of data** and the identification of **gaps and lessons learned**, with a view to developing a draft scientific report before COP-6.

Suggested action for the COP



Recalling that the COP agreed in decision MC-5/14 to consider the outcome of the first effectiveness at the COP-7, the COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in **annex I to document 6/16** and adopt a decision on the effectiveness evaluation.

The **COP** may wish to:

- ❑ **Take note** of the **progress** made by the Effectiveness Evaluation Group and the Open-ended Scientific Group since COP-5 and **request** both groups to **continue working** to support the COP;
- ❑ **Appreciate the input** from Parties and other stakeholders to the effectiveness evaluation and **invite** Parties to continue providing such input, including comments on the draft documents developed by the EEG and the OESG;
- ❑ **Request** Parties to submit their **full national reports** under Article 21 to the Secretariat by the deadline of **31 December 2025**, in order to have the most recent information available for the first effectiveness evaluation.

Item 4(k): Knowledge Management

Background

COP-5 adopted **decision MC-5/16**, which welcomed the **digital strategy** for the Secretariat to guide its work in the upcoming years.

The strategy includes **leveraging technology and managing knowledge effectively** to support the implementation of the Convention. It is organized into three areas: digital ecosystem; building partnership and digital literacy; and governance and innovation.

COP-5 agreed that the implementation of the strategy would begin with **priority activities during the biennium 2024-2025**.



Item 4(k): Knowledge Management

❖ 6/19: Knowledge management and digitalization to support parties

❖ INF/26: Minamata Convention Exchange Platform

Document 6/19: Knowledge management and digitalization to support parties

- Reports on the **Secretariat's progress in implementing its digital strategy during 2024–2025.**
- **Key achievements** include:
 - Significant enhancements to the Convention's website;
 - Improved online reporting tool, new data dashboards;
 - Expanded digital services for COP meetings;
 - Strengthened cooperation with other MEAs (notably BRS and InforMEA);
 - Joint work with the Global Mercury Partnership; and
 - Expanded e-learning initiatives.
- Looking ahead to **2026–2027**, the Secretariat plans to maintain and scale efforts:
 - Facilitate structured information exchange under Article 17 (INF/26 Minamata Convention Exchange Platform);
 - Integrate the results of the first effectiveness evaluation into knowledge products;
 - Expand digital repositories;
 - Further digitize submissions; and
 - Explore AI applications.

Suggested action for the COP



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in the **annex to document 6/19** and adopt a decision on knowledge management.

The COP may wish to:

- Welcome progress** made in implementing the digital strategy during 2024–2025;
- Request** the Secretariat to continue implementation in line with the 2026–2027 programme of work and to **prioritize** relevant activities for **progressive advancement of the strategy** in future bienniums;
- Maintain** and update the **Convention website** as the main public knowledge hub;
- Agree** to support the development of the **Minamata Convention Exchange Platform** for structured information exchange, subject to resource availability;

Suggested action for the COP



- ❑ **Encourage** the Secretariat to continue **cooperation and coordination** activities with the **Global Mercury Partnership**, including the joint development of data products, communication tools and knowledge platforms, while ensuring complementarity;
- ❑ **Request** the Secretariat to **continue collaborating** with the **secretariats of other MEAs** and other partners, including the **InforMEA** initiative, on knowledge management, digitalization and information exchange;
- ❑ **Also request** the Secretariat to **continue collaborating** with the secretariat of the **BRS Conventions** to exchange information and share experiences and best practices relating to knowledge management and digitalization;
- ❑ **Further request** the Secretariat to report on progress in the implementation of the digital strategy to **COP-7**.

Questions and Answers





Item 4(c): Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining



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

Background



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- Largest source of mercury emissions and releases;
- Vital source of livelihood for miners and their families (approx. 20 million men and women);
- Contributes 20% of global gold production.

Article 7 obligation includes:

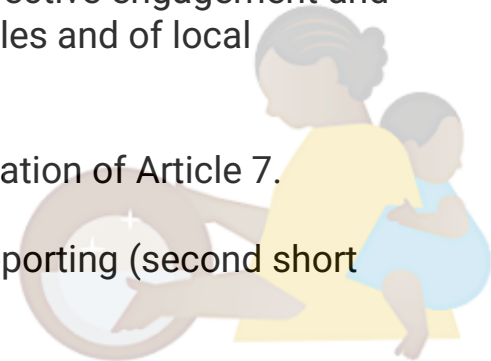
- ✓ Parties with ASGM to take steps to **reduce, where feasible, eliminate** the use of mercury, emissions and releases.
- ✓ **Notify** Secretariat if it determines ASGM is more than insignificant in its territory.
- ✓ After notification, Party must develop and implement a **national action plan (NAP)** – Annex C; Submit NAP to Secretariat.
- ✓ Parties to **review implementation of Article 7**, every 3 years, and submit reviews in its reports pursuant to Article 21.
- ✓ Strategies for involving stakeholders: **Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women and children** – critical in the development, implementation and review of NAPs.

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

- ❖ 6/7: Matters for consideration by the Conference of the Parties pursuant to decision MC-5/7 on artisanal and small-scale gold mining
- ❖ 6/7/Add.1: Draft sections on the review of the implementation of article 7 for inclusion in the ASGM NAP guidance
- ❖ INF/11: Draft provisional guide on the effective engagement and participation of Indigenous Peoples and of local communities

6/7: Matters for consideration by the Conference of the Parties pursuant to decision MC-5/7 on artisanal and small-scale gold mining

- The document details the implementation status of the mandates established in Decision MC-5/7:
 - A. Progress made with respect to the implementation of **Article 7**:
 - Notifications;
 - Submissions of national action plans (NAPs);
 - Reviews of the implementation of Article 7.
 - B. Effective **engagement and participation of Indigenous Peoples, local communities and other stakeholders**:
 - Draft provisional guide on the effective engagement and participation of Indigenous Peoples and of local communities (**INF/11**).
 - C. **Further efforts** to advance implementation of Article 7.
 - D. **Identified challenges** from national reporting (second short national report).

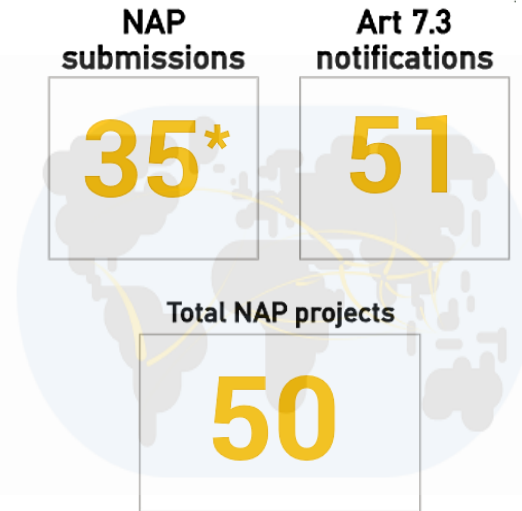


Item 4(c): Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (cont.)

- ❖ 6/7: Matters for consideration by the Conference of the Parties pursuant to decision MC-5/7 on artisanal and small-scale gold mining
- ❖ 6/7/Add.1: Draft sections on the review of the implementation of article 7 for inclusion in the ASGM NAP guidance
- ❖ INF/11: Draft provisional guide on the effective engagement and participation of Indigenous Peoples and of local communities

6/7/Add.1: Draft sections on the review of the implementation of article 7 for inclusion in the ASGM NAP guidance

- Document contains **proposed amendments** to the ASGM NAP guidance, including new sections to support Parties in reviewing implementation of Article 7 and draft template for reporting results of the review of Article 7.
- Aim of proposed sections - **facilitate reviews and support** national focal points to **organize information** on the results of the review for inclusion in national reports required under Article 21.
- Developed in collaboration with the **Global Mercury Partnership**.
- Proposed amendments includes:
 - New sections on review process, engagement of Indigenous Peoples, reference to draft provisional guide on the effective engagement and participation of Indigenous Peoples and of local communities (INF/11);
 - Annex 7: Reporting Template.



Item 4(c): Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (cont.)

- ❖ 6/7: Matters for consideration by the Conference of the Parties pursuant to decision MC-5/7 on artisanal and small-scale gold mining
- ❖ 6/7/Add.1: Draft sections on the review of the implementation of article 7 for inclusion in the ASGM NAP guidance
- ❖ INF/11: Draft provisional guide on the effective engagement and participation of Indigenous Peoples and of local communities

INF/11: Draft provisional guide on the effective engagement and participation of Indigenous Peoples and of local communities

- Contains the draft **provisional guide on the effective engagement and participation of Indigenous Peoples and of local communities** in the development, implementation and review of ASGM national action plans. Financial support from Australia and Norway.
- In response to COP-5 decision MC-5/7 paragraph 7, the Secretariat developed the document.
- Based on a **desk review** of similar engagement protocols and its aim is to reflect the existing best practices for engagement of Indigenous Peoples and for engagement of local communities.
- Information was **posted on the Convention website** on 26 March 2025 until 30 April 2025 for inputs from Parties and other stakeholders.



Suggested action for the COP



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in **annex I to document 6/7** and adopt a decision on artisanal and small-scale gold mining.

The COP may wish to:

- ❑ **Call on** Parties to submit their **final NAPs** as soon as possible;
- ❑ **Adopt** the **amendments on the review** of progress in the implementation of Article 7 (as presented in document 6/7/Add.1) to the NAP guidance document;
- ❑ Requests the secretariat to **incorporate the adopted amendments** into the guidance document and to cooperate with the Global Mercury Partnership in disseminating the amended guidance;
- ❑ **Call on** all Parties that have submitted their NAPs to **provide a review of the progress made** in meeting their obligations under Article 7 in their Article 21 national reports;
- ❑ **Invite** Parties to **make use of the provisional guide** on the effective engagement of Indigenous Peoples and of local communities (**INF/11**) in the development and implementation of their national action plans as well as their review of progress;

Suggested action for the COP

- ❑ **Request** the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Global Mercury Partnership, to **take stock and report to the COP** on:
 - a) Measures taken to implement the NAPs; and
 - b) Identified successful strategies and activities, achievements in implementation, and challenges and barriers encountered in reducing and eliminating the use, emissions and releases of mercury in ASGM, including information on formalizing or regulating ASGM as well as managing trade and preventing the diversion of mercury to use in ASGM.

- ❑ **Request** the Secretariat to report to **COP-7**.

Deep-dive
Information
Session on ASGM:
[Online resource link](#)



Questions and Answers





- Item 4(j): Cross-cutting matters:**
- (i) Implementation of decision MC-5/1**
 - (ii) Implementation of decision MC-5/15**

Item 4(j): Cross-cutting matters:

(i) Implementation of decision MC-5/1

- ❖ 6/17: Strengthening the effective engagement of Indigenous Peoples as well as local communities
- ❖ INF/24: Report on the needs and priorities of Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities

6/17: Strengthening the effective engagement of Indigenous Peoples as well as local communities

- Includes information on **activities to support implementation of decision MC-5/1** covering the following items:
 - **Broadening participation** of Indigenous Peoples as well as local communities in projects and programmes of the Minamata Convention;
 - Enhancements to the **Indigenous Peoples Platform**; and
 - Summary of the **report**, requested in paragraph 4 of COP-5 decision MC-5/1, **on the needs and priorities of Indigenous Peoples and local communities** with regard to the effects of mercury. The report is presented in full in document **INF/24**.



Item 4(j): Cross-cutting matters:

(i) Implementation of decision MC-5/1

- ❖ 6/17: Strengthening the effective engagement of Indigenous Peoples as well as local communities
- ❖ INF/24: Report on the needs and priorities of Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities

INF/24: Report on the needs and priorities of Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities

- Survey conducted in response to Decision MC-5/1 to assess mercury-related impacts on Indigenous Peoples and on local community health, livelihoods, culture, and knowledge.
- Survey distributed in 5 languages; 171 responses from 32 countries. Response from 151 Indigenous Peoples' organizations and 18 local communities.
- Categories: **human rights, cultural identity and knowledge**, and **effective participation** in the Minamata Convention received high ranking.
- Results highlight **concern across all needs**, majority of respondents' ranking reflecting subtle variations.



Suggested action for the COP



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in **annex I to document 6/17** and adopt a decision on strengthening the effective engagement of Indigenous Peoples as well as local communities.

The COP may wish to:

- ❑ **Decide** to establish a **voluntary Indigenous Peoples' funding mechanism** to provide dedicated financial support for the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the work and meetings of the Convention and **request** the Secretariat to develop a transparent and inclusive procedure;
- ❑ **Decide** that the funding mechanism will operate under **the special trust fund** and be open to receive funding and in-kind contribution from Parties, non-Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other sources;
- ❑ **Invite** Parties to **provide financial and technical support** to facilitate the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities, in the meetings of the COP and its subsidiary bodies, particularly those from developing countries and regions disproportionately impacted by mercury pollution;

Suggested action for the COP (cont.)



- ❑ **Request** the Secretariat to seek advice from an **interim ad hoc advisory group**, initially composed of seven self-nominated representatives from Indigenous Peoples' organizations accredited as observers to the Convention, on:
 - identifying and ensuring **balanced representation of Indigenous Peoples' organizations** at Convention meetings;
 - identifying support for **travel and interpretation** as needed to enable effective engagement and participation of Indigenous Peoples' organizations;
 - **proposing next steps** on strengthening the effective engagement of Indigenous Peoples in the work of the Convention.

- ❑ **Decide** to review at COP-8 the **mandate and continuation** of the interim ad hoc advisory group taking into account the outcomes reported by the Secretariat;

- ❑ **Request** the Secretariat to **share the survey results** with relevant organizations and collaborate with the OHCHR, the CBD Secretariat and other relevant organizations to disseminate the results to Indigenous Peoples' organizations, as well as to local communities and other relevant stakeholders.

Item 4(j): Cross-cutting matters:

(ii) Implementation of decision MC-5/15

- ❖ 6/18: Activities to address health concerns of women and children in the 2026-2027 biennium
- ❖ INF/25: Status of implementation of decision MC-5/15 during the 2024-2025 biennium

- In decision MC-5/15, COP-5 invited Parties and requested the Secretariat, respectively, to carry out activities to implement the gender action plan during the biennium 2024–2025.
- The Secretariat was also requested to review implementation of the plan **during the 2024–2025 biennium**. The review is set out in document **INF/25**.
- Based on the progress made, the Secretariat has identified, for consideration by COP-6, **activities** that could be carried out by the Secretariat **during the biennium 2026–2027**. The list of suggested activities is set out in annex I to document **6/18**.

Suggested action for the COP



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in **annex II to document 6/18** and adopt a decision on addressing health concerns of women and children.

The COP may wish to:

- ❑ **Take note with appreciation** of the **activities carried out by the Secretariat**, parties and other stakeholders during the biennium 2024–2025 to address health concerns of women and children;
- ❑ **Invite Parties to carry out activities** to address health concerns of women and children during the biennium 2026–2027, and to share with the Secretariat their related experiences and good practices;
- ❑ **Also invite** Parties to provide **comments**, as appropriate, on possible activities to be carried out by the Secretariat, Parties and other stakeholders during the biennium 2028–2029;

Suggested action for the COP

- ❑ **Request** the **Secretariat to carry out activities** to address health concerns of women and children, as listed in annex I to document 6/18, during the biennium 2026–2027, subject to the availability of resources;
- ❑ **Also request** the Secretariat to report to the **COP on the implementation** of the present decision and propose **possible activities** to be carried out by the Secretariat, Parties and other stakeholders during the biennium 2028–2029, as appropriate, for consideration by the COP-7.



Questions and Answers





Item 2(c): Organizational matters – Election of officers

Item 2(c) Organizational matters: Election of officers

- ❖ 6/2: Election of officers
- ❖ INF/43: Admission of observers

COP-7 Bureau

- In accordance with rule 22 of the RoP, COP-6 is to elect the COP-7 Bureau. No elected officer may serve on the Bureau for more than two consecutive **terms**.
- To that end, two **nominations** from each United Nations regional group should be submitted to the secretariat no later than the second day of COP-6.
- In accordance with both paragraph 3 of rule 22 of the RoP and past practice, for the purposes of regional rotation the **President** of the COP-7 Bureau is expected to be elected from among the **Western European and Others Group**.

Implementation and Compliance Committee

- In accordance with rule 3 of the RoP for the Committee, COP-6 is to elect for two terms **new members** of the ICC to replace those members whose period of office is about to expire.
- Pursuant to paragraph 5 of rule 3, a member is not to serve for more than two consecutive **terms**.
- **Nominations** from each United Nations regional group should be submitted to the Secretariat no later than the second day of COP-6.

SIP Governing Board


- COP-6 is to confirm, based on the **nominations** received from the regional groups, **10 members** of the Governing Board for the following term, to serve from the closure of COP-6 until the closure of COP-7.
- No member is to serve on the Governing Board for more than two consecutive **terms**.

COP Agenda Item 2 (c): Election of the COP-7 Bureau

Document 6/2: election of officers

- In accordance with rule 22 of the rules of procedure, the COP is to elect to the Bureau for its sixth **meeting a president and nine vice-presidents**, one of whom is to act as rapporteur, from among the representatives of the Parties present at COP-6.
- To that end, two nominations from each UN regional group should be submitted to the Secretariat no later than the **second day of COP-6**.
- No elected officer may serve on the Bureau for more than **two consecutive terms**.
- In accordance with both paragraph 3 of rule 22 of the rules of procedure and past practice of following an alphabetical order, for the purposes of regional rotation the President of the COP-7 Bureau is expected to be elected from among **the Western European and other States**.

COP-6 Bureau




Party	Terms completed at COP-6
Osvaldo Patricio Álvarez Pérez (Chile) (<i>President</i>)	Two terms
Linroy Christian (Antigua and Barbuda)	One term
Rachel Burgess (Australia)	One term
Tuulia Toikka (Finland)	One term
Irma Gurguliani (Georgia)	One term 
Sidi Aloueimine (Mauritania)	One term
Aisha Humera Moriani (Pakistan), who replaced Syed Mujtaba Hussain (Pakistan)	Two terms
Claudia-Sorina Dumitru (Romania)	Two terms 
Saeed A. Alzahrani (Saudi Arabia)	Two terms
Mohamed Abdulai Kamara (Sierra Leone)	One term

COP Agenda Item 2 (c): Election of ICC members

Document 6/2: election of officers

- In accordance with rule 3 of the rules of procedure for the Committee, COP-6 is to elect **for two terms new members** of the Implementation and Compliance Committee to replace those members whose period of office is about to expire.
- Pursuant to paragraph 5 of rule 3 of the ICC rules of procedure, a member is **not to serve for more than two consecutive terms**.
- Nominations from each UN regional group should be submitted to the Secretariat no later than the **second day of COP-6**.

Current ICC members

Party	Terms completed at COP-6
Mve Beh Jean Hervé (Gabon)	Two terms
Musa Kuzumila Ngunila (United Republic of Tanzania)	Two terms
<u>Oluwatoyin Olabanji (Nigeria)</u>	One term*
Sajad Motaharnia (Iran), who replaced Hossein Rahdar	Two terms
<u>Hu Yunfang (China) (Chair)</u>	One term*
Amit Raj (India), who replaced Satyendra Kumar (India)	One term*
Eva Salplachtova (Czechia) (<i>Rapporteur</i>)	One term* 
Jelena Kovačević (Montenegro)	Two terms 
Atanas Stoyanov Dishkelov (Bulgaria)	Two terms 
Jimena Nieto Carrasco (Colombia)	Two terms
María del Mar Solano Trejos (Costa Rica)	One term*
Meredith Henry-Cumberbatch (Suriname)	Two terms
Gene Smilansky (United States of America)	One term*
Helga Schrott (Austria)	Two terms
Anik Beaudoin (Canada)	Two terms



*Elected for two terms at COP-5

COP Agenda Item 2 (c): Confirmation of SIP Governing Board members

Document 6/2: election of officers

- In accordance with rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Governing Board, COP-6 is to **confirm**, based on the nominations received from the regional groups, **ten members** of the Governing Board for the following term.
- To that end, two nominations from each United Nations regional group should be submitted to the Secretariat **no later than the second last day of the COP-6**.
- Member are to serve on the Governing Board for no more than **two consecutive terms**.

Current SIP Governing Board members

Party	Terms completed at COP-6
Liliane Randrianomenjanahary (Madagascar)	One term
Obed Meringo Baloyi (South Africa) (<i>Co-chair</i>)	One term
Luay Sadeq Almkhtar (Iraq)	One term
R. H. M. P. Abeykoon (Sri Lanka), who replaced Wasantha Dissanayake (Sri Lanka)	One term
Mario Vujić (Croatia)	Two terms 
Suzana Andonova (North Macedonia)	Two terms 
Ana Cristina Linhares (Brazil)	Two terms
Michele Astwood (Guyana)	One term
Rafael Zubrzycki (Germany)	Two terms
Andrew Clark (USA) (<i>Co-chair</i>)	Two terms

Questions and Answers



Lunch break

The Afternoon session
will resume at **14:00**.





Item 6: Programme of Work and budget

Item 6: Programme of Work and budget

- ❖ **6/23: Programme of work and budget: proposed operational budgets for the two funding scenarios for the biennium 2026-2027**
- ❖ INF/36: Progress in the implementation of the Secretariat's Programme of Work for the biennium 2024-2025
- ❖ INF/37: Information on financial matters
- ❖ INF/38: Programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026-2027: budget activity fact sheets

6/23: Programme of work and budget: proposed operational budgets for the two funding scenarios for the biennium 2026–2027

Process:

- **Online budget information session** on 30 September 2025 (13:00-14:30 CEST).
- **During COP-6:**
 - **Budget contact group:**
 - Parties only (no observers);
 - English only (no interpretation);
 - Propose the draft decision including budget and assessed contributions for the 2026-2027 biennium;
 - Budgetary review of all other decisions to be adopted by COP-6.
 - **Plenary**
 - Considers and adopts budget decision for COP-6 (programme of work and budget for 2026-2027).

Item 6: Programme of Work and budget (cont.)

- ❖ **6/23: Programme of work and budget: proposed operational budgets for the two funding scenarios for the biennium 2026-2027**
- ❖ INF/36: Progress in the implementation of the Secretariat's Programme of Work for the biennium 2024-2025
- ❖ INF/37: Information on financial matters
- ❖ INF/38: Programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026-2027: budget activity fact sheets

Background:

- Secretariat prepared 2 scenarios as mandated by COP-5 for the general trust fund (funded from assessed contributions of Parties and the host country contribution):
 - **5% scenario** for the core budget for 2026-2027: USD 7,806,753 (before PSC) with increases in effectiveness evaluation, national reporting, staff costs, financial resources and mechanism and legal and policy activities.
 - **Zero nominal growth scenario** for the core budget for 2026-2027: USD 7,435,003 (before PSC) – lower amounts in substantive activities such as ICC work, effectiveness evaluation and national reporting; no high level segment COP-7; lower staff and travel costs.
- **Special trust fund:** Estimated needs for 2026-2027: USD 4,529,000 (5% scenario before PSC) / USD 4,314,000 (0 nominal growth scenario before PSC) - to be fundraised

Item 6: Programme of Work and budget (cont.)

- ❖ 6/23: Programme of work and budget: proposed operational budgets for the two funding scenarios for the biennium 2026-2027
- ❖ INF/36: Progress in the implementation of the Secretariat's Programme of Work for the biennium 2024-2025
- ❖ INF/37: Information on financial matters
- ❖ INF/38: Programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026-2027: budget activity fact sheets

Highlights:

- **Challenges** in budgeting **staff costs** inter alia due to the weakening of the USD against the CHF:
 - Increase of 8.2 % compared to 2024-2025 approved budget
 - Budgeted at minimum level (without contingencies)
 - Temporary freeze of G-5 Administrative Assistant position.
- Consequence: Proposal to authorize Executive Secretary to use funds from the accumulated balance to cover shortfalls in staff salary costs.
- Proposed carry-forward of one **meeting of the effectiveness evaluation group** which did not take place in 2024.

Suggested action for the COP



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in **annex I to document 6/23** and adopt a decision on the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026-2027.

The COP may wish to:

- Approve** the budget for the **general trust fund** for the biennium 2026-2027;
- Authorize** the Executive Secretary to carry-forward the **unused funds** for one meeting of the effectiveness evaluation group;
- Decide** that the Executive Secretary may use funds from the accumulated balance of the general trust fund to cover any **shortfalls** in salary costs;
- Adopt** the indicative **scale of assessments** for the apportionment of expenses for 2026-2027;
- Agree** to the estimates for the **special trust fund** for the biennium 2026-2027.



Information on the status of contributions by Parties to the general trust fund

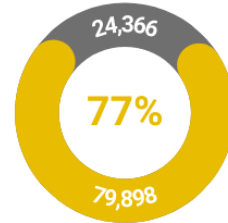
Contributions: Status as of 31 July 2025

- ❖ 6/23: Programme of work and budget: proposed operational budgets for the two funding scenarios for the biennium 2026-2027

- ❖ INF/37: Information on financial matters

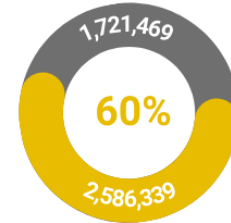
STATUS OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Eastern European States



Amount outstanding prior years: \$1,814

ALL REGIONS



Amount outstanding prior years: \$346,506

Contributions: Status as of 31 July 2025

- ❖ 6/23: Programme of work and budget: proposed operational budgets for the two funding scenarios for the biennium 2026-2027

- ❖ INF/37: Information on financial matters

Outstanding contributions prior years EES region:

Parties	PRIOR YEARS (2018-2024)		
	Unpaid Contribution as of 31.12.2024	Received in 2025	Balance
Ukraine	1 814		1 814
Total Eastern European States	1 814	-	1 814

Contributions 2025: Status as of 31 July 2025 - EES

- ❖ 6/23: Programme of work and budget: proposed operational budgets for the two funding scenarios for the biennium 2026-2027

- ❖ INF/37: Information on financial matters

Parties	2025			
	Contribution	Received in 2023/24	Received in 2025	Balance
Albania	431		431	0
Armenia	431	431		0
Bulgaria	2 449		2 449	0
Croatia	3 980		3 980	0
Czechia	14 869	14 869		0
Estonia	1 924		1 924	0
Georgia	431		431	0
Hungary	9 971		2 991	6 980
Latvia	2 187		2 187	0
Lithuania	3 367		3 367	0
Montenegro	431			431
North Macedonia	431			431
Poland	36 605		36 605	0
Republic of Moldova	431			431
Romania	13 645			13 645
Slovakia	6 779		6 779	0
Slovenia	3 455	6 204	3 455	-6 204
Ukraine	2 449			2 449
Total Eastern European States	104 264	21 504	64 599	18 161

Contributions: Status as of 31 July 2025

- ❖ 6/23: Programme of work and budget: proposed operational budgets for the two funding scenarios for the biennium 2026-2027
- ❖ INF/37: Information on financial matters

Consequences of unpaid contributions:

- Declining cash balance over the years
- In the medium term: cash flow issues
- Inability to fully implement PoW and budget

Questions and Answers





Item 4(e): Financial resources and mechanism:

- i. Global Environment Facility**
- ii. Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance**
- iii. Review of the financial mechanism**

Item 4(e): Financial resources and mechanism

Background

Article 13: Financial Resources and Mechanism



Financial Resources

Paragraph 1: **Each Party undertakes to provide, within its capabilities, resources in respect of those national activities that are intended to implement this Convention, in accordance with its national policies, priorities, plans and programmes.** Such resources may include domestic funding through relevant policies, development strategies and national budgets, and bilateral and multilateral funding, as well as private sector involvement.

Paragraph 2: Overall effectiveness related to implementation of Article 13.

Paragraph 3: Encourages multilateral, regional and bilateral sources of financial and technical assistance, capacity-building and technology transfer.

Paragraph 4: Specific needs and special circumstances of SIDs and LDCs.



Financial Mechanism

Paragraph 5: Defines a mechanism for provision of adequate, predictable, and timely financial resources

Paragraph 6: The Financial Mechanism includes the **Global Environment Facility** and the **Specific International Programme**.

Paragraphs 7 and 8: Further info in relation to the **Global Environment Facility (GEF)**. COP-1, in MC-1/5 set out Guidance to the GEF ([LINK](#)).

Paragraph 9: Further info in relation to the **Specific International Programme (SIP)**. COP-1, in MC-1/6 set out hosting, guidance and operational aspects of the SIP ([LINK](#)).

Paragraph 11: mandates the COP to undertake **regular reviews** of the entities comprising the Financial Mechanism.

Paragraph 12: invites all Parties, within their capabilities to **contribute** to the Mechanism.

Item 4(e): Financial resources and mechanism

Article 13: Financial Resources and Mechanism



Document Overview:

- ❖ **6/9: Matters for consideration by the COP pursuant to decision MC-5/11 on the review of the financial mechanism**
 - INF/39: Compilation of obligations and deadlines under the Minamata Convention as per the Convention text

- ❖ **6/10: Update on matters related to the Global Environment Facility**
 - 6/10/Add.1: Executive summary of the report of the GEF Council to COP-6
 - INF/13: Report of the GEF Council to COP-6
 - INF/14: The ninth replenishment of the GEF trust fund: draft strategic positioning and programming directions

- ❖ **6/11: Overall report on the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance**
 - INF/40: Draft analysis of expected SIP funding and related staffing needs
 - INF/15: Reports of the 9th and 10th meetings of the SIP Governing Board
 - INF/16: Activities of the Special Programme
 - INF/17: Information on the Global Framework on Chemicals fund

- ❖ **6/12: Draft terms of reference for the third review of the financial mechanism**

Item 4(e): Financial resources and mechanism

- ❖ 6/9: Matters for consideration by the COP pursuant to decision MC-5/11 on the review of the financial mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- ❖ INF/39: Compilation of obligations and deadlines under the Minamata Convention on Mercury as per the Convention text

Document 6/9: Matters for consideration by the COP pursuant to decision MC-5/11 on the review of the financial mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

- Includes an **overview of the following documents**:
 - Compilation of obligations and deadlines under the Convention and extent to which such obligations and deadline are being met by Parties (**INF 39**);
 - Matters related to the **GEF**;
 - The overall report on the **SIP** and the draft analysis of expected SIP funding and related staffing needs;
 - The draft terms of reference for the third review of the financial mechanism (Document **6/12**).
- Sets forth a **draft decision, in the annex**, on the financial mechanism, including additional guidance to the GEF.
- **NOTE: Document 6/12 includes a draft decision for the third review of the financial mechanism.**

Item 4(e): Financial resources and mechanism:

i. Global Environment Facility

- ❖ 6/10: Update on matters related to the Global Environment Facility
- ❖ 6/10/Add.1: Executive summary of the report of the GEF Council to COP-6
- ❖ INF/13: Report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury at its sixth meeting
- ❖ INF/14: The ninth replenishment of the GEF trust fund: draft strategic positioning and programming directions

6/10: Update on matters related to the Global Environment Facility

- The update (6/10) and the **Executive Summary** of the GEF Council report to the COP (6/10/Add.1) should be read in conjunction with the **full report** of the GEF Council to the COP (**INF/13**).
- The report of the GEF Council to the COP contains an account of support provided by the GEF for the implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury during the reporting period from **1 July 2022 to 30 June 2025**.
- The GEF committed **USD 174 million** (inclusive of project preparation grants and Agency fees) for programming to support the implementation of the Convention, which represents **sixty-five percent of the USD 269 million allocated** by the replenishment. This includes:
 - programmes, such as the **Global Chemicals Monitoring programme**, and the **GEMINI Program addressing emissions in non-ferrous metals sector**;
 - implementation projects (full-sized, medium-sized, individual and multi-country);
 - several enabling activities (MIAs and ASGM NAPs).

Item 4(e): Financial resources and mechanism:

i. Global Environment Facility (cont.)

- ❖ 6/10: Update on matters related to the Global Environment Facility
- ❖ 6/10/Add.1: Executive summary of the report of the GEF Council to COP-6
- ❖ INF/13: Report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury at its sixth meeting
- ❖ INF/14: The ninth replenishment of the GEF trust fund: draft strategic positioning and programming directions

INF/14: The ninth replenishment of the GEF trust fund: draft strategic positioning and programming directions

- The ninth replenishment of the GEF trust fund (GEF-9) is expected to begin in July 2026 and to continue for four years, until June 2030.
- The **replenishment negotiations schedule** (tentative):
 - February 2025 – Technical Advisory Groups meetings;
 - May 2025 – first GEF-9 replenishment meeting;
 - Three more replenishment meetings are scheduled to take place between October 2025 and March 2026;
 - June 2026 – GEF Assembly and Council meetings to finalize and launch the GEF-9.
- The document contains the **draft strategic positioning and programming directions** that will guide the **programming of GEF-9 funding** for individual projects, including projects undertaken by GEF in its role as part of the Minamata Convention financial mechanism pursuant to Article 13.

Item 4(e): Financial resources and mechanism:

ii. Specific International Programme

- ❖ 6/11: Overall report on the SIP
- ❖ INF/40: Draft analysis of expected SIP funding and related staffing needs
- ❖ INF/15: Reports of the 9th and 10th meetings of the SIP Governing Board
- ❖ INF/16: Activities of the Special Programme
- ❖ INF/17: Information on the Global Framework on Chemicals fund

6/11: Overall report on the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance

- Section I: Introduction
- Section II: Describes the **support provided by the Secretariat** to the SIP;
- Section III: Outlines the work of the **SIP Governing Board** since COP-5;
- Section IV: Provides an overview of the **status of implementation of the projects** approved in the First, Second, Third and Fourth rounds of applications;
- Section V: Contains information on the status of contributions to the **Specific Trust Fund**.



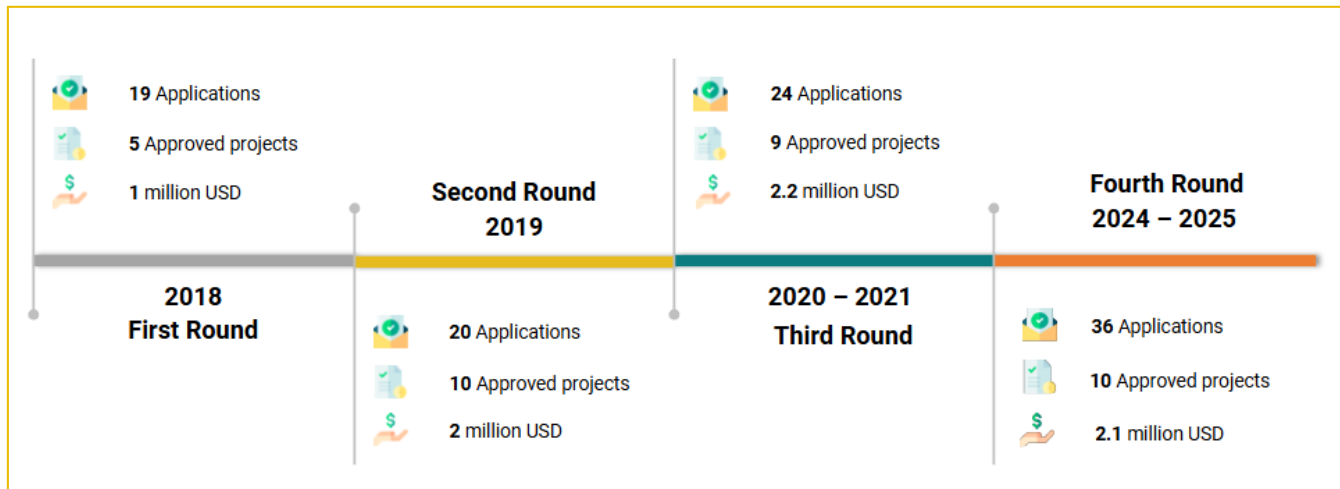
Contributions and pledges received for the Specific Trust Fund since the establishment of the Specific International Programme
(United States dollars, as at 28 May 2025)

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Total amount pledged/contributed</i>
Austria	505 194
Denmark	175 748
France	324 144
Germany	1 118 927
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	331 193
Norway	2 748 661
Sweden	844 663
Switzerland	1 243 145
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	305 235
United States	853 083
Total	8 449 992

Overview of the Specific International Programme to support Capacity-building and Technical Assistance

- **4 rounds of applications** to the SIP launched to date;
- **34 projects approved** by the SIP Governing Board in 31 countries;
- The **number of applications has increased** with each round;
- Over **8.4 million USD contributed to the fund** since its establishment.

[SIP DASHBOARD](#)

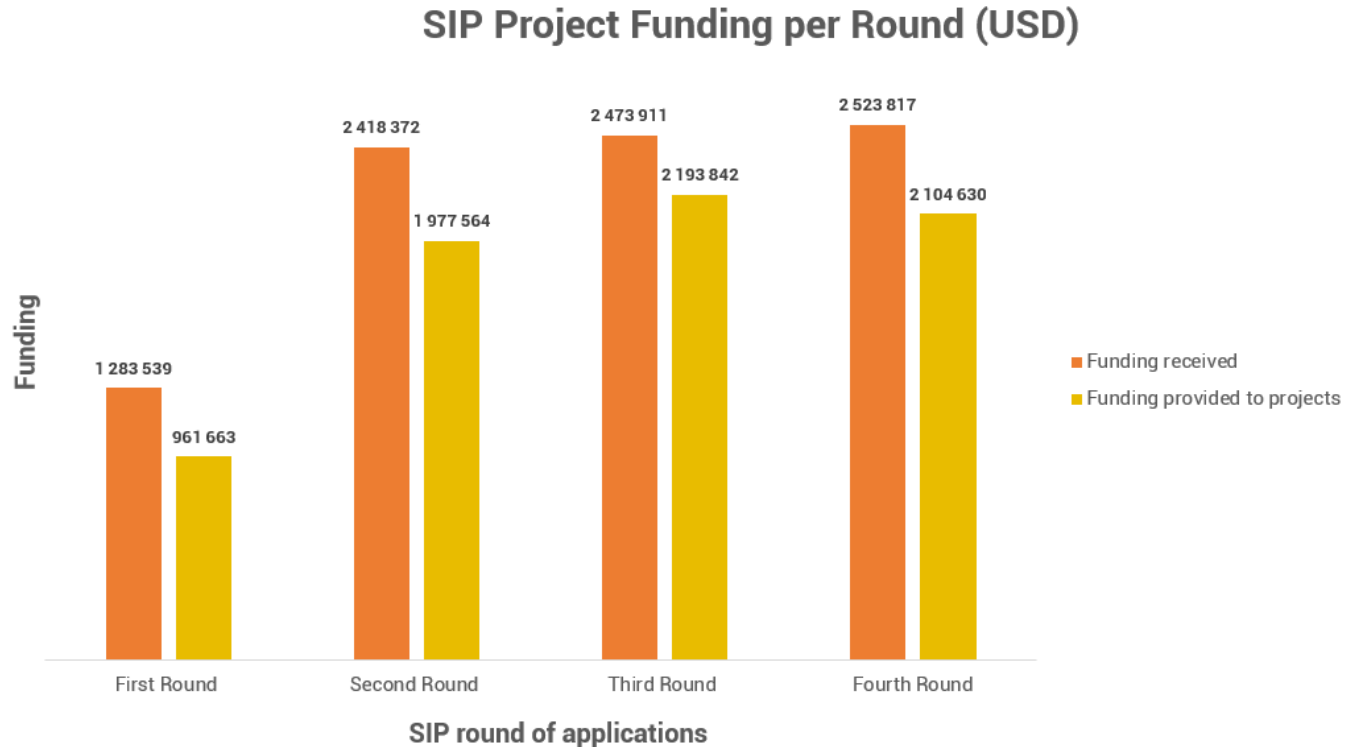


Contributors to the Specific Trust Fund



Overview of the Specific International Programme to support Capacity-building and Technical Assistance

- **Almost all SIP funding goes directly to Parties for their projects.**



SIP projects in the EES region

First Round	Armenia: Strengthening capacities to promote phasing-out of mercury-added products (lamps) in Armenia (\$162,000)	Completed in 2021. The project focused on promoting phasing-out of products (lamps) and on their waste. It developed and reviewed national legislation, and conducted awareness-raising activities. One of the project partners was a local women-led NGO (Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment).
Second Round	Republic of Moldova: Support to post-ratification of the Minamata Convention to the Republic of Moldova by building phase down capacities and reducing risks associated with mercury (\$219,765)	Completed in 2023. The project focused on adopting a nationally consistent approach to phase down the use of mercury-added products, and developed a regulatory framework for the sound management of mercury wastes. A small balance of \$7,164 remained after project closure.
Third Round	North Macedonia: Strengthening national capacities for Minamata Convention implementation with focus on development of strategy for assessing the sites contaminated with mercury (\$248,500)	Ongoing since 2022, it will be completed in 2025. The project focuses on developing a National Implementation Plan (NIP) for the implementation of the Convention and a strategy for assessing mercury contaminated sites.

SIP projects in the EES region

Fourth Round

Georgia: Empowering National Capacities and Knowledge Management for Minamata Convention Compliance (\$244,000)

Approved by the SIP Governing Board in 2025. The Secretariat is working with the project partner to draft and sign the project legal agreement. Once signed, the project will begin.

Montenegro: Development options for mercury remediation of the contaminated site of former Brskovo metal mining in Montenegro (\$247,980)

Approved by the SIP Governing Board in 2025. The Secretariat is working with the project partner to draft and sign the project legal agreement. Once signed, the project will begin.

Item 4(e): Financial resources and mechanism:

ii. Specific International Programme (cont.)

- ❖ 6/11: Overall report on the SIP
- ❖ INF/40: Draft analysis of expected SIP funding and related staffing needs
- ❖ INF/15: Reports of the 9th and 10th meetings of the SIP Governing Board
- ❖ INF/16: Activities of the Special Programme
- ❖ INF/17: Information on the Global Framework on Chemicals fund

INF/40: Draft analysis of expected funding and related staffing needs of the Specific International Programme

- The draft analysis is **prepared by the Secretariat**, as requested in decision MC-5/11, taking into consideration the midterm evaluation of the SIP and the second review of the financial mechanism.

Scenarios for future funding and staffing needs

Item	Scenario 1* (until the end of the initial term of the Specific International Programme - 2027) – one additional round of applications	Scenario 2** (until the end of the extended term of the Specific International Programme - 2034) – three additional rounds of applications
Tentative timeframe	Fifth round of applications – 2027 (project close-out period until 2032)	- Fifth round – 2027 - Sixth round – 2030 - Seventh round – 2033 (project close-out period until 2037)
Projected number of applications and approved projects	30-40 in total, up to 10 approved	- Fifth round – 30-40 in total, up to 10 approved - Sixth round – 30-40 in total, up to 15 approved - Seventh round – 30-40 in total, up to 15 approved
Resources to be raised	Fifth round – up to US\$2.5 million	- Fifth round – up to US\$2.5 million - Sixth round – up to US\$3.1 million - Seventh round – up to US\$3.5 million
Proposed minimum staffing needs until the end of the initial or extended term of the Programme		
50% of the Programme Management Officer for Capacity-building and Technical Assistance staff position; One JPO or one P-2 Associate Programme Officer.		

- Parties may wish to request the **Secretariat to work with the SIP Governing Board to finalize the current draft analysis** to inform decision-making at COP-7 regarding an extended term of the Programme until 2034.

Suggested action for the COP



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in the **annex to document 6/9** and adopt a decision on the financial mechanism.

The COP may wish to:

- ❑ **Welcome** the ongoing **9th replenishment of the GEF** and highlight its importance for the Parties for the period 2026–2030 vis-à-vis their respective obligations and deadlines to be met under the Convention;
- ❑ **Provide** additional guidance to the GEF to **supplement the existing COP guidance** to the GEF;
- ❑ **Recall** its request that the GEF **take into account the time frames** to which Parties must adhere for the implementation of mandatory obligations in developing its programming directions and resource allocations for GEF-9, and in further developing projects and programmes under the programming directions for GEF-8 as a supplement to the COP guidance, and **request** the **Secretariat to transmit information** as outlined in INF/39;

Suggested action for the COP (cont.)



- ❑ **Encourage** the Secretariat to continue to **cooperate with the GEF Secretariat** in the evaluation of its projects;
- ❑ **Encourage** the GEF, in reporting project results, to **provide data and information** on mercury reduction and avoidance as well as on **efforts to advance the effective engagement and participation** of Indigenous Peoples, women, youth and local communities;
- ❑ **Reiterate** the importance of relevant Parties' working through their **operational focal points** to make prompt and full use of the programming directions and resource allocation under the GEF;
- ❑ **Take note** of the **draft analysis of expected funding and staffing needs** of the initial term and a potential extension period of the SIP, and **request** the Secretariat to work with the SIP Governing Board to **finalize the draft analysis** and prepare draft recommendations for consideration by COP-7;
- ❑ **Agree** to decide upon the **potential extension of the SIP**, for an additional period of 7 years, at COP-7;
- ❑ **Encourage** the Secretariat to continue **coordinating with** the Global Framework on Chemicals Fund and the Special Programme within the scope of respective mandates to enhance complementarity and avoid duplication.

Item 4(e): Financial resources and mechanism:

iii. Review of the financial mechanism

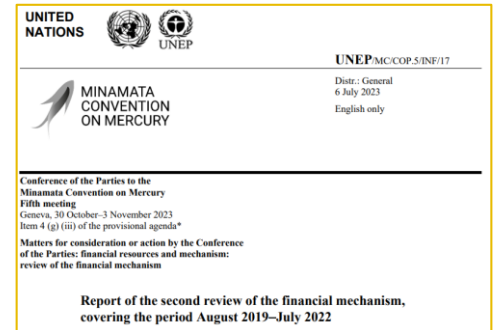
Background

Paragraph 11 of Article 13 of the Convention, on financial resources and mechanism, calls upon the **COP to review**, no later than at its third meeting, and thereafter on a **regular basis**:

- a) The level of funding;
- b) The guidance provided by the COP to the entities entrusted with operationalizing the financial mechanism;
- c) The effectiveness of those entities;
- d) The ability of those entities to address the changing needs of developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition.

The **first review** of the financial mechanism was **completed at COP-3**.

The **second review** was **completed at COP-5**.



Item 4(e): Financial resources and mechanism:

iii. Review of the financial mechanism

- ❖ 6/12: Draft terms of reference for the third review of the financial mechanism

6/12: Draft terms of reference for the third review of the financial mechanism

- COP-5 requested the Secretariat to prepare at **draft terms of reference** for the third review:
 - Available in **annex II of document 6/12**
 - Builds on the ToR for the second review (Decision MC-4/7).
- A decision at COP-6 on the third review, including its terms of reference, would allow for the **third review to be presented to COP-7**.
- The proposed timeframe for the third review is **from August 2022 to June 2026**:
 - Allowing for consideration of all information from immediately after the period of the second review; and
 - Including significant information on ongoing and completed projects, the effectiveness of completed projects, and the experiences of Parties with implementing such projects.

Suggested action for the COP



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in **annex I to document 6/12** and adopt a decision on the review of the financial mechanism.

The COP may wish to:

- Adopt the terms of reference** for the third review set out in annex II to document 6/12;
- Invite** Parties, IGOs, NGOs and stakeholders to **submit information**, consistent with the terms of reference for the review on their experience gained through their interactions with the financial mechanism, **not later than 30 April 2026**;
- Request** the Secretariat to compile **information** relevant to the third review and submit it for **consideration at COP-7**.

Questions and Answers





Item 4(f): Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer

Item 4(f): Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer

Background

Article 14: Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer

- **Paragraph 1:**

States that **Parties** shall cooperate to provide, within their respective capabilities, **timely and appropriate capacity-building and technical assistance to developing-country Parties**, in particular Parties that are least developed countries or small island developing States, and Parties with economies in transition, **to assist them in implementing their obligations under the Convention.**

- **Paragraph 4:**

Calls on the COP to **consider, on a regular basis**, information on existing initiatives and progress made in relation to **alternative technologies**; consider the **needs of Parties**, particularly developing-country Parties, **for alternative technologies**; and identify **challenges experienced by Parties**, particularly developing-country Parties, **in technology transfer.**

Item 4(f): Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer

- ❖ 6/13: Implementation of activities pursuant to decision MC-5/12 and article 14 on capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer
- ❖ INF/18: Desk study on the overview of alternative technologies under the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- ❖ INF/33: Report of the Global Mercury Partnership

6/13: Implementation of activities pursuant to decision MC-5/12 and article 14 on capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer

- Provides an update on the status of **implementation of decision MC-5/12**, including information on:
 - A. Desk study on alternative technologies, related challenges and needs of parties (INF/18):**
 - Developed in response to decision MC-5/12;
 - Provides a general overview, rather than an exhaustive analysis of all available technologies;
 - Highlights key examples and trends;
 - **Japan funding to the Special trust fund** (biennium 2024–2025).
 - B. Development and dissemination of tools and training materials**
 - C. Continued and enhanced cooperation with the Global Mercury Partnership:**
 - See **INF/33**: Report of the Global Mercury Partnership.
- Sets out information on how capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer could be **undertaken and enhanced by the Secretariat** in the next biennium.

Item 4(f): Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer (cont.)

- ❖ 6/13: Implementation of activities pursuant to decision MC-5/12 and article 14 on capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer
- ❖ INF/18: Desk study on the overview of alternative technologies under the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- ❖ INF/33: Report of the Global Mercury Partnership

INF/18: Desk study on the overview of alternative technologies under the Minamata Convention on Mercury

- **Key insights on uptake of alternative technologies** include:
 - Feasible alternative technologies are available for many of the major mercury source categories covered by the Convention;
 - National reports submitted by parties pursuant to Article 21 are a key source of information for assessing challenges and progress under the Convention, including alternative technology and technical transfer issues;
 - Effective technology transfer requires supportive policies, institutional readiness, training and monitoring of progress;
 - Collaboration with related multilateral environmental agreements and frameworks contributes to technology transfer and thus to overall progress in achieving the objective of the Convention;
 - Specific needs, barriers and opportunities related to technology transfer should be further assessed to support parties in implementing the Convention.

Suggested action for the COP



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in the **annex to document 6/13** and adopt a decision on capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer.

The COP may wish to:

- ❑ **Invite** developed-country Parties and other Parties to **consider the challenges** related to alternative technologies in promoting and facilitating their development, transfer and diffusion to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition;
- ❑ **Encourage** Parties, in their **Article 21 national reports**, to include information on development, transfer and diffusion of, and access to, alternative technologies, as well as on respective challenges, to assist in a future review of challenges and progress;
- ❑ **Request** the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to further **collect and analyse**, in collaboration with the Global Mercury Partnership, **information** on existing initiatives and progress made in relation to alternative technologies, as well as related needs and challenges;

Suggested action for the COP



- ❑ **Decide** to consider **alternative technologies** again at COP-8;
- ❑ **Call on** Parties, and invites non-Parties and others to **contribute to the special trust fund** for the Convention, to enable the implementation of the capacity-building activities described in the 2026–2027 programme of work and budget activity fact sheet for capacity-building and technical assistance;
- ❑ **Appreciate** the work of the Secretariat in developing and disseminating tools and training materials related to the implementation of Parties' obligations under the Convention;
- ❑ **Request** the Secretariat to continue to provide **capacity-building and technical assistance support** to Parties pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article 14, in cooperation with the Global Mercury Partnership.



Item 4(l): Mercury and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Item 4(I): Mercury and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

- ❖ 6/20: Road map for enhancing co-benefits from implementation of the Minamata Convention and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
- ❖ INF/27: Technical document on integrating action to reduce mercury pollution from ASGM into NBSAPs aligned with the KMGBF (funded by the Netherlands)
- ❖ INF/41: Key CBD decisions relevant to the Minamata Convention

6/20: Road map for enhancing co-benefits from implementation of the Minamata Convention and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

- Includes an **overview of activities** undertaken in response to decision MC-5/17 and **the proposed roadmap**
- **Key pillars of the roadmap** include:
 - **Contribution to the monitoring framework** of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;
 - Inclusion of **mercury reduction actions and targets** in national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national biodiversity targets;
 - Creation of an **enabling environment** for enhanced co-benefits;
 - **Indicators for measuring progress** in implementing the road map.

Item 4(I): Mercury and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (cont.)

- ❖ 6/20: Road map for enhancing co-benefits from implementation of the Minamata Convention and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
- ❖ INF/27: Technical document on integrating action to reduce mercury pollution from ASGM into NBSAPs aligned with the KMGBF
- ❖ INF/41: Key CBD decisions relevant to the Minamata Convention

INF/27: Technical document on integrating action to reduce mercury pollution from artisanal and small-scale gold mining into national biodiversity strategies and action plans aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (funded by the Netherlands)

INF/41: Key decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity relevant to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

- Annex I provides a list of key decisions from COP-15 and COP-16 to the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- Annex II provides resources to support parties in integrating mercury reduction actions into their national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs).

Suggested action for the COP



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in the **annex to document 6/20** and adopt a decision on the road map for enhancing co-benefits.

The COP may wish to:

- ❑ **Welcome** the **road map** for enhancing co-benefits from implementation of the Minamata Convention and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework by 2030, prepared by the Secretariat;
- ❑ **Encourage** Parties, and **invite** other Governments and local and subnational governments, as well as Indigenous Peoples, local communities and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and academia, women, children and youth, as appropriate, to **undertake the actions** suggested in the road map;
- ❑ **Encourage** Parties, and invites other Governments that have submitted notifications pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article 7 on ASGM to use the **technical support document** on integrating action to reduce mercury pollution from ASGM into NBSAPs (**INF/27**);

Suggested action for the COP (cont.)



- ❑ **Welcome** the **decision of the CBD COP** to invite the IPBES to consider adding an assessment of pollution and biodiversity to its work programme, and **request** the Secretariat to initiate **cooperation with IPBES**;
- ❑ **Encourage** Parties to engage in the **Bern process** and actively promote cooperation and policy coherence among MEAs at the national level;
- ❑ **Request** the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to contribute to the implementation of the road map and to continue its engagement in the Bern process, in collaboration with UNEP and other MEAs.

Questions and Answers





Logistics preparations for COP-6

Calendar until COP-6

July/August

7 Jul: Registration opens (invitations sent)

25 Jul: Deadline for application of online events, knowledge labs and exhibition booths

26-27 Aug: COP-6 Documents Briefing Sessions (online)

September

COP-6 Documents on the website

5 Sept: Deadline for registration of sponsored delegates

3-4 Sept: GRULAC regional meeting (Santiago, Chile)

9-10 Sept: Information sessions on supply sources and trade, and ASGM (online)

16-17 Sept: Eastern European States regional meeting (Geneva, Switzerland)

23-24 Sept: Asia-Pacific regional meeting (Bangkok, Thailand)

30 Sept: Info session on budget (online, for Parties only)

October/November

7-9 Oct: Africa regional meeting (**NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE: Nairobi, Kenya**)

13-17 Oct: pre-COP-6 Online Events Week

24 Oct: Deadline for registration (Non-sponsored delegates)

2 Nov: COP-6 Bureau meeting and regional meetings, in Geneva

COP-6 regional preparatory meetings are funded by Switzerland

COP-6

3-7 November
Geneva, CIGC



COP-6 President
Osvaldo Álvarez
(Chile)

Minamata Online

MINAMATA ONLINE

TOWARDS COP-6

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

TUESDAY 26 AUGUST

13H00-14H30

Briefing sessions on COP-6 documents:
Day 1

WEDNESDAY 27 AUGUST

13H00-14H30

Briefing sessions on COP-6 documents:
Day 2

TUESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

13H00-14H30

Mercury supply sources and trade (COP preparation)

WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER

13H00-14H30

Information session on ASGM (COP preparation)

WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

13H00-14H30

Programme of work and budget for 2026-2027 (Parties Only, COP Preparation)



*Tentative calendar. Geneva time.
Last update: 26 August 2025*

**SAVE THE DATE
AND REGISTER**



Overview of Sunday 2 November at CICG

Time	Event
10:00	Opening of registration
10:00 – 13:00	COP-6 Bureau meeting
13:00 – 14:30	Secretariat briefing with focus on the financial mechanism
14:30 – 17:30	Regional meetings

Special Events organized by the Secretariat

Sunday 2 November 17:30 – 20:00 (open to the public)

From Science to Action: Protecting the Amazon from Mercury Pollution

Monday 3 November 13:15 – 14:30 (with High-level participants)

Driving Effective and Inclusive Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Other COP-6 Event Highlights



1. **Pre-COP-6 Online Events (13–17 October):** An informal platform for Parties and observers to share knowledge on technology, research, and policy ahead of COP-6.
2. **Knowledge Lab Sessions:** 45-minute interactive sessions during COP-6 for showcasing technical, policy and awareness-raising work on mercury, and engaging with COP-6 participants in an open-space format.
3. **Exhibition Booths:** Available throughout COP-6 at the Conference Centre to display initiatives and for exhibitors to connect with COP-6 participants.

Updates to the COP-6 events will be posted at:
minamataconvention.org/en/meetings/cop6

Health Break (30 minutes)





CLOSE SESSION

Parties Only



Wrap up DAY 1



Summary of DAY 1 and introduction to DAY 2

Overview of the programme for the regional meeting – DAY 2

DAY 2: Wednesday, 17 September

9.00 – 9.15	COP-6 agenda item 7: Venue and dates for COP-7	Open to Secretariat and Observers
9:15 – 9:30	Any other business - Montenegro - “Phasing out mercury measuring devices in healthcare”	Open to Secretariat and Observers
9.30 – 11:00	Special training session for Parties and Observers: - Key institutions of the Minamata Convention and mechanics of the Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings - Preparing for COP-6 Negotiating Effectively in a Contact Group	Open to Secretariat and Observers

11:00 – 11:30 *COFFEE/TEA BREAK (30 minutes)*

11:30 – 12.45	COP-6 agenda item 5: International cooperation and coordination (i) Updates from the Chemicals and Waste Cluster, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions• UNEP Global Mercury Partnership• Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC)• Science-policy panel on chemicals, waste and pollution prevention (SPP) (ii) Other relevant updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• World Health Organization (WHO)	Open to Secretariat and Observers
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Item 5. Closure of the meeting

12:45 – 13.00 **Conclusions and closure of the meeting**

END OF THE REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING



Item 7: Venue and dates of COP-7

Item 7: Venue and dates of COP-7

❖ 6/24: Venue and dates of COP-7



- Meetings of COP shall take place **at the seat of the Secretariat**, unless the COP decides otherwise.
- The Secretariat invited Parties to submit **offers to host** COP-7 for consideration during COP-6.
 - As at 26 August 2025, no such offer was received.
 - In case no offers to host the meeting are received, the Secretariat has tentatively booked the **International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG)** for the period from 14 to 18 June 2027, with preparatory meetings on 13 June.
 - Efforts are being made to see if alternative dates can be booked.
- In the run-up to meetings of the COP, the Secretariat has encountered challenges in organizing all regional preparatory meetings within the deadline for distribution of documents established by rule 11 of the RoP (six-week period before the COP).
- Specific arrangements could be made regarding the inclusion of a **high-level segment** at COP-7 or at another opportunity.

Suggested action for the COP



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in **document 6/24** and adopt a decision on the venue and dates of COP-7.

The COP may wish to:

- Decide** the **dates and venue for COP-7**;
- Request** the Executive Secretary, in order to assist Parties in their preparations, to support, subject to the availability of resources, **regional meetings**;
- Invite** the Executive Secretary, in order to further assist Parties and regions in their preparations, to distribute the **provisional agenda**, together with supporting documents, to the Parties, in the official languages of the COP, at least eight weeks before the opening of future COP meetings;
- Invite** Parties to submit **offers to host COP-8**, preferably at least three months before the opening of COP-7.

Are there specific questions on the documents prepared for Agenda Item 7?

Questions and Answers





Any other business

Montenegro

**“Phasing out mercury
measuring devices in
healthcare”**



Special session: Co-chair and negotiators' training

Key Institutions for the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Facilitated by Lara Ognibene, Legal Officer
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Preparing for COP-6: Negotiating Effectively in a Contact Group

Facilitated by Claudia Dumitru, COP-5 President,
COP-6 Bureau member, Co-chair of the EES regional meeting



TRAINING MANUAL FOR CHAIRS OF MEETINGS FOR THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

August 2025 | <https://bit.ly/MCChairsManual>

This training manual provides Chairs of meetings for the Minamata Convention on Mercury with the framework of the training programme for potential Chairs and Presidents.

Available in English only.



Funded by
Germany

Health Break (30 minutes)





Item 5: International cooperation and coordination

Item 5: International cooperation and coordination

- ❖ 6/21: International cooperation and coordination
- ❖ 6/22: Cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the Minamata Convention and of the BRS conventions

6/21: International cooperation and coordination

- Detailed information on **activities undertaken** to cooperate and coordinate with other entities is available in document **INF/28** (covers the period December 2023 – June 2025).
- A number of **INF documents are available from various partners**, providing detailed information on cooperation and coordination.
- Includes a **draft decision** on international cooperation and coordination.

6/22: Cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

- Recognizes that the **sharing of services** will enhance cooperation and coordination based on experience and proximity and can foster the effective implementation of the Minamata Convention.
- Includes a **draft decision** on cooperation and coordination between Minamata and BRS secretariats.

Item 5: International cooperation and coordination

- ❖ INF/28: Activities undertaken by the Minamata Convention Secretariat
- ❖ INF/29: Cooperation and coordination between the Minamata Convention and BRS Conventions Secretariats
- ❖ INF/30: Report by UNEP Executive Director
- ❖ INF/31: Report by WHO and ILO
- ❖ INF/32: Report on mercury activities
- ❖ INF/33: Report on activities of the Global Mercury Partnership
- ❖ INF/34: Report by the Global Framework on Chemicals
- ❖ INF/35: Report by the Secretariat of the Ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel

INF/28: Information on activities undertaken by the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention to cooperate and coordinate with other entities: February 2024 to June 2025.

INF/29: Cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the Minamata Convention and of the BRS conventions: joint report of past activities and framework for cooperation on planned activities.

INF/30: Report by the UNEP Executive Director to COP-6.

INF/31: Report by World Health Organisation and International Labour Organisation.

INF/32: Report on the mercury-related activities of relevant international bodies.

INF/33: Report on activities undertaken within the Global Mercury Partnership of UNEP.

INF/34: Report by the Global Framework on Chemicals.

INF/35: Report by the Secretariat of the Ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel on chemicals, waste and pollution prevention.

Suggested action for the COP (6/21)



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in the **annex to document 6/21** and adopt a decision on international cooperation and coordination.

The COP may wish to:

- Welcome** the adoption by **UNEA-6** of **resolutions** on matters related to **international cooperation and coordination** and **request** the Secretariat to contribute to their implementation, as appropriate;
- Welcome** the establishment of the **Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel** on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution, **express** its interest in **establishing a partnership with the Panel** to advance the work of reaching the objective of the Minamata Convention, and **request** the Secretariat to cooperate with the secretariat of the Panel and **seek observer status** in the plenary of the Panel;
- Request** the Secretariat to conduct, subject to availability of resources, a scoping study on **possible areas for strengthening the science-policy interface** to advance implementation of the Convention, for consideration by COP-7;

Suggested action for the COP(cont.)



- ❑ **Welcome** the proposal for activities that provide mutual support to the implementation of the Minamata Convention and the **Global Framework on Chemicals**, and **request** the Secretariat to carry out those activities and continue and further enhance cooperation and coordination with the secretariat of the Global Framework on Chemicals;
- ❑ **Request** the Executive Secretary to take steps for membership and participation of the Secretariat in the **IOMC** and **invite** the Secretariat to continue to work in close cooperation with the IOMC;
- ❑ **Request** the Secretariat to **continue cooperation and coordination** with the Global Mercury Partnership, the CBD, the UNFCCC, the UNCCD, the IAEA and the UN Children’s Fund on issues of common interest, and with other international bodies in areas of relevance to the Minamata Convention;
- ❑ **Request** the Secretariat to report on the implementation of this decision to **COP-7**.

Suggested action for the COP (6/22)



The COP may wish to consider the **draft decision** contained in the **annex to document 6/22** and adopt a decision on **cooperation and coordination with the BRS secretariat**.

The COP may wish to:

- ❑ **Take note** of the **joint report on cooperation and coordination** between the secretariats of the Minamata Convention and of the BRS conventions, and of the outline of cooperation activities planned between the two secretariats for the biennium 2026–2027;
- ❑ **Reaffirm** the importance of **continued cooperation** on programmatic synergies, of the use of the task force between the two secretariats and UNEP Chemicals and Health Branch, and of the possibility for the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention to provide secretariat support to the BRS conventions on a cost recovery basis;
- ❑ **Welcome** the cooperation between the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention and the Secretariat of the BRS conventions regarding the **training of potential chairs and negotiators** for meetings of bodies, and requests the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention, subject to the availability of resources, to continue contributing to the implementation of such training;

Suggested action for the COP (cont.)



- ❑ **Request** the Executive Secretary:
 - To continue, with the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention and under the overall steering of the task force, as appropriate, to cooperate on **relevant administrative, programmatic, scientific and technical, and technical assistance matters**, in accordance with the programme of work and budget, and to explore ways of further strengthening cooperation and collaboration with the BRS conventions;
 - To continue to implement the **sharing of services and of the purchase of relevant services** with the secretariat of the BRS conventions on a cost recovery basis, as appropriate and in accordance with the programme of work and budget for each biennium;
 - To report on the **implementation of the present decision**, including on a stable framework for cooperation and for the sharing of services, providing an outline of the cooperation activities planned under such a framework for the biennium 2028–2029, for the consideration of and, as necessary, further guidance by the COP at its next meeting.

COP-6 agenda item 5: International cooperation and coordination

- (i) **Updates from the Chemicals and Waste Cluster, including:**
 - ▶ Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
 - ▶ UNEP Global Mercury Partnership
 - ▶ Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC)
 - ▶ Science-policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (SPP)
- (ii) **Other relevant updates:**
 - ▶ Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
 - ▶ World Health Organization (WHO)
 - ▶ Escazú Agreement





Updates from the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Regional preparatory meeting for the sixth meeting of the Conference of
the Parties to the Minamata Convention

2025 BRS COPs Highlights

- 28 April-9 May 2025, in Geneva
- 2,200+ participants, representing 182 Parties and 205 observer entities
- “Make Visible the Invisible: Sound management of chemicals and wastes”
- 55 decisions adopted, incl. 8 joint decisions, advancing the sound management of chemicals and wastes
- High-level segment with 80 ministers and other high-level representatives



2025 BRS COPs decisions and outcomes relevant to the Minamata Convention

Joint issues

- BC-17/22, RC-12/9, SC-12/23: Cooperation and coordination with the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- BC-17/18, RC-12/7, SC-12/16: Technical Assistance
- BC-17/24, RC-12/11, SC-12/25: Clearing-house mechanism for information exchange

Rotterdam Convention COP-12

- Para. 87 of the meeting report (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.12/28): Given the lack of consensus on the inclusion of mercury under the industrial category in Annex III to the Convention, COP-12 decided to defer further consideration of mercury to COP-13

Basel Convention COP-17

- BC-17/7: Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds
- BC-17/14: Committee Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance

Stockholm Convention COP-12

- SC-12/8: Operation of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee
- SC-12/21: Global monitoring plan for effectiveness evaluation

BC-17/22, RC-12/9, SC-12/23: Cooperation and coordination with the Minamata Convention on Mercury

- COPs took note of the joint report on the cooperation undertaken in 2023-2024 and the outline of cooperation planned in 2026-2027
- COPs requested the Executive Secretary:
 - To continue to cooperate with the Minamata Convention secretariat on relevant matters and to explore ways to further strengthen cooperation and collaboration
 - To continue to implement shared services and purchase of services, on a cost recovery basis, in accordance with POW/ budget
 - To report on decision implementation, incl. a stable framework for cooperation, providing an outline of planned activities for consideration by 2027 COPs.

Similar requests to those made by the 2023 and 2022 BRS COPs and the Minamata Convention COP-5 and COP-4

Updated report & outline submitted to Minamata COP-6 with similar draft decision

BC-17/18, RC-12/7, SC-12/16: Technical Assistance

- BRS COPs requested the Secretariat to implement the technical assistance plan for the implementation of the BRS conventions for 2026-2029, in accordance with 2025 COPs decisions/budgets/POWs

VI. Outcomes, outputs and indicators

A. Basel Convention

1. ...

2. **Outcome: Strengthened capacities of Parties for the environmentally sound management of hazardous and other wastes, including prevention and minimization**

(a) Outputs

- (i) Environmentally sound management of specific waste streams, such as e-waste, POPs waste, waste batteries, mercury waste, plastic waste, or other hazardous wastes, is enhanced at the national level through strategies, legislation, technical norms and practical standards, as well as best practices for minimization, recycling, recovery and final disposal.

BC-17/24, RC-12/11 and SC-12/25: Clearing-house mechanism for information exchange

- BRS COPs requested the Secretariat to continue its cooperation with the secretariat of the Minamata Convention to exchange information and share experiences and best practices regarding the use of existing clearing-house mechanism systems

Decision BC-17/7: Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds

BC COP-17:

- Decided to update the technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds in order to reflect adjustments consequential to the establishment of the threshold for mercury wastes falling under subparagraph 2 (c) of article 11 of the Minamata Convention, in accordance with decision MC-5/10;
- Requested the Secretariat to prepare, in cooperation with the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, draft updated technical guidelines, for consideration by OEWG-15 and by COP-18.

Decision BC-17/14: Committee Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance

- BC COP-17 adopted the work programme for 2026-2027, which mandates the ICC, under the objective of preventing and punishing illegal traffic:
 - To undertake a scoping exercise of cases of illegal traffic for 2022 and 2023 including:
 - i) number of cases;
 - ii) which wastes those cases involved (incl. regionally based information and identifying wastes covered by the Montreal Protocol and mercury wastes);
 - iii) in which regions those cases occurred;
 - iv) how they were resolved; make recommendations to COP-18 based on the outcome of the scoping exercise; previous scoping exercises, and relevant information from the secretariats of the Montreal Protocol and the Minamata Convention and from the UNODC, WCO and INTERPOL.
 - To continue the dialogue and coordination with BCRCs, relevant international organizations and cooperate with compliance bodies of other MEAs on their activities aimed at supporting Parties in preventing and punishing illegal traffic

Decision BC-17/14: Committee Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance (cont.)

- BC COP-17 also adopted recommendations from the ICC relevant to the Minamata Convention, including:
 - Encouraging Parties, in order to maximize resources and benefits from existing financial mechanisms under other relevant MEAs, to institutionalize information exchange and coordination at the national level between focal points and the entities responsible for the implementation of those related agreements, for instance the Minamata Convention, in the context of the development and implementation of projects, notably by including as deliverables information that can feed into the transmission of national reports (e.g. inventory) or that strengthens the legislative implementation of the Basel Convention;
 - Acknowledging the importance for financial mechanisms under other MEAs and implementing agencies to embed waste-stream support (e.g. in relation to mercury) in broader legislative and programmatic support for the implementation of the Convention.

SC-12/8: Operation of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee

- SC COP-12 welcomed the report on options for identifying POPs in stockpiles, products and articles in use and in wastes
- SC COP-12 decided to maintain cooperation and coordination with the Basel Convention, the Rotterdam Convention, the GFC, the Minamata Convention, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, the Montreal Protocol and other relevant forums for identifying POPs in stockpiles, products and articles in use and in wastes, and invites them to consider the outcomes and information contained in the report;

SC-12/21: Global monitoring plan for effectiveness evaluation

SC COP-12 encouraged Parties to [...] engage actively in the implementation of the global monitoring plan and the effectiveness evaluation, in particular, [...] to facilitate cooperation with relevant regional monitoring programmes and efforts under other MEAs, such as the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Convention on Biological Diversity;

Cooperation and coordination activities

Cooperation areas	Activities undertaken	Outline of planned activities in 2026-2027
Technical assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA materials and webinars on mercury wastes • Regional centres • Chairs' training • ACP MEA Programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional centres • Chairs' training • ACP MEA Programme
Mercury wastes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up to MC-5/10 • Global Mercury Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up to decision BC-17/7 on technical guidelines on mercury wastes • Follow up to possible MC COP-6 decision on mercury waste • Global Mercury Partnership
Financial resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination on procedures related to SC/MC financial mechanisms • Joint discussions with GEF secretariat • Special Programme, incl. through internal task team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of activities, with a focus on GEF-9 replenishment
Implementation and compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MC secretariat and ICC Chair participated in a dialogue on illegal traffic convened by BC ICC • BRS participated in MC ICC-7 to share information on BC trade provisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up to decision BC-17/14 on ICC and work programme on illegal traffic • Continued cooperation with other compliance committees (RC and SC CCs)
Trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up to decision MC-5/2 on mercury supply sources and trade • Information sharing on CRC recommendation to list mercury in Annex III as industrial chemical; and DGD preparation. No consensus reached at RC COP-12. Further consideration deferred to COP-13. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up to possible MC COP-6 decision on mercury supply sources and trade

Cooperation and coordination activities (cont.)

Cooperation areas	Activities undertaken	Outline of planned activities in 2026-2027
Effectiveness evaluation and global monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing on SC GMP during Open-ended Scientific Group in the context of MC effectiveness evaluation Support the development of the Global Chemicals Monitoring Programme (GEF project) supporting SC and MC monitoring activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of activities and participation in the Stockholm Convention GMP expert group and the Minamata Convention OESG Support the implementation of the Global Chemicals Monitoring Programme (GEF Project)
Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous exchange of information and sharing of best practices, in context of respective gender action plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of activities
Outreach and communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint activities/events to highlight the conventions' contributions to broader environmental agendas (e.g. webinars on contributions to KMGBF, participation in SBSTTA & CBD COP meetings and processes) Joint chemicals and waste negotiators briefings Briefings to respective regional preparatory meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow-up to relevant 2025 BRS and MC COP decisions on international cooperation activities as they offer opportunities for cooperation (e.g. GFC, CBD, UNFCCC) Continuation of other activities
Knowledge management & IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through InforMEA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of activities
Sharing and purchase of services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At 2025 BRS COPs and MC COP-6, e.g. BRS provides secretariat support to MC COP-6 in the areas of: IT support, document management, meeting report, contact group support, registration, travel support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of sharing and purchase of services on cost recovery basis and in line with POWs

Thank you for your attention!

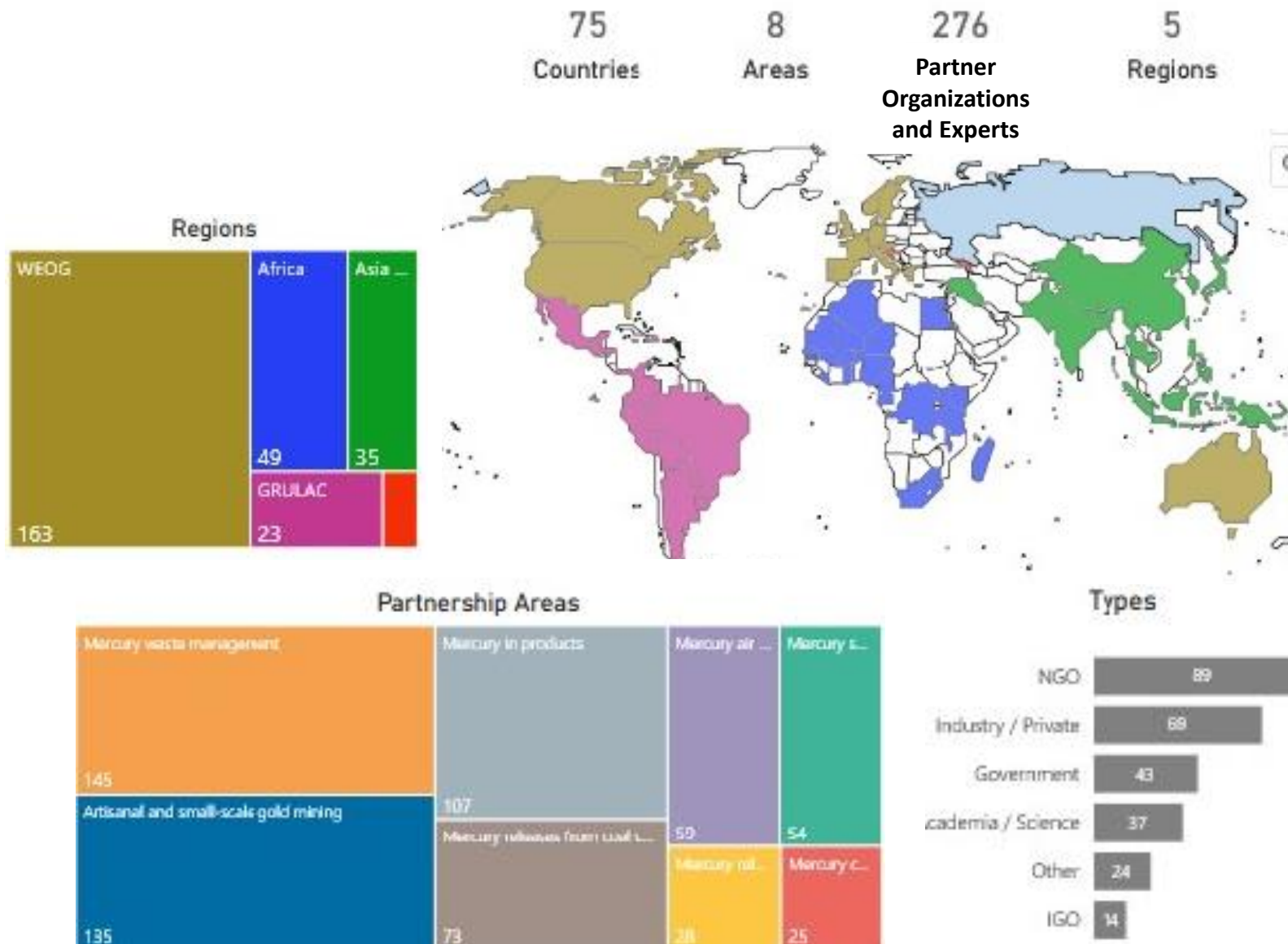


Celebrating **20 Years** of Collective Impact to Eliminate Mercury Pollution

Secretariat of the Global Mercury Partnership

September 2025

Who we are



Sectoral expertise

- Extractive sector
- Energy sector
- Cosmetic sector
- Industrial processes
- Healthcare sector
- Electronics



Intersessional work

Decision MC 5/5 on cosmetics

Submitted inputs and reviewed the draft report on challenges related to preventing the manufacture, import, and export of cosmetics listed in Part I of Annex A to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Decision MC 5/7 on ASGM

In collaboration with the Minamata Convention Secretariat, developed draft supplemental guidance for the review of the implementation of Article 7

Decision MC 5/12 on capacity- building, technical assistance and technology transfer

Contributed to the case studies.

Effectiveness Evaluation Group under the Minamata Convention

Active engagement of the Partnership's members

Recent examples of success

Global knowledge management

curating and publishing additional knowledge hubs on key topics, including:

- mercury in cosmetics,
- dental amalgam,
- mercury-containing medical devices, the coal sector,
- and the links between artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) and biodiversity

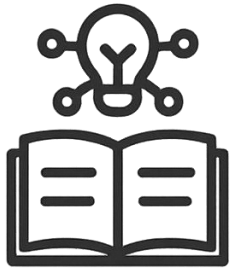
Building momentum and resource mobilization

Partnership was instrumental in generating growing political momentum and resource mobilization to address mercury in cosmetics, resulting in:

- **Libreville Commitment**
- **15 million GEF-funded project** in 13 countries in Africa



Driving expertise - core functions



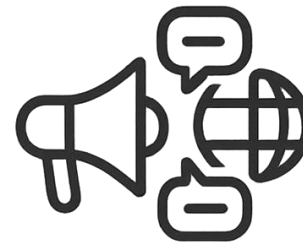
**Knowledge
Management**

→ Knowledge hubs,
dashboards,
webinars.



**Multi-stakeholder
Platforms**

→ e.g., Partnership
Areas, and
community of
practice on skin
lightening.



**Global
Communication**

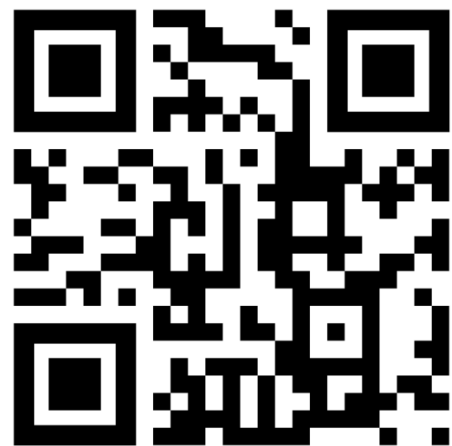
→ e.g., Webinars,
and communication
campaigns.



Adaptability

→ To address
emerging issues, e.g.
oil and gas working
group.

Knowledge management



→ Knowledge hubs
and Community of
Practice.

→ Link to **Minamata
Focus Areas Topic.**

- Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM)



Artisanal and small-scale gold
mining and biodiversity



National Action Plans



planetGOLD Programme

- Mercury releases from coal combustion

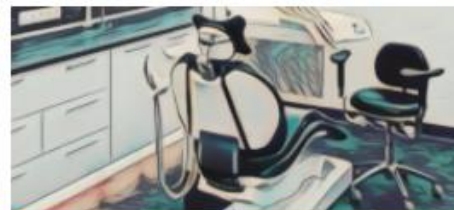


Emissions reduction scenarios
from the coal sector

- Mercury in products



Eliminating Mercury Skin
Lightening Products



Phasing-down the Use of Dental
Amalgam



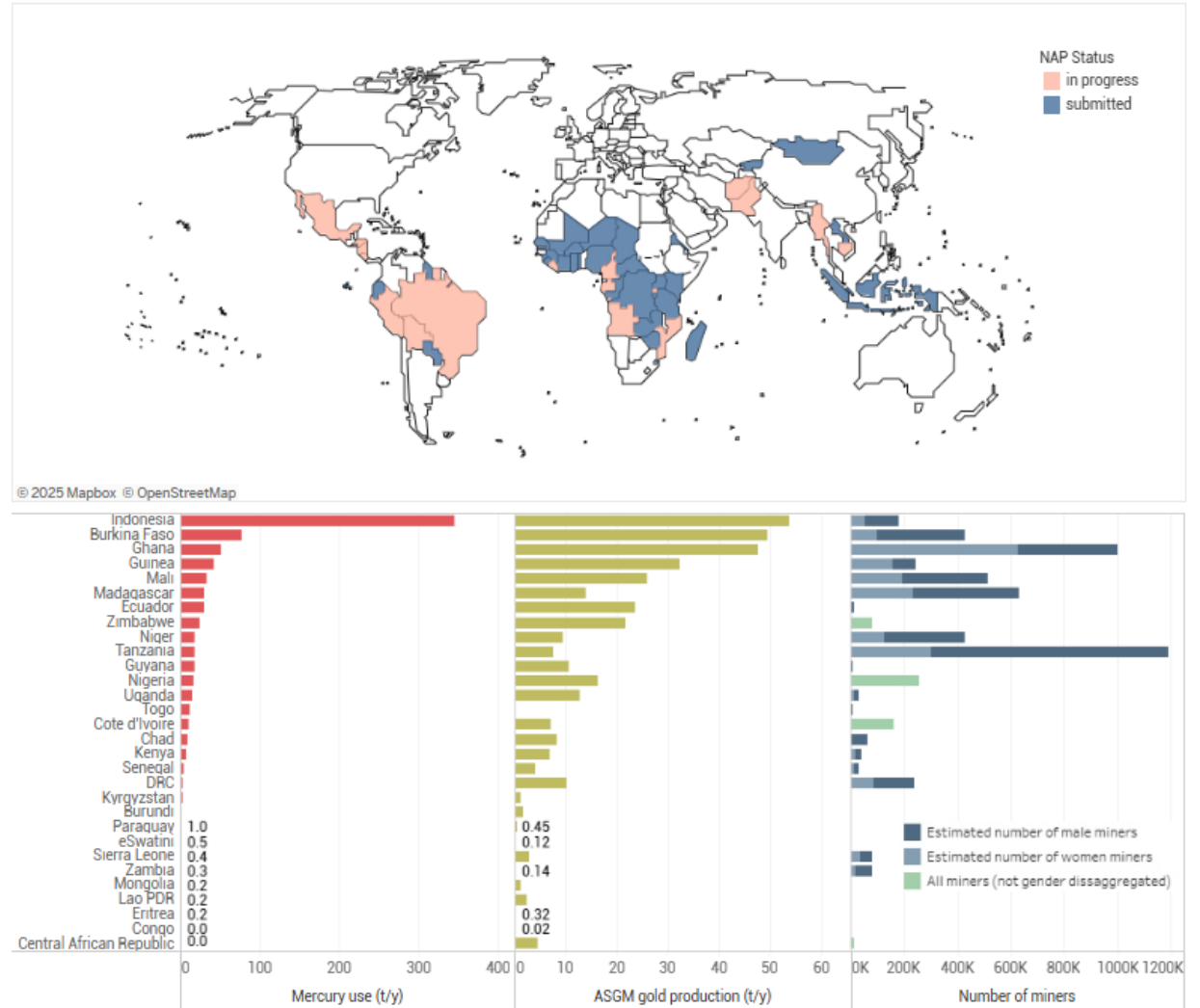
Mercury Containing Medical
Measuring Devices

Knowledge management



Dynamic dashboards for
NAP data

ASGM National Action Plans - Key baseline figures



Multi-stakeholder platform

Eliminating Mercury Skin Lightening Products project stakeholder group

- Virtual gathering twice a year
- Over 110 members
- Secretariat: UNEP GMP

Next meeting **18 September 2025**



Global communication - events



Events

(webinars, COP side events,
workshops, etc.)

WORKSHOP

Multi-country meeting on Enhancing Monitoring of Trade and Elimination of Mercury Skin Lightening Products

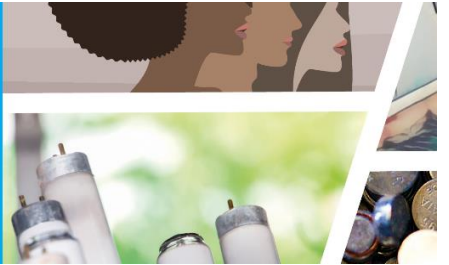
5 - 6 June 2025
Colombo, Sri Lanka



UNEP EVENT

Mercury in products: Integrated approaches and innovative tools for a sustainable waste management - BRS COPs 2025 side event

7 May 2025
Online and in Geneva, Switzerland



WORKSHOP

Information exchange on phasing out fluorescent lamps under the Minamata Convention on Mercury - Workshop

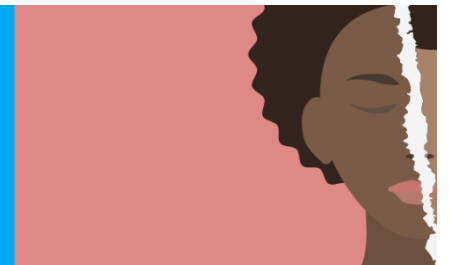
21 March 2025
Lusaka, Zambia



UNEP EVENT

Third meeting of the Eliminating Mercury Skin Lightening Products project stakeholders group

30 January 2025
Online, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm (GMT+1)



Global communication



**Detoxifying
cosmetics and
beauty ideals**
Global campaign 2025



Emerging priorities

Creation of thematic working groups

- 1 or 2 coordinators/focal points
- Address specific thematic
- Expert consultations - Data and information sharing
- Based on study reports, pilot WG:
 - Hg from oil and gas and
 - Hg from non-ferrous metals mining and smelting
- Communities of practice and Thematic knowledge hubs



Transitioning toward soft membership

- **Ease** of registration process
- More **flexibility** to be involved in several areas
- Better understanding and mapping of the partner's profile for **enhanced coordination** from the Secretariat
- More **adaptability** of the Partnership and partners to tackle future emerging priorities and thematic

● Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM)	27	● Knowledge sharing	49
● Mercury releases from coal combustion	8	● Technical capacity / Service provider	37
● Mercury cell chlor-alkali production	6	● Identifying national needs and priorities	36
● Mercury in products	21	● Other	3
● Mercury air transport and fate research	10		
● Mercury waste management	25		
● Mercury supply and storage	12		
● Mercury releases from the cement industry	4		
● Mercury in oil and gas	10		
● Mercury in non-ferrous metals	6		
● Mercury trade	7		
● Mercury and biodiversity	15		
● Mercury and climate change	12		
● Mercury and gender, youth and indigenous people	13		
● Mercury and health	24		
● Mercury contaminated sites	18		
● Other	11		

online registration form



Newsletter and E-mailings

In this new edition, learn more about recent and upcoming events, latest mercury-related publications and initiatives, including interactive tools and meet our new members. Good reading!

The Secretariat of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

HIGHLIGHTS



The 12th meeting of the Partnership Advisory Group on 11 and 14 March 2022 saw attendance of close to 100 participants to exchange on recent activities by Partnership Areas, key findings and next steps of the work on mercury from oil and gas and non-ferrous metals, as well as future priorities, including with respect to mercury flows and its impacts on biodiversity. More info [here](#).



Minamata COP-4 (Bali, 21-25 March 2022) closed with global commitment on effectiveness evaluation, new products for phase-out and gender mainstreaming. COP-4.2 also adopted updated guidance on ASGM national action plans, now also covering tailings management. See [meeting report](#) and [call for information](#) in follow up to COP-4.2 decisions.



Basel Convention COP-15 (Geneva, June 2022) adopted updated Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds. [Read more](#) about COP outcomes. The updated guidelines



In March 2022, the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership aims to protect human health and the environment from the release of mercury to air, water and land.

With over 200 partners from governments, civil society, industry and academia, the Partnership focuses on supporting policy and practice implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, promoting areas of the art, knowledge and science and sharing experiences to reach global action on mercury.

Learn more:

Become a Partner | Report to our newsletter

Latest highlights



Mercury waste management Partnership Area - September 2022 Meeting

Study report on Mercury from Non-ferrous Metals Mining and Smelting



The Mercury air transport and fate research Area will meet on **29 June 2022, from 9:00 - 11:00 AM (EST)** in an online setting. More information available on the [event page](#).



A webinar 'Strengthening mercury research capacity in developing countries for science-based policy making' organized by the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention will be held on **30 June from 2:00 to 3:00 pm CEST**. The event will introduce ongoing activities implemented by UNEP to assist scientists, researchers and policy makers.



The 15th International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant (ICMGP) 'Reducing Mercury Emissions to achieve a Greener World' will be held virtually from **25 to 29 July 2022**. View programme for the [Conference](#) and [preceding workshops \(18 to 22 July\)](#).



OECD Global Forum on Environment dedicated to Mercury on **7 and 8 November 2022** will focus on 'Working towards the elimination of mercury while reducing its harmful impacts on human health and the environment'. Event will be hybrid, with both in-person and online attendance options. Further details on the [event page](#).



Listen to [Monika Stankiewicz](#), Minamata Convention Executive Secretary, on the occasion of the International Day for Biological Diversity on the importance of mercury pollution on global biodiversity loss, and read [exploratory study](#) on the interlinkages between the chemicals and waste MEAs and biodiversity.



Read WHO March 2022 first briefing note on oral health focusing on [Prevention and treatment of dental caries with mercury-free products and minimal intervention](#) and [2021 Report on the informal global WHO consultation with policymakers in dental public health](#).



Check out UNITAR's latest tools, guidelines and online courses on [waste management and circular economy](#), [sound management of chemicals and wastes](#) and [fundamentals on the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata conventions](#).

[VIEW ALL PUBLICATIONS >>](#)

READ MORE ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP AREAS

Artisanal and small-scale gold mining

Mercury releases from coal combustion

Mercury air transport and fate

Opportunity to raise awareness and feature highlights by Partnership areas and partners, events, resources, etc.

Subscribe: <https://mdirector-pages.com/global-mercury-partnership-newsletter-subscribe>

Website: [Home | Global Mercury Partnership \(unep.org\)](https://www.unep.org/global-mercury-partnership)

Currently updating PAs webpages and Factsheets

Thank you

UNEP
GLOBAL
MERCURY
PARTNERSHIP



metals@un.org

The Global Framework on Chemicals: charting a path for a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste

Minamata EES Regional Meeting
17 September 2025

Eduardo CALDERA PETIT
Coordinator of the GFC Fund
Global Framework on Chemicals Secretariat, UNEP

Global Framework on Chemicals

For a Planet Free of Harm From Chemicals and Waste



5 Strategic Objectives



28 Targets



Multisectoral and multistakeholder

The Bonn Declaration

"We the ministers, heads of delegation, and stakeholder leaders, having gathered in Bonn, Germany, at the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5) to strengthen action to tackle the crisis of pollution from chemicals and waste..."

A Global Framework on Chemicals Fund

A UNEP-administered Global Framework on Chemicals Fund time-limited, that allow multilateral, bilateral and private sector sources was established

Why Does the Global Framework on Chemicals Matter?

Chemicals present in **95% of all manufactured goods**

More than **3,200 chemicals** found in plastics have one or more hazardous properties

Every 30 seconds, a **worker dies from chemical exposure** in the workplace

1 in 3 children have **dangerously high blood lead** levels

Global cost of lead exposure was US\$6 trillion in 2019, equivalent to almost 7% of GDP

Petro-chemical pollution **intractably linked with climate change** and biodiversity loss

40% of **insect species face extinction** risks due to chemical usage.

USD \$5 trillion industry, **projected to grow to USD 10 trillion** by 2030.



Multi-Sectoral & Multi-Stakeholder Approach of the Framework

Collaboration is Key:

- The Framework emphasizes partnerships between governments, NGOs, industries, and civil society.
- Encourages shared responsibility and joint initiatives for managing chemicals.
- Facilitates knowledge exchange and collective action.

Outcome:

- Stronger, more unified efforts to achieve a vision for a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste



High Level participants at the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM5) in Bonn, Germany, where the Global Framework on Chemicals was adopted.

5 Strategic Objectives

A

Legal frameworks, institutional mechanisms, and capacities are in place.

B

Comprehensive and sufficient knowledge, data, and information are generated, available, and accessible.

C

Issues of concern are identified, prioritized, and addressed.

D

Safer alternatives and innovative and sustainable solutions in product value chains are in place.

E

Enhanced implementation occurs through increased and effective resource mobilization, partnerships, cooperation, and capacity-building.



Framework Implementation Programmes

Sector Programmes underway: Textiles, Electronics, Healthcare & Building and Construction

Implementation Programmes may focus on:

- Developing integrated chemicals and waste management systems at national and regional levels.
- Incorporating chemicals and waste management best practices into industrial sectors.
- Embedding sustainable chemicals management into key decision-making processes.
- Addressing other issues of concern raised by current and future GFC stakeholders.



Meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG)

Punta del Este, Uruguay (24 June 2025 to 27 June 2025)

- First international meeting on the Global Framework on Chemicals
- Around 380 participants attended in person
- Representatives from governments, industry, labor, civil society, NGOs and youth
- In-person and virtual sessions
- Featured master classes, cross-cutting sessions, and side events
- Offered multi-stakeholder day, featuring sector-specific sessions in electronics, textiles, health care, and finance



Meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG)

Major Topics for Discussion

- Implementation Programmes: health, textiles electronics, building and construction
- Role of the **finance**, labour and health sectors
- The Gender Action Plan
- Capacity building- focal points
- The Global Alliance on Highly Hazardous Pesticides
- Measurability and indicators
- The Global Framework on Chemicals Fund
- Preparations for the next International Conference, scheduled for late 2026



How can Minamata support the GFC

The implementation of the Minamata convention can actively support the achievement of the GFC objectives. The respective objectives of the Minamata convention and the GFC are mutually reinforcing by nature. However, there are opportunities to enhance certain activities and undertake additional work to further improve the implementation of the Minamata convention and the GFC.

The following activities under the Minamata Convention can contribute to GFC targets:

- A) Activities related to technical assistance and capacity building**
- B) Partnerships to enhance international and national cooperation's efforts to prevent the illegal traffic**
- C) Training under the Minamata Convention**
- D) Joint communication, outreach and public awareness**
- E) Continue cooperation with the IOMC**



Activities and next steps

- Development of Terms of Reference for Implementation Programmes and initiating activities
- Assessing the existing **financial and investment flows** as well as the **cost of inaction**.
- Developing a robust measurability structure with indicators
- Creating a Gender Action Plan with achievable actions
- Growing the capacity of National Focal Points
- Identifying and taking action on interlinkages with biodiversity
- Launching GFC Fund's second round of applications
- Preparing for the next International Conference (Nov. 2026)





Global Framework
on Chemicals

**Thank you for your part in creating
a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste**

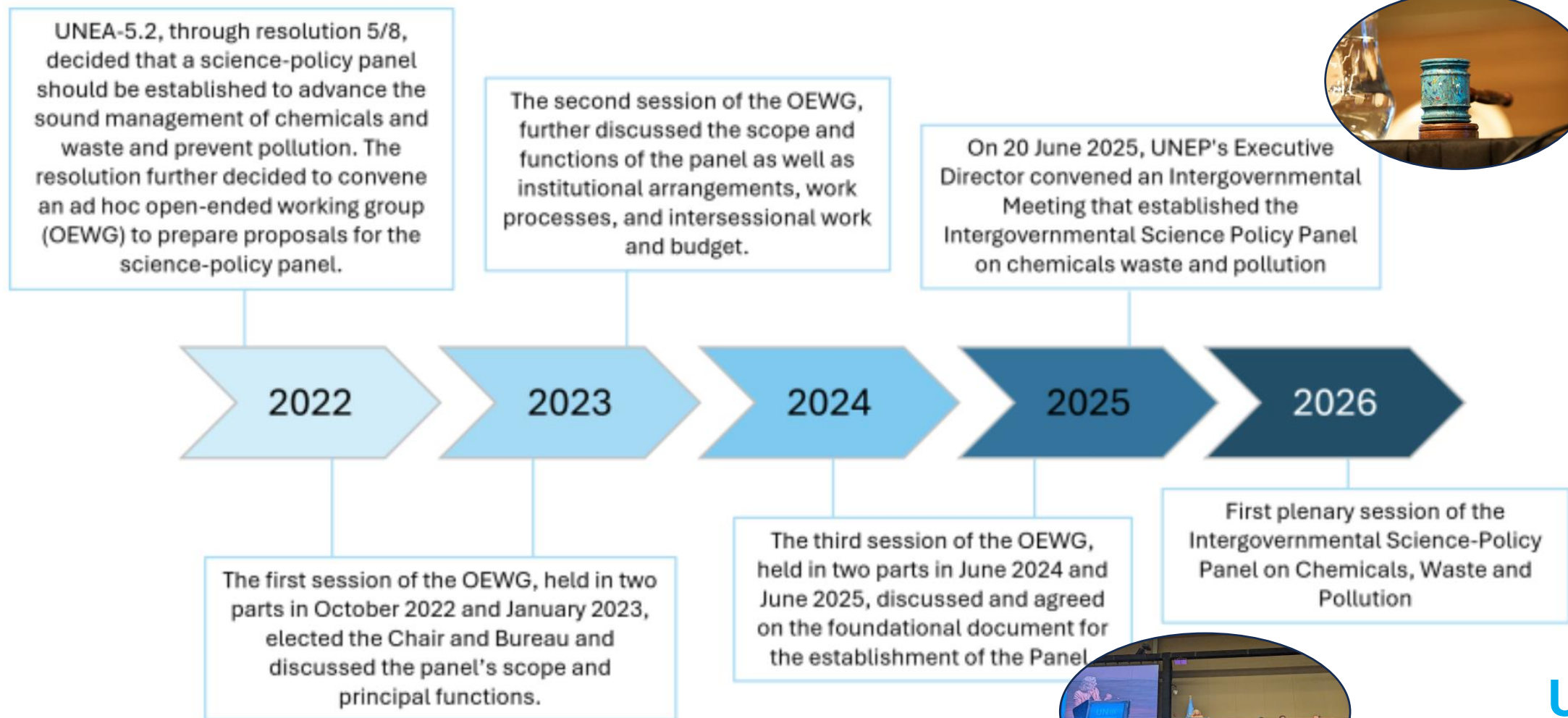
For more information on the Global Framework on Chemicals,
email the GFC Secretariat at unep-gfc.secretariat@un.org

<https://www.unep.org/global-framework-chemicals>

Intergovernmental Science-policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP-CWP)

Briefing to the Regional Preparatory Meeting for Minamata COP-6: Eastern European States
16 – 17 September 2025
Nalini Sharma

The Road to ISP-CWP



Objective and Functions of the Panel

- The objective of the Panel is to strengthen the science-policy interface to contribute to the sound management of chemicals and waste and pollution prevention [for the protection of human health and the environment], [without being policy prescriptive] with the following functions:
 - Undertaking horizon scanning
 - Conducting assessments
 - Providing up-to-date and relevant information
 - Facilitating information Sharing
 - Integrating capacity building

Institutional arrangements for the Panel

- **Plenary – the governing and decision-making body**
membership open to States Members of the UN and UN non-member observer states having expressed their intent to be a member of the Panel.
- **Bureau – administrative oversight and advice**
two members from each of the five United Nations regional groups and elected by the Plenary, selected for their expertise relevant to its functions.
- **Interdisciplinary Expert Committee (IEC) – scientific and technical oversight and advice**
experts from each of the five United Nations regional groups, with due regard to equitable geographical representation; nominated by regions and elected by the Plenary, taking into account the need to ensure the committee is interdisciplinary and inclusive.

Institutional arrangements for the Panel (cont')

- **Other subsidiary bodies**, e.g., to develop specific deliverables.
- **Secretariat**
At its first plenary session the Panel will secure secretariat services provided by UNEP. It would be hosted in a single location based on proposals by members.
- A **Trust Fund** will be established at the request of Plenary to:
 - be allocated by Plenary in an open and transparent manner;
 - collect voluntary contributions to support the Panel's work;
 - be governed by financial rules and procedures adopted by the Plenary.
- At its first session, the Plenary will decide on the **financial procedures**, including details on the modalities related to the financial arrangements
- At its first session, the Plenary will request the Secretariat to develop a proposal on establishing different types of **partnerships** to be considered by the Panel.

Other Relevant Key Elements of the Panel

- In line with its objective and functions, the Plenary—the Panel’s governing and decision-making body—may respond to submissions and requests for the work programme from the Minamata Convention, through its Conference of the Parties.
 - The Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention may wish to consider potential areas of work for the Panel that could support implementation of the Convention.
- The Panel may also establish partnerships, e.g., with the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention.

ISP-CWP: Next steps

- Interim Secretariat preparing the First Session of the Plenary to:
 - Elect Bureau members
 - Secure its secretariat services
 - Establish a Trust Fund and finalize financial procedures
 - Consider and adopt the Rules of Procedure
 - Further consider:
 - A process for determining the work programme
 - Procedures for the preparation and clearance of deliverables
 - A conflict-of-Interest policy

ISP-CWP: Opportunities for Engagement

- Visit Panel website www.unep.org/isp-cwp to:
 - Access the Foundational Document
 - Access information on designating National Focal Points
 - Access information on becoming a Panel member
 - Access the reports from OEWG 3.2 and IM
 - Sign up noting interest in learning about next steps in work of the Panel

Thank you

isp-cwp@un.org

Questions and Answers





Conclusion and closure of the meeting

Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

United Nations Environment Programme
11-13, Chemin des Anémones - 1219 Châtelaine, Switzerland

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