

**DRAFT: Report of the Asia Pacific regional preparatory meeting for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury**

**23 and 24 September 2025, Bangkok, Thailand**

## **1. Overview**

The Asia Pacific regional preparatory meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, was attended by a total of 59 participants. Among these, 38 participants represented 22 Parties in the region. The remaining 22 participants represented one party outside the region, one non-party, the Minamata Convention Secretariat, UN bodies and NGOs. A representative from the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) participated in person. The Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions, Global Framework in Chemicals (GFC), the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP-CWP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) participated online. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity made a recorded presentation.

The meeting was held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok, Thailand. Financial support for the organization of the meeting was generously provided by Switzerland.

The meeting was co-chaired by the COP-6 Bureau members from the Asia Pacific region: Ms. Aisha Humera Moriani (Pakistan) and Mr. Saeed A. Alzahrani (Saudi Arabia).

## **2. Proceedings**

The meeting was opened by the co-chairs, followed by opening remarks from the Secretariat and welcoming remarks by ROAP. The participants adopted the agenda of the meeting after hearing an overview of the provisional programme.

The Secretariat presented information on the organization of work at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-6), including the tentative schedule, credentials, the status of registration and travel for sponsored delegates, and logistical preparation for COP-6. The Secretariat informed that the relevant meeting documents for COP-6 were available on the Convention's website. This was followed by comprehensive briefings on matters for consideration or action by COP-6, covering all sub-items under agenda item 4, the programme of work and budget, and international cooperation.

On the second day of the meeting, Parties also had the opportunity to engage in regional consultations in a closed session to discuss the election of officers and the preparation of a regional statement.

A special pilot training session for Parties on the key institutions of the Minamata Convention, the mechanics of COP meetings, and negotiating effectively in a contact group was held, made possible through the financial support of Germany. Mr. Nawaf Bilasi (Saudi Arabia) moderated a session on effective negotiation.

On the second day during the discussion on COP-6 agenda item 4(1): Mercury and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, a representative from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity provided recorded presentation regarding collaboration with the Minamata Convention.

Under the agenda item on international cooperation and coordination, the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership, GFC, and ISP-CWP provided updates. The WHO was also invited to provide an update. A discussion took place on these matters, including questions and clarifications.

The Co-chairs and the Secretariat closed the meeting with brief concluding remarks.