

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER, ANIMAL
AND FISHERIES RESOURCES**

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

**GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF
ENVIRONMENT AND LIVING ENVIRONMENT**

**Directorate for the Prevention of Pollution, Environmental
Risks and Climate Change**

BURKINA FASO

Homeland or Death, we will prevail

**Information relating to difficulties encountered in
preventing the manufacture, import and export of cosmetic
products containing mercury, including law enforcement
difficulties, requested by the Convention Secretariat**

DGECV 2026

Burkina Faso, a Party to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, is encountering difficulties in complying with the obligations of the Minamata Convention, particularly with regard to cosmetic products containing mercury.

Indeed, no production or manufacturing facility for cosmetic products containing mercury exists on its national territory, however some cosmetic products containing mercury can be found on the market.

To address this situation, the government has adopted legislation to regulate this sector. This includes:

- ❖ of **Decree No. 2023-1337/PRES TRANS/PM/MEEA/MFPTPS/MATDS/MEFP/MARAH/MSHP/MDI CAPME/MEMC/MESRI/MUTMUSR of October 17, 2023, concerning the list of regulated chemical products or substances**, stipulates in Article 11 that "mercury and its derivatives listed in Annex A of the Minamata Convention of October 10, 2013, on mercury are intended for elimination and are no longer authorized, except in cases of exclusions specified by said Annex." Based on this decree, the import and export of mercury compounds are not authorized.
- ❖ Advertising Law (No. 080-2015/CNT): Prohibits the advertising of skin-lightening cosmetic products on all media, including social networks, due to health risks and to protect body image;

While the regulations do not explicitly mention cosmetic products containing mercury, it is on this basis that Burkina Faso regulates the production, manufacture, import and use of cosmetic products containing mercury.

The difficulties encountered by Burkina Faso in preventing the manufacture, import and export of cosmetic products containing mercury, including the enforcement of Burkina Faso law, stem from the following:

- due to the absence of lists of possession and lists of cosmetic products containing added mercury;
- the lack of analysis of cosmetic products that may contain mercury;
- of the insufficient supply of inputs for the analysis of cosmetic products in laboratories;
- the absence of a device (XFR) capable of detecting products containing mercury;
- the development of online product sales;
- trade in products.

All these aspects make control on the ground complex.