



**Conference of the Parties to the
Minamata Convention on Mercury
Fifth meeting**
Geneva, 30 October–3 November 2023

Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury at its fifth meeting

MC-5/2: Mercury supply sources and trade

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting with appreciation the information provided by parties in their first full national reports covering the period from entry into force of the Minamata Convention on Mercury until 31 December 2020, and the progress made by parties in meeting their obligations under article 3 of the Convention,

Welcoming in particular the progress made by parties in phasing out mercury use in chlor-alkali production ahead of the 2025 deadline set out in part I of annex B to the Convention,

Noting that, notwithstanding the progress made so far, parties expressed the need to receive additional support and assistance to strengthen the implementation of article 3,

1. *Recalls* that paragraphs 3 and 4 of article 3 require parties to control primary mercury mining, notes that parties in their reports have characterized primary mercury mining as “formal”, “informal” or “illegal”, and encourages parties to report on all primary mercury mining activities being carried out in their territories, irrespective of their status as formal, informal or illegal, in their next national reports;
2. *Encourages* parties that did not receive consent for all exports of mercury from the party’s territory to provide more information, if any, in their next national reports, including on measures taken to prevent exports which are not in compliance with the Convention;
3. *Encourages* parties to promote joint campaigns and training opportunities to strengthen the capacity of enforcement officers, including customs officers, to control mercury trade at the national level;
4. *Invites* 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, and requests the secretariat to compile the information received for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting;
5. *Requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to:
 - (a) Draft an update to the existing guidance on stocks adopted in decision MC-1/2 to include types of action that could be taken to fulfil the continuing obligation to endeavour to identify stocks and sources as per paragraph 5 (a) of article 3 of the Convention, defined in paragraph 3 of decision MC-4/8 as an ongoing effort, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting;

(b) Support parties in better understanding the trade provisions, their interrelation with other articles of the Convention, and the use of trade forms adopted by the Conference of the Parties, in particular with respect to imports from non-parties;

(c) Work on awareness-raising activities related to provisions of the Convention on allowed uses and sources of mercury in order to assist parties to comply with article 3 requirements;

(d) Broaden its cooperation with the secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements, such as the secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the secretariat of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, to strengthen the implementation of article 3 provisions;

(e) Develop guidance to assist parties in identifying, managing and reducing mercury trade from primary mercury mining;

(f) Facilitate the exchange of any trade-related information the secretariat has received from parties pursuant to paragraph 6 of article 3, and which the parties concerned have not objected to sharing with other parties;

6. *Invites* parties, the Global Environment Facility, the Global Mercury Partnership and other stakeholders to support the activity set out in paragraph 5 (e) above.