



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-5/4: Amendments to annexes A and B and the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing processes listed in annex B

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* that the Conference of the Parties, in decision MC-4/3, decided to consider the phase-out dates of four mercury-added products for part I of annex A and to consider adding the production of polyurethane using mercury-containing catalysts to part I of annex B,

*Recalling also* that the Conference of the Parties, in the same decision, requested the secretariat to prepare a short report on the technical and economic feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for the two processes (vinyl chloride monomer, and sodium or potassium methylate or ethylate) listed in part II of annex B,

*Noting* that part II of annex B provides that parties are not to allow the use of mercury in vinyl chloride monomer production five years after the Conference of the Parties has established that mercury-free catalysts based on existing processes have become economically and technically feasible, and that parties are not to allow the use of mercury in sodium or potassium methylate or ethylate production five years after the Conference of the Parties has established that mercury-free processes have become technically and economically feasible,

*Having considered* the information made available pursuant to decision MC-4/3,

*Having considered also* the three proposals for amendments to annex A submitted by Botswana and Burkina Faso,

1. *Decides* to amend part I of annex A to the Convention as set out in the following table:<sup>1</sup>

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Date after which the manufacture, import or export of the product shall not be allowed (phase-out date)</i>
Batteries, except for button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content < 2% and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content < 2%	2020
Button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content < 2% and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content < 2%	2025

<sup>1</sup> Added entries are shaded in grey.

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Date after which the manufacture, import or export of the product shall not be allowed (phase-out date)</i>
Switches and relays, except very high accuracy capacitance and loss measurement bridges and high frequency radio frequency switches and relays in monitoring and control instruments with a maximum mercury content of 20 mg per bridge, switch or relay	2020
Very high accuracy capacitance and loss measurement bridges and high frequency radio frequency switches and relays in monitoring and control instruments with a maximum mercury content of 20 mg per bridge switch or relay, except those used for research and development purposes	2025
Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) for general lighting purposes that are ≤ 30 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner	2020
Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) for general lighting purposes that are > 30 watts	2026
Compact fluorescent lamps with an integrated ballast (CFL.i) for general lighting purposes that are ≤ 30 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner	2025
Compact fluorescent lamps with a non-integrated ballast (CFL.ni) for general lighting purposes that are ≤ 30 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner	2026
Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes: (a) Triband phosphor < 60 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp; (b) Halophosphate phosphor ≤ 40 watts with a mercury content exceeding 10 mg per lamp	2020
Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes: (a) Halophosphate phosphor ≤ 40 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 10 mg per lamp (b) Halophosphate phosphor > 40 watts	2026
Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes: (a) Triband phosphor < 60 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg/lamp (b) Triband phosphor ≥ 60 watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg per lamp (c) Triband phosphor ≥ 60 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp	2027
Non-linear fluorescent lamps (NFLs) (e.g., U-bend and circular) for general lighting purposes: (a) Triband phosphor, all wattages	2027
(b) Halophosphate phosphor, all wattages	2026
High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes	2020
Mercury in cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays: (a) Short length (≤ 500 mm) with mercury content exceeding 3.5 mg per lamp (b) Medium length (> 500 mm and ≤ 1,500 mm) with mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp (c) Long length (> 1,500 mm) with mercury content exceeding 13 mg per lamp	2020
Cold cathode fluorescent lamps (CCFL) and external electrode fluorescent lamps (EEFL) of all lengths for electronic displays, not included in the listing directly above	2025

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Date after which the manufacture, import or export of the product shall not be allowed (phase-out date)</i>
Cosmetics (with mercury content above 1ppm), including skin lightening soaps and creams, and not including eye area cosmetics where mercury is used as a preservative and no effective and safe substitute preservatives are available <sup>1/</sup>	2020
Cosmetics, including skin-lightening soaps and creams, and not including eye area cosmetics where mercury is used as a preservative and no effective and safe substitute preservatives are available <sup>1/</sup>	2025
Pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics	2020
The following non-electronic measuring devices except non-electronic measuring devices installed in large-scale equipment or those used for high precision measurement, where no suitable mercury-free alternative is available: (a) Barometers; (b) Hygrometers; (c) Manometers; (d) Thermometers; (e) Sphygmomanometers.	2020
Strain gauges to be used in plethysmographs;	2025
The following electrical and electronic measuring devices, except those installed in large-scale equipment or those used for high precision measurement, where no suitable mercury-free alternative is available: (a) Melt pressure transducers, melt pressure transmitters and melt pressure sensors	2025
Mercury vacuum pumps	2025
Tyre balancers and wheel weights	2025
Photographic film and paper	2025
Propellant for satellites and spacecraft	2025

<sup>1/</sup> The intention is not to cover cosmetics, soaps or creams with trace contaminants of mercury.

2. *Decides* to amend part II of annex A to the Convention as set out in the following table;<sup>2</sup>

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Provisions</i>
Dental amalgam	Measures to be taken by a Party to phase down the use of dental amalgam shall take into account the Party's domestic circumstances and relevant international guidance and shall include two or more of the measures from the following list: (i) Setting national objectives aiming at dental caries prevention and health promotion, thereby minimizing the need for dental restoration; (ii) Setting national objectives aiming at minimizing its use; (iii) Promoting the use of cost-effective and clinically effective mercury-free alternatives for dental restoration; (iv) Promoting research and development of quality mercury-free materials for dental restoration; (v) Encouraging representative professional organizations and dental schools to educate and train dental professionals and students on the use of mercury-free dental restoration alternatives and on promoting best management practices; (vi) Discouraging insurance policies and programmes that favour dental amalgam use over mercury-free dental restoration; (vii) Encouraging insurance policies and programmes that favour the use of quality alternatives to dental amalgam for dental restoration; (viii) Restricting the use of dental amalgam to its encapsulated form;

<sup>2</sup> The added provision is shaded in grey.

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Provisions</i>
	<p>(ix) Promoting the use of best environmental practices in dental facilities to reduce releases of mercury and mercury compounds to water and land.</p> <p>In addition, Parties shall:</p> <p>(i) Exclude or not allow, by taking measures as appropriate, the use of mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners;</p> <p>(ii) Exclude or not allow, by taking measures as appropriate, or recommend against the use of dental amalgam for the dental treatment of deciduous teeth, of patients under 15 years and of pregnant and breastfeeding women, except when considered necessary by the dental practitioner based on the needs of the patient.</p>
	<p>In addition, Parties that have not yet phased out dental amalgam shall:</p> <p>(i) Submit to the secretariat a national action plan or a report based on available information with respect to progress they have made or are making to phase down or phase out dental amalgam every four years as part of national reporting.</p>

3. *Decides* to amend part I of Annex B as set out in the following table:<sup>3</sup>

<i>Manufacturing processes using mercury or mercury compounds</i>	<i>Phase-out date</i>
Chlor-alkali production	2025
Acetaldehyde production in which mercury or mercury compounds are used as a catalyst	2018
Production of polyurethane using mercury-containing catalysts	2025

4. *Notes* that each product entry in paragraphs 1 and 2 above and each process entry in paragraph 3 above is a separate amendment for the purposes of entry into force under article 27 of the Convention;

5. *Establishes* that mercury-free processes for sodium or potassium methylate or ethylate production have become technically and economically feasible;

6. *Decides* to consider at its sixth meeting the proposal to amend part I of annex A by adding the following entry:

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Date after which the manufacture, import or export of the product shall not be allowed (phase-out date)</i>
[Dental amalgam]	[2030]

7. *Decides* to consider at its sixth meeting the proposal to amend part II of annex A by adding the following provision:

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Provisions</i>
Dental amalgam	<p>In addition, Parties shall:</p> <p>(iv) [[Exclude or not allow] [phase down], by taking measures as appropriate, the use of dental amalgam in government insurance policies and programmes.]</p> <p><i>(Alternative to (iv))</i> [Take measures, as appropriate, to exclude, not allow, [or phase down] dental amalgam in government policies or programmes.]</p>

<sup>3</sup> The added entry is shaded in grey.