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Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury
Sixth meeting
Geneva, 3–7 November 2025

Requests for extensions of exemptions

Note by the secretariat

In decision MC-6/7, the Conference of the Parties decided to extend the exemptions from the phase-out dates listed in annex A to the Convention requested by Bangladesh, India and Thailand, The annex to the present note sets out the requests as submitted to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting. The submission is reproduced as received. The present note, including its annex, has not been formally edited.

Annex I

Submission from Bangladesh

Bangladesh's request and supporting documents for the extension of the exemption period under Annex A of the Minamata Convention

Annex A: Mercury-added products

Mercury-added products, as listed in Part I of Annex A	*Indicate the category or subcategory for which the exemption is being registered, and whether it is for manufacture, import and/or export.*	*Initially requested Exemption Date on becoming a party to this convention or the Phase-out date mentioned in the convention (Year).*	*Desired Extended Exemption (Year)*
Batteries, except for button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content < 2% and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content< 2%	Import	2025	2030
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	Import	2025	2028
High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes	Import	2025	2027
Pesticide, Biocides and topical antiseptics	Import	2025	2030

Justification of the Exemption:

The People's Republic of Bangladesh reiterates its strong commitment to the goals of the Minamata Convention and to the phase-out of mercury-added products listed in Annex A, Part I. Bangladesh fully acknowledges the environmental, human health, and societal benefits associated with eliminating the use of mercury in these products. The Government is actively working to develop comprehensive strategies that address the environmental, human health, and socio-economic aspects of transitioning to mercury-free alternatives. The justification of the request for time extension and other supporting information according to Article 6(6) of the convention are as follows:

Article Number	*Current status, justification and future plan*
Article 6(6)(a)	Bangladesh has ratified this convention in April 2023. Only two years have passed. We had our first assessment of mercury-contained products (MCPs) in 2019. Based on the assessment different ministries and agencies has taken measures and are working to minimize the use of those products. Bangladesh is not a mercury producing country nor it has large industries that manufactures mercury-contained products. We only import certain MCPs such as batteries , Pesticide, Biocides and topical antiseptics, switches and relays and HVMPs as mentioned in part 1 of Annex A. Our Ministry of Industries has banned 21 mercury containing cosmetics. The dentistry sector has almost phased out the dental amalgams ; we have also almost phased out the compact/linear fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and replaced them with LED lights which are cost effective and popular in the Bangladeshi market. Under Article 6, Bangladesh requests a narrowly scoped, time-limited import exemption only for batteries, switches and relays, pesticides and HVMPs. The justification and commitments below address the information required under sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c). a) Description of the mercury-containing products, uses, quantities and time frame a.1) Pesticide, Biocides and topical antiseptics - Scope: The exemption covers import only (no domestic manufacturing) of specifically identified mercury-containing formulations used solely for: (i) targeted agricultural pesticides for defined high-impact pests where alternatives are currently ineffective; (ii) selected biocidal preparations for limited industrial or vector-control programs where substitutes fail to provide required efficacy; and (iii) narrowly defined clinical topical antiseptics for emergency use in remote health posts when proven non-mercury antiseptics are unavailable or contraindicated. Consumer products, cosmetics and routine agricultural or household uses are excluded. a2) Mercury-containing batteries (all types except button zinc–silver-oxide cells) used in specialized applications (long-term reserve power, calibration/reference cells, certain industrial and military devices) where alternatives do not meet performance or shelf-life requirements; a3) Mercury-containing switches and relays used in legacy critical equipment (industrial control systems, specialized instrumentation, safety interlocks, certain transport and aviation systems, and select medical/diagnostic devices) where safe replacement is not currently feasible; a4) High-pressure mercury-vapor lamps (HPMV) used in narrowly defined industrial processes, specialized horticultural/greenhouse applications, and selected public-infrastructure lighting where performance requirements currently exceed available non-mercury substitutes. **Quantities and reporting:** Current national imports are limited and concentrated. Bangladesh is planning to submit the best available import data with the application (annual kilograms, number of shipments, product identifiers and intended end-users) and will provide annual import reports for the exemption period. Import authorizations will specify maximum quantities and recipients.

Time frame: Bangladesh requests a five-year exemption limited to imports, with a mandatory mid-term technical review at two years and an automatic expiration at five years unless exceptional, evidence-based renewal is granted.

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Article 6(6)(b) b) Justification that feasible mercury-free alternatives are not available
- The exemptions are very necessary for the limited, specified uses above because available national and regional assessments, field trials and expert consultations indicate that no currently feasible mercury-free alternatives that meet required efficacy, stability, affordability and supply-chain constraints under local conditions are available.

Immediate prohibition of imports of pesticide, biocide and antiseptics for these narrow uses would risk crop failure, compromised vector control or inadequate emergency antiseptic care in vulnerable, resource-constrained settings.

Similarly, immediate restrictions or import ban on batteries, switches and relays and HPMVs without environment-friendly alternatives will impact on the price market, other uses and businesses and might encourage illegal import (as there is demand) .

In addition, the institutional arrangement for a strong monitoring mechanism needs to be in place . Laboratories and screening equipment have to be ready.

The exemption is requested strictly as a last resort and only for import of the named products and volumes.

Article 6(6)(c) c) Measures to minimize and manage mercury use and releases, and transition plan to alternatives

- Import controls and authorization: Imports will be permitted only under government authorization to listed, licensed importers; each shipment will be pre-approved, accompanied by detailed documentation of product identity, quantities, intended use locations and end-users. Unauthorized import, distribution or sale will be prohibited and penalized.

- Waste management and environmental safeguards: Bangladesh will ensure secure storage of imported stocks, safe handling of residues and environmentally sound management or disposal of contaminated waste and phase-out stocks (if any) in accordance with best practice guidance. Spill response, incident reporting and remediation procedures will be in place.

- Monitoring, reporting and review: Bangladesh will monitor import volumes, use patterns, incidents and environmental/human exposure indicators as appropriate, and report annually to the Secretariat. An independent technical review will be invited at the two-year mid-term to assess progress toward substitution and compliance with conditions; the exemption will be revoked if scope or quantities expand beyond authorization or reporting commitments are not met.

Transition and capacity building:

Bangladesh will take measures
-to develop updated inventory of mercury contained products and their material flow analysis;

-to have an active, time-bound transition plan with expedited regulatory pathways for effective alternatives, policy measures for developing markets of environment-friendly alternatives, awareness raising

-institutional and personnel capacity building namely training for applicators and health workers, and strengthening laboratory capacity for product testing and monitoring; and

-develop and implement a robust monitoring mechanism

Conclusion

This import-only, narrowly delimited and time-limited exemption is requested solely where demonstrable necessity exists and no viable mercury-free alternative is currently available. It is accompanied by robust import controls, mitigation measures, a clear transition plan, rigorous monitoring and reporting commitments, and an explicit request for international assistance to ensure prompt, verifiable phase-out.

Bangladesh would like to reiterate that the country has only received two years and seven month as transition time (May 2023-December 2025). A successful phaseout requires a just transition period. Bangladesh remains fully committed to phasing out mercury-added products as soon as possible, in line with its national circumstances and capabilities. Pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 7, Bangladesh also reserves the right to withdraw this exemption should the phase-out become feasible prior to the expiration of the requested extension period. The Government of Bangladesh respectfully submits this request for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting.

THIS NOTIFICATION IS SUBMITTED BY:

Job Title	Secretary	
Institution/Department	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	
Address	Building-6, Level-14, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka, 1000.	
Telephone:	Fax:	E-mail: secretary@moef.gov.bd
+880255100433	+8802255101166	
Contact name	Dr. Farhina Ahmed, Secretary	Date: 5 November, 2025

Annex II

Submission from India

Registration of exemptions for the products and processes listed in Part I of Annexes A and B to the Minamata Convention

Annex A: Mercury-added products

REGISTRATION OF EXEMPTION FOR ARTICLE 4		
PARTY:		
The secretariat of the Minamata Convention is hereby notified of the registration of the following exemption pursuant to paragraph 1 of article 6 of the Convention. No exemption is required for products excluded from Annex A.		
Mercury added products, as listed in part I of annex A	**Indicate the category or subcategory for which the exemption is being registered, and whether it is for manufacture, import and/or export**	**Duration of exemption (if less than five years past the phase-out date)**
Pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics	**(i) Manufacture** of **topical antiseptics** **(ii) Import** of **topical antiseptics** **(iii) Export** of **topical antiseptics**	2030

REGISTRATION OF EXEMPTION FOR ARTICLE 4		
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.	**(i) Manufacture** of 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. **(ii) Import** of 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. **(iii) Export** of 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.	2030
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	**(i) Manufacture** of 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 **(ii) Import** of 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 **(iii) Export** of 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	2030

REGISTRATION OF EXEMPTION FOR ARTICLE 4		
High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes	**(i) Manufacture** of High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes **(ii) Import** of High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes **(iii) Export** of High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes	2030

Please attach the explanatory statement on the need for an exemption, one statement per individual product category listed in part I of annex A.

As part of, or in addition to, the explanation of the need for the exemption, a registering Party may include, as appropriate, the following information:

- Any timetable or plan of action to phase out the import, export, or manufacture or to adjust manufacturing specifications to comply with the mercury concentrations for products set out in Annex A;
- Information on the level of stocks of the product available nationally.

THIS NOTIFICATION IS SUBMITTED BY:

Job title:	Joint Secretary	
Institution/department:	Hazardous Substances Management Division, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India	
Address:	Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi- 110003, India	
Telephone: +91-11-20819220	Fax: --	E-mail address: sahnk@cag.gov.in
Contact name:	Neelesh Kumar Sah	Date: (*03/11/2025*)

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO:

Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
International Environment House
11–13, Chemin des Anémones, CH–1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland

Fax: +41 22 797 3460
Email: mercury.chemicals@unep.org

Explanatory Statement on Need for Exemption of the Manufacture, Import and Export of Mercury- Added Products Listed in Part I of Annex A

Sl.No	*Mercury-added product*	*Explanation for the exemption*
1.	**Manufacture, Import and Export of topical antiseptics**	(a) **Report from the Party justifying the need to extend the exemption and outlining activities undertaken and planned to eliminate the need for the exemption as soon as feasible:** The Government of India remains committed to reducing the use of mercury in products. Govt. of India has sought extension of only product namely, 'topical antiseptics' under the category of 'pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics'. Topical antiseptics continue to play a vital role in primary healthcare, wound management and first-aid applications in the country. This product has wide recognition, inexpensive and proven option to treat injuries. The compound contains only trace quantities of mercury in a stable, organomercuric form, posing negligible environmental or human health risk when used as per pharmaceutical standards. India also exports to more than 30 countries as it is considered as the proven option in the health care sector for treating injuries and wound management. India needs transition period to phase out this product as this is widely being used in rural and remote areas in India. Govt. of India will prepare a plan to phase-out these products in phased manner to establish the manufacturing capacities for the alternatives. (b) **Available information, including in respect of the availability of alternative products and processes that are free of mercury or that involve the consumption of less mercury than the exempt use:** Mercury free alternatives such as povidone-iodine, chlorhexidine, and cetrimide are available and being used as an alternative in the country. However, mercury based antiseptic is used since several decades, this has become the preferred option for the majority. **(c) Activities planned or under way to provide environmentally sound storage of mercury and disposal of mercury wastes** Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified Bio-medical Waste Rules, 2016 for handling and disposing bio-medical waste in a way that it shall not cause any adverse effect to human health and the environment. Every occupier or operator handling bio-medical waste is required to obtain authorisation from concerned State Pollution Control Board and mandated to file annual returns in regard to management of bio-medical waste. Occupier is required to establish a Bar code System for bags or containers containing bio-medical waste to be sent out to the common incineration facilities. In view of the above, an application to extend the phase-out date for manufacture, import and export of this category to 2030 is therefore requested pursuant to Paragraph 6 of Article 6 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Sl.No	*Mercury-added product*	*Explanation for the exemption*
2.	**Manufacture, Import and Export** of 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.	(a) **Report from the Party justifying the need to extend the exemption and outlining activities undertaken and planned to eliminate the need for the exemption as soon as feasible:** The Government of India remains committed to reducing the use of mercury in products. India is in transition from conventional thermometers and sphygmomanometers in health care sector. Though mercury free alternatives are being used in major towns and cities, they are yet to penetrate in rural areas where the supply chain and affordability still is a challenge. This project will aid the Government in phasing out medical devices in India. Directorate General of Health Services under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India has issued advisory to all Central Government Hospitals and health centres to gradually phase out mercury containing equipment including thermometers and BP instruments, and to replace with good quality non mercury equipment. The advisory has also recommended that a mercury phase-out plan be developed to start procurement of new equipment which is mercury free. Govt. of India issued advisory to all State/UT governments to nominate nodal officer to conduct situational analysis, substitution of mercury-based devices, conducting capacity building and IEC activities as well as safe handling, storage and environmentally sound management of measuring devices containing mercury. Advisories for phase out of mercury based medical devices as well as procurement mercury free alternatives (as the case may be) have also been issued by various State or Union territory Governments namely, Delhi, Punjab, Manipur, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Meghalaya. Several local institutions such as Jharsuguda District Headquarter Hospital, Jagatsinghpur District Hospital in Odisha State, and Hubli Dharwad Municipal Corporation in Karnataka have issued procurement policy for mercury free alternatives. Indian Medical Association has also issued advisory to all its members (Hospitals and health centers) for phase out of mercury based medical devices. NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers) certification system in India encourages the phasing out of mercury-free devices as part of its commitment to patient safety and environmental protection. National Quality Assurance Standards for health facilities also insist on checking whether the facilities are mercury free before providing certification. Govt. of India has been granted GEF funded multi-country project 'Phasing out mercury measuring devices in healthcare' jointly being implemented by India, Burkina Faso, Uganda, Montenegro, and Albania. GEF has approved the grant of USD 7.98 million for the project, of which India will use USD 2.7 million for implementation. This project aims to inventories the medical devices in the country, conduct the assessment of the present scenario and recommend the policy and regulatory measures in addition to establishing a waste management facility for medical devices. Further, barometers, hygrometers, manometers and thermometers are used for measuring the atmospheric parameters in meteorology. Indian Government has already initiated a structured programme for phasing

Sl.No	*Mercury-added product*	*Explanation for the exemption*
		out of these non-electronic devices and by establishing mercury free alternatives at majority of our observatories. However, immediate cessation of these conventional instruments may not be feasible due to need for deployment of alternatives at more than 270 observatories as well as the new alternatives deployed are to be tested for accurate measurements, inter-comparison and method validation. (b) **Available information, including in respect of the availability of alternative products and processes that are free of mercury or that involve the consumption of less mercury than the exempt use:** Major health centres and hospitals have switched to mercury free alternatives. digital thermometers and sphygmomanometers are widely used in cities and major towns. However, they have not penetrated the rural areas of the country due to limitations in supply chain as well as economic viability. Efforts are underway to shift these mercury devices to electronic devices which may take few years. **(c) Activities planned or under way to provide environmentally sound storage of mercury and disposal of mercury wastes** Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified Bio-medical Waste Rules, 2016 for handling and disposing bio-medical waste in a way that it shall not cause any adverse effect to human health and the environment. Every occupier or operator handling bio-medical waste is required to obtain authorisation from concerned State Pollution Control Board and mandated to file annual returns in regard to management of bio-medical waste. Occupier is required to establish a Bar code System for bags or containers containing bio-medical waste to be sent out to common incineration facility. Directorate General of Health Services and Central Pollution Control Board have issued guidelines for Management of Healthcare Waste. In view of the above, an application to extend the phase-out date for manufacture, import and export of this category to 2030 is therefore requested pursuant to Paragraph 6 of Article 6 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.
3.	**Manufacture, Import and Export** of 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	**(a) Report from the Party justifying the need to extend the exemption and outlining activities undertaken and planned to eliminate the need for the exemption as soon as feasible:** The Government of India remains committed to reducing the use of mercury in products. However, switches and relays containing mercury are still being used in various essential applications. Govt. of India will prepare a plan to phase-out these products based on the availability of alternatives and economic viability. (b) **Available information, including in respect of the availability of alternative products and processes that are free of mercury or that involve the consumption of less mercury than the exempt use:** There is limited information available on alternatives.

Sl.No	*Mercury-added product*	*Explanation for the exemption*
		(c) Activities planned or under way to provide environmentally sound storage of mercury and disposal of mercury wastes New industries will be switched to mercury free switches and relays. In view of the above, an application to extend the phase-out date for manufacture, import and export of this category to 2030 is therefore requested pursuant to Paragraph 6 of Article 6 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.
4.	**Manufacture, Import and Export** of High-pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes	**(a) Report from the Party justifying the need to extend the exemption and outlining activities undertaken and planned to eliminate the need for the exemption as soon as feasible:** The Government of India remains committed to reducing the use of mercury in products. HPMVs are being manufactured for use in domestic market in the country to cater to the street lighting. The consumption of HPMV lamps in the country has come down to nearly 35%. LEDs and other alternatives have replaced these lamps. However, these lamps are more reliable in the colder climates as well as cost effective than the alternatives. India has taken effective measures to collect and recycle the electrical and electronic wastes including the obligations on producers to recycle these lamps after their end-of-life. Producers have been given mandatory targets as part of Extended Producer Responsibility for collection and recycling of 106 types of electrical and electronic wastes through the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, which include lamps. Under these rules, more than 381 recyclers have been registered for recycling electrical and electronic wastes, and more than 2.3 million tonnes of e-waste has been recycled since the notification of the rules. Further, these rules prescribe the limits for use of hazardous substances including mercury in the manufacture of electrical and electronic equipment. Immediate cessation will not only lead to shortage in supply of lamps but also generate employment loss in several thousands. Accordingly, Govt. of India will prepare a phase out plan to phase-out these products during the transition period. (b) **Available information, including in respect of the availability of alternative products and processes that are free of mercury or that involve the consumption of less mercury than the exempt use:** Presently, LED lighting without mercury and Sodium Vapour lamps with low amount of mercury have been identified as alternatives and is also used in the major parts of the country. Further, the existing luminaire system or holders of the lamps do not accommodate LED bulbs which may lead to generation of e-waste in huge quantities. **(c) Activities planned or under way to provide environmentally sound storage of mercury and disposal of mercury wastes** Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has set up a mechanism of Prior Informed Consent mechanism for import of mercury through mercury is regulated for allowable purposes under the Minamata Convention on mercury.

Sl.No	*Mercury-added product*	*Explanation for the exemption*
		Further, Govt. of India has enacted the various laws for protection of environment namely, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Under, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, emission and discharge standards for mercury have been prescribed for industrial processes, where applicable. Industries are monitored by State Pollution Control Boards through a Consent mechanism under Air and Water Acts. These industries are also monitored by Central Pollution Control Board in addition to online continuous emission monitoring systems in case of highly polluting industries. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified Hazardous and other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 for management of hazardous waste in environmentally sound manner. Under these rules, any person handling, generation, collection, storage, packaging, transportation, use, treatment, processing, recycling, recovery, pre-processing, co-processing, utilisation, offering for sale, transfer or disposal of the hazardous and other wastes is required to obtain an authorisation from concerned State Pollution Control Board and manage the waste in accordance with the rules. Hazardous wastes are either recycled in line with the standard operating procedure provided by the Central Pollution Control Board or disposed of in authorised treatment, storage, disposal facility. More than 50 common Treatment, Disposal and Storage facilities have been authorised in the country for safe disposal of hazardous wastes. MoEF&CC has notified the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022 for environmentally sound management of wastes. In view of the above, an application to extend the phase-out date for manufacture, import and export of this category to 2030 is therefore requested pursuant to Paragraph 6 of Article 6 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Annex III

Submission from Thailand

Subject: **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.**

I wish to refer to Thailand's Registration of Exemption for mercury-added products and processes listed in Part I of Annexes A, dated 7 February 2019, that was made pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 1, of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

In this connection, I, as the National Focal Point to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, hereby notify the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury that Thailand wishes, pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 6, of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, to request that the Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, which will take place in November 2025, decide to extend for a period of five years Thailand's registered exemption for the following mercury-added products, as listed in Part I of Annex A:

1. Switches and relays
2. Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs)
3. Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs)
4. Mercury in cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays
5. High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV)
6. Non-electronic measuring devices

Please find attached additional information regarding Thailand's extend request for consideration of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Accept, Madam, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms.Preeyaporn Suwanaged)

Request and Supporting Documents for Thailand's Extension of Exemption Period Request for Extension of Exemption Period under Article 4 for Mercury-Added Products in Accordance with the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Thailand submits a request for an extension of the exemption period for the following six mercury-added products:

1. Switches and relays
2. Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs)
3. Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs)
4. Mercury in cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays
5. High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV)
6. Non-electronic measuring devices

Mercury-added products	***Date after which the manufacture, import or export of the product shall not be allowed (phase-out date)***
1. 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	Phase-out date the year 2025 (B.E. 2568) Request for Extension of Exemption Period A five-year extension from the phase-out date, as specified in Annex A, through 2030. The explanation of the need for the exemption 1. The development of effective domestic regulations to phase out mercury-added products requires cross-sectoral coordination and mechanisms such as - Amendment of industrial product standards for mercury-added products to restrict the use of mercury - Public hearing on the draft ministerial regulation - Determination of specific customs tariff codes for mercury-added products - Issuance of a ministerial regulation prescribing mercury-added electrical and electronic equipment to comply with industrial standards 2. Alternatives require additional time for efficiency and accuracy testing.
2. Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) for general lighting purposes that are ≤ 30 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner	Phase-out date the year 2025 (B.E. 2568) Request for Extension of Exemption Period A five-year extension from the phase-out date, as specified in Annex A, through 2030. The explanation of the need for the exemption 1. The development of effective domestic regulations to phase out mercury-added products requires cross-sectoral coordination and mechanisms such as - Amendment of industrial product standards for mercury-added products to restrict the use of mercury - Public hearing on the draft ministerial regulation - Determination of specific customs tariff codes for mercury-added products - Issuance of a ministerial regulation prescribing mercury-added electrical and electronic equipment to comply with industrial standards 2. Alternatives require additional time for efficiency and accuracy testing.
3. Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes: (a) Triband phosphor < 60 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp;	Phase-out date the year 2025 (B.E. 2568) Request for Extension of Exemption Period

Mercury-added products	*Date after which the manufacture, import or export of the product shall not be allowed (phase-out date)*
(b) Halophosphate phosphor ≤ 40 watts with a mercury content exceeding 10 mg per lamp	A five-year extension from the phase-out date, as specified in Annex A, through 2030. The explanation of the need for the exemption 1. The development of effective domestic regulations to phase out mercury-added products requires cross-sectoral coordination and mechanisms such as - Amendment of industrial product standards for mercury-added products to restrict the use of mercury - Public hearing on the draft ministerial regulation - Determination of specific customs tariff codes for mercury-added products - Issuance of a ministerial regulation prescribing mercury-added electrical and electronic equipment to comply with industrial standards 2. Alternatives require additional time for efficiency and accuracy testing.
4. High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes	Phase-out date the year 2025 (B.E. 2568) Request for Extension of Exemption Period A five-year extension from the phase-out date, as specified in Annex A, through 2030. The explanation of the need for the exemption - National Inventory of Information on this Mercury-Added Products - Develop domestic mechanisms to Reduce/ Phase Out this Mercury-Added Products
5. 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	Phase-out date the year 2025 (B.E. 2568) Request for Extension of Exemption Period A five-year extension from the phase-out date, as specified in Annex A, through 2030. The explanation of the need for the exemption 1. The development of effective domestic regulations to phase out mercury-added products requires cross-sectoral coordination and mechanisms such as - Amendment of industrial product standards for mercury-added products to restrict the use of mercury - Public hearing on the draft ministerial regulation - Determination of specific customs tariff codes for mercury-added products - Issuance of a ministerial regulation prescribing mercury-added electrical and electronic equipment to comply with industrial standards 2. Alternatives require additional time for efficiency and accuracy testing.
6. 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.	Phase-out date the year 2025 (B.E. 2568) Request for Extension of Exemption Period A five-year extension from the phase-out date, as specified in Annex A, through 2030. The explanation of the need for the exemption - National Inventory of Information on this Mercury-Added Products - Develop domestic mechanisms to Reduce/ Phase Out this Mercury-Added Products

Thailand's Request and Supporting Documents for the Extension of the Exemption Period under Annex A of the Minamata Convention

NO.	*Mercury-added Products*	*The need to extend additional exceptions*
1.	**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 *A request for a five-year extension from the phase-out date, as specified in Annex A, through 2023.*	**1. Report explaining the reasons for the need to extend the exemption request by specifying the activities that have already been carried out, including the activities and plans that have been planned according to the request for an exception as necessary, and specifying the period for which an additional exception is requested (not exceeding 5 years).** **Main agency: Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI), Ministry of Industry** **1.1 Implementation progress** 1) Ministry of Industry Announcement on the determination of industrial product standards for mercury-added product – restriction of the use of mercury B.E. 2567. Standard No. TIS 3604-2023 announced on 29 March 2024 and announced in the Government Gazette, Announcement and General Affairs Edition, Volume 141, Special Part 138, dated 17 May B.E. 2567 2) Public Hearing on the Draft Ministerial Regulation Prescribing Industrial Products for Mercury-Added Electrical and Electronic Equipment to Conform to the Standards B.E. … . The public hearing to be conducted within 60 days of the announcement dated 25 January 2024 (B.E. 2567). 3) Notification of the Draft Ministerial Regulation to the World Trade Organization (WTO) on 12 February 2024, Notification Document No. G/TBT/N/THA/727. **1.2 Planned Activities for the Additional 5-Year Exemption Period** 1) The study is currently being conducted within the country to assess the impacts of the legislation regulating the production and import of mercury-added products under the "Advanced Minamata Assessment in Thailand" project. The project is expected to commence in mid-2025 and will have a duration of 2 years. 2) Determination of specific customs tariff codes for mercury-added products, utilizing the main operational mechanisms of the Thai Industrial Standards Institute and the Customs Department, in conjunction with supporting mechanisms from the Working Group on Legal Affairs to support the obligations under the Minamata Convention, which is under the supervision of the Subcommittee on the Minamata Convention. 3) Public hearing on the draft Ministerial Regulation stipulating that industrial products in the category of electrical and electronic equipment containing mercury must comply with the relevant standards (revised edition), and potential amendments to the industrial product standard, "Mercury-Added Products – Restriction of the Use of Mercury," Standard No. TIS 3604-2566, if deemed necessary. 4) Capacity building and readiness enhancement of testing laboratories for mercury-added products to facilitate the issuance of licenses and certifications. 5) Preparation of the Ministerial Regulations Prescribing Industrial Products for Mercury-Added Electrical and Electronic Equipment to Conform to the Standards. **2. Available information, including in respect of the availability of alternative products and processes that are free of mercury or that involve the consumption of less mercury than the exempt use.** **2.1 Department of Industrial Works** - According to the factory database of the Department of Industrial Works during the period from 2017 to 2024 (as of 11 November 2024), a total of 45 factories were identified as engaging in activities related to the production of electrical switches

<table>
<tr><th>NO.</th><th>Mercury-added Products</th><th>The need to extend additional exceptions</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>and fluorescent lamps. Among these, only one factory was found to use mercury as a raw material in the production of fluorescent lamps.
- According to the hazardous substance data from the Department of Industrial Works' notification system for the production or import of hazardous substances, covering the period from 2017 to 2024 (as of 24 October 2024), there have been notifications of mercury importation for the following purposes: (1) production of circuit boards and fluorescent lamps; (2) use as a coating substance inside fluorescent lamps; and (3) testing of electronic-related products. These findings are based on the summary of hazardous substance notifications (Form Wor.Aor. 6) submitted between 2017 and 2024 by operators involved in the production of electrical switches and fluorescent lamps.
2.2 Customs Department
- Information on the annual import–export volumes, as well as the names of companies or other relevant data concerning mercury-added products in this category, including mercury-free products and products containing mercury in amounts below the exemption thresholds.
- Relevant Customs Tariff Codes
<table>
<tr><th>Mercury-added products</th><th colspan="2">All customs tariffs related to goods HS2017 (2017 - 2021)</th><th colspan="2">All customs tariffs related to goods HS2022 (2022 - present)</th></tr>
<tr><td>Electrical switch</td><td>8536.50.20
8536.50.33
8536.50.40
8536.50.59
8536.50.69
8536.50.95</td><td>8536.50.32
8536.50.39
8536.50.51
8536.50.61
8536.50.92
8536.50.99</td><td>8536.50.20
8536.50.33
8536.50.40
8536.50.59
8536.50.69
8536.50.96</td><td>8536.50.32
8536.50.39
8536.50.51
8536.50.61
8536.50.95
8536.50.99</td></tr>
<tr><td>relays</td><td>8536.41.10
8536.41.30
8536.41.91
8536.49.10</td><td>8536.41.20
8536.41.40
8536.41.99
8536.49.90</td><td>8536.41.10
8536.41.30
8536.41.91
8536.49.10</td><td>8536.41.20
8536.41.40
8536.41.99
8536.49.90</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>2.</td><td>Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) for general lighting purposes that are ≤ 30 watts with a mercury content exceeding
5 mg per lamp burner 1. Report explaining the reasons for the need to extend the exemption request by specifying the activities that have already been carried out, including the</td><td>1. Report explaining the reasons for the need to extend the exemption request by specifying the activities that have already been carried out, including the activities and plans that have been planned according to the request for an exception as necessary, and specifying the period for which an additional exception is requested (not exceeding 5 years).
Main agency: Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI), Ministry of Industry
1.1 Implementation progress
1) Ministry of Industry Announcement on the determination of industrial product standards for mercury-added product – restriction of the use of mercury B.E. 2567. Standard No. TIS 3604-2023 announced on 29 March 2024 and announced in the Government Gazette, Announcement and General Affairs Edition, Volume 141, Special Part 138, dated 17 May B.E. 2567</td></tr>
</table>

NO.	*Mercury-added Products*	*The need to extend additional exceptions*
	activities and plans that have been planned according to the request for an exception as necessary, and specifying the period for which an additional exception is requested (not exceeding 5 years). Main agency: Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI), Ministry of Industry *A request for a five-year extension from the phase-out date, as specified in Annex A, through 2023.*	2) Public Hearing on the Draft Ministerial Regulation Prescribing Industrial Products for Mercury-Added Electrical and Electronic Equipment to Conform to the Standards B.E. … . The public hearing to be conducted within 60 days of the announcement dated 25 January 2024 (B.E. 2567). 3) Notification of the Draft Ministerial Regulation to the World Trade Organization (WTO) on 12 February 2024, Notification Document No. G/TBT/N/THA/727. **1.2 Planned Activities for the Additional 5-Year Exemption Period** 1) The study is currently being conducted within the country to assess the impacts of the legislation regulating the production and import of mercury-added products under the "Advanced Minamata Assessment in Thailand" project. The project is expected to commence in mid-2025 and will have a duration of 2 years. 2) Determination of specific customs tariff codes for mercury-added products, utilizing the main operational mechanisms of the Thai Industrial Standards Institute and the Customs Department, in conjunction with supporting mechanisms from the Working Group on Legal Affairs to support the obligations under the Minamata Convention, which is under the supervision of the Subcommittee on the Minamata Convention. 3) Public hearing on the draft Ministerial Regulation stipulating that industrial products in the category of electrical and electronic equipment containing mercury must comply with the relevant standards (revised edition), and potential amendments to the industrial product standard, “Mercury-Added Products – Restriction of the Use of Mercury,” Standard No. TIS 3604-2566, if deemed necessary. 4) Capacity building and readiness enhancement of testing laboratories for mercury-added products to facilitate the issuance of licenses and certifications. 5) Preparation of the Ministerial Regulations Prescribing Industrial Products for Mercury-Added Electrical and Electronic Equipment to Conform to the Standards **1.3 Other related information** 1) TIS 2234-2014: Self-ballasted Lamps for General Lighting Services – Safety Requirements. At present, there is 1 licensee for domestic production; however, no production data has been reported. Additionally, there are 11 licensed importers, with records of product imports still found in the National Single Window (NSW) system. 2) TIS 2235-2014: Single-Capped Fluorescent Lamps – Safety Specifications (Partial Scope). At present, there is 1 licensed manufacturer, and production data has been reported. Additionally, there are 5 licensed importers, with records of product imports still found in the National Single Window (NSW) system. **2. Available information, including in respect of the availability of alternative products and processes that are free of mercury or that involve the consumption of less mercury than the exempt use.** **2.1 Department of Industrial Works** **-** According to the factory database of the Department of Industrial Works during the period from 2017 to 2024 (as of 11 November 2024), a total of 45 factories were identified as engaging in activities related to the production of electrical switches and fluorescent lamps. Among these, only one factory was found to use mercury as a raw material in the production of fluorescent lamps.

<table>
<tr><th>NO.</th><th>Mercury-added Products</th><th>The need to extend additional exceptions</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>- According to the hazardous substance data from the Department of Industrial Works' notification system for the production or import of hazardous substances, covering the period from 2017 to 2024 (as of 24 October 2024), there have been notifications of mercury importation for the following purposes: (1) production of circuit boards and fluorescent lamps; (2) use as a coating substance inside fluorescent lamps; and (3) testing of electronic-related products. These findings are based on the summary of hazardous substance notifications (Form Wor.Aor. 6) submitted between 2017 and 2024 by operators involved in the production of electrical switches and fluorescent lamps.
2.2 Customs Department
- Information on the annual import–export volumes, as well as the names of companies or other relevant data concerning mercury-added products in this category, including mercury-free products and products containing mercury in amounts below the exemption thresholds.
- Relevant Customs Tariff Codes for Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) for General Use Are Categorized into Two Groups as Follows:
<table>
<tr><th>Mercury-added products</th><th>All customs tariffs related to goods HS2017 (2017 - 2021) and HS2022 (2022 - present)</th><th>Remarks</th></tr>
<tr><td>Hot cathode fluorescent lamp</td><td>8539.31.10
8539.31.30
8539.31.90</td><td rowspan="2">1. Compact fluorescent lamps include both hot cathode types and other variants.
2. The customs tariff classification of compact fluorescent lamps is not influenced by wattage.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Other</td><td>8539.39.10
8539.39.90</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>3.</td><td>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

A request for a five-year extension from the phase-out date, as specified in Annex A, through 2023.</td><td>1. Report explaining the reasons for the need to extend the exemption request by specifying the activities that have already been carried out, including the activities and plans that have been planned according to the request for an exception as necessary, and specifying the period for which an additional exception is requested (not exceeding 5 years).
Main agency: Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI), Ministry of Industry
1.1 Implementation progress
1) Ministry of Industry Announcement on the determination of industrial product standards for mercury-added product – restriction of the use of mercury B.E. 2567. Standard No. TIS 3604-2023 announced on 29 March 2024 and announced in the Government Gazette, Announcement and General Affairs Edition, Volume 141, Special Part 138, dated 17 May B.E. 2567
2) Public Hearing on the Draft Ministerial Regulation Prescribing Industrial Products for Mercury-Added Electrical and Electronic Equipment to Conform to the Standards B.E. … . The public hearing to be conducted within 60 days of the announcement dated 25 January 2024 (B.E. 2567).
3) Notification of the Draft Ministerial Regulation to the World Trade Organization (WTO) on 12 February 2024, Notification Document No. G/TBT/N/THA/727.</td></tr>
</table>

NO.	*Mercury-added Products*	*The need to extend additional exceptions*
		1.2 Planned Activities for the Additional 5-Year Exemption Period 1) The study is currently being conducted within the country to assess the impacts of the legislation regulating the production and import of mercury-added products under the "Advanced Minamata Assessment in Thailand" project. The project is expected to commence in mid-2025 and will have a duration of 2 years. 2) Determination of specific customs tariff codes for mercury-added products, utilizing the main operational mechanisms of the Thai Industrial Standards Institute and the Customs Department, in conjunction with supporting mechanisms from the Working Group on Legal Affairs to support the obligations under the Minamata Convention, which is under the supervision of the Subcommittee on the Minamata Convention. 3) Public hearing on the draft Ministerial Regulation stipulating that industrial products in the category of electrical and electronic equipment containing mercury must comply with the relevant standards (revised edition), and potential amendments to the industrial product standard, “Mercury-Added Products – Restriction of the Use of Mercury,” Standard No. TIS 3604-2566, if deemed necessary. 4) Capacity building and readiness enhancement of testing laboratories for mercury-added products to facilitate the issuance of licenses and certifications. 5) Preparation of the Ministerial Regulations Prescribing Industrial Products for Mercury-Added Electrical and Electronic Equipment to Conform to the Standards **1.3 Other related information** 1) TIS 956-2014: Double-Capped Fluorescent Lamps – Safety Specifications. Currently, there are 4 licensed manufacturers, with production data reported. Additionally, there are 14 licensed importers, and records of product imports are still available in the National Single Window (NSW) system. 2) TIS 2235-2014: Single-Capped Fluorescent Lamps – Safety Specifications (Partial Scope). At present, there is 1 licensed manufacturer, and production data has been reported. Additionally, there are 5 licensed importers, with records of product imports still found in the National Single Window (NSW) system. **2. Available information, including in respect of the availability of alternative products and processes that are free of mercury or that involve the consumption of less mercury than the exempt use.** **2.1 Department of Industrial Works** - According to the factory database of the Department of Industrial Works during the period from 2017 to 2024 (as of 11 November 2024), a total of 45 factories were identified as engaging in activities related to the production of electrical switches and fluorescent lamps. Among these, only one factory was found to use mercury as a raw material in the production of fluorescent lamps. - According to the hazardous substance data from the Department of Industrial Works’ notification system for the production or import of hazardous substances, covering the period from 2017 to 2024 (as of 24 October 2024), there have been notifications of mercury importation for the following purposes: (1) production of circuit boards and fluorescent lamps; (2) use as a coating substance inside fluorescent lamps; and (3) testing of electronic-related products. These findings are based on the summary of hazardous substance notifications (Form Wor.Aor. 6) submitted between 2017 and 2024 by operators involved in the production of electrical switches and fluorescent lamps.

<table>
<tr><th>NO.</th><th>Mercury-added Products</th><th>The need to extend additional exceptions</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>
2.2 Customs Department
- Information on the annual import–export volumes, as well as the names of companies or other relevant data concerning mercury-added products in this category, including mercury-free products and products containing mercury in amounts below the exemption thresholds.
- Relevant Customs Tariff Codes for Linear Fluorescent Lamps for General Use Are Categorized into Two Groups as Follows:
<table>
<tr><th rowspan="2">Mercury-added products</th><th colspan="2">All customs tariffs related to goods</th><th rowspan="2">Remarks</th></tr>
<tr><th>HS2017 (2017 - 2021)</th><th>HS2022 (2022 - present)</th></tr>
<tr><td>Hot cathode fluorescent lamp</td><td>8539.31.20
8539.31.90</td><td>8539.31.20
8539.31.90</td><td rowspan="2">1. Linear fluorescent lamps include both hot cathode types and other variants.
2. The classification of linear fluorescent lamps under customs tariff codes is not determined by wattage.
3. The classification of linear fluorescent lamps under customs tariff codes is not influenced by the type of phosphor or color band.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Other</td><td>8539.39.30
8539.39.90</td><td>8539.39.40
8539.39.90</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>4.</td><td>High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes
A request for a five-year extension from the phase-out date, as specified in Annex A, through 2023.</td><td>
1. Report explaining the reasons for the need to extend the exemption request by specifying the activities that have already been carried out, including the activities and plans that have been planned according to the request for an exception as necessary, and specifying the period for which an additional exception is requested (not exceeding 5 years).
- Since this product is listed for phase-out in Annex A of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and under the Industrial Products Standards Act B.E. 2511 (1968) and its amendments, it does not include provisions for regulations that prohibit the production, import, and export of this product (as the product contains mercury as an essential component, and establishing a zero mercury standard would not be scientifically valid). Therefore, an exemption request is necessary to the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention for an additional 5 years. This is due to the need to rely on the results of the study under the "Advanced Minamata Assessment in Thailand" project, which is expected to begin in 2025. Furthermore, discussions will take place within the Working Group on Legal Affairs to prohibit the production, import, and export of high-pressure mercury vapor lamps for general lighting.
- The development of domestic regulations will be carried out to reduce and phase out the use of mercury in the aforementioned products. This will require mechanisms and oversight from various sectors.
2. Available information, including in respect of the availability of alternative products and processes that are free of mercury or that involve the consumption of less mercury than the exempt use.
2.1 Department of Industrial Works
</td></tr>
</table>

NO.	*Mercury-added Products*	*The need to extend additional exceptions*
		- According to the factory database of the Department of Industrial Works during the period from 2017 to 2024 (as of 11 November 2024), a total of 45 factories were identified as engaging in activities related to the production of electrical switches and fluorescent lamps. Among these, only one factory was found to use mercury as a raw material in the production of fluorescent lamps. - According to the hazardous substance data from the Department of Industrial Works' notification system for the production or import of hazardous substances, covering the period from 2017 to 2024 (as of 24 October 2024), there have been notifications of mercury importation for the following purposes: (1) production of circuit boards and fluorescent lamps; (2) use as a coating substance inside fluorescent lamps; and (3) testing of electronic-related products. These findings are based on the summary of hazardous substance notifications (Form Wor.Aor. 6) submitted between 2017 and 2024 by operators involved in the production of electrical switches and fluorescent lamps. **2.2 Customs Department** - Information on the annual import–export volumes, as well as the names of companies or other relevant data concerning mercury-added products in this category, including mercury-free products and products containing mercury in amounts below the exemption thresholds. - The relevant customs tariff codes for the product under HS2017 (B.E. 2560 - 2564) and HS2022 (B.E. 2565 - present) are 8539.32.00.
5.	**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 *A request for a five-year extension from the phase-out date, as specified in Annex A, through 2023.*	**1. Report explaining the reasons for the need to extend the exemption request by specifying the activities that have already been carried out, including the activities and plans that have been planned according to the request for an exception as necessary, and specifying the period for which an additional exception is requested (not exceeding 5 years).** **Main agency: Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI), Ministry of Industry** **1.1 Implementation progress** 1) Ministry of Industry Announcement on the determination of industrial product standards for mercury-added product – restriction of the use of mercury B.E. 2567. Standard No. TIS 3604-2023 announced on 29 March 2024 and announced in the Government Gazette, Announcement and General Affairs Edition, Volume 141, Special Part 138, dated 17 May B.E. 2567 2) Public Hearing on the Draft Ministerial Regulation Prescribing Industrial Products for Mercury-Added Electrical and Electronic Equipment to Conform to the Standards B.E. … . The public hearing to be conducted within 60 days of the announcement dated 25 January 2024 (B.E. 2567). 3) Notification of the Draft Ministerial Regulation to the World Trade Organization (WTO) on 12 February 2024, Notification Document No. G/TBT/N/THA/727. **1.2 Planned Activities for the Additional 5-Year Exemption Period** 1) The study is currently being conducted within the country to assess the impacts of the legislation regulating the production and import of mercury-added products under the "Advanced Minamata Assessment in Thailand" project. The project is expected to commence in mid-2025 and will have a duration of 2 years. 2) Determination of specific customs tariff codes for mercury-added products, utilizing the main operational mechanisms of the Thai Industrial Standards Institute and the Customs Department, in conjunction with supporting mechanisms from the

NO.	*Mercury-added Products*	*The need to extend additional exceptions*
		Working Group on Legal Affairs to support the obligations under the Minamata Convention, which is under the supervision of the Subcommittee on the Minamata Convention. 3) Public hearing on the draft Ministerial Regulation stipulating that industrial products in the category of electrical and electronic equipment containing mercury must comply with the relevant standards (revised edition), and potential amendments to the industrial product standard, "Mercury-Added Products – Restriction of the Use of Mercury," Standard No. TIS 3604-2566, if deemed necessary. 4) Capacity building and readiness enhancement of testing laboratories for mercury-added products to facilitate the issuance of licenses and certifications. 5) Preparation of the Ministerial Regulations Prescribing Industrial Products for Mercury-Added Electrical and Electronic Equipment to Conform to the Standards 2. Available information, including in respect of the availability of alternative products and processes that are free of mercury or that involve the consumption of less mercury than the exempt use. **2.1 Department of Industrial Works** - According to the factory database of the Department of Industrial Works during the period from 2017 to 2024 (as of 11 November 2024), a total of 45 factories were identified as engaging in activities related to the production of electrical switches and fluorescent lamps. Among these, only one factory was found to use mercury as a raw material in the production of fluorescent lamps. - According to the hazardous substance data from the Department of Industrial Works' notification system for the production or import of hazardous substances, covering the period from 2017 to 2024 (as of 24 October 2024), there have been notifications of mercury importation for the following purposes: (1) production of circuit boards and fluorescent lamps; (2) use as a coating substance inside fluorescent lamps; and (3) testing of electronic-related products. These findings are based on the summary of hazardous substance notifications (Form Wor.Aor. 6) submitted between 2017 and 2024 by operators involved in the production of electrical switches and fluorescent lamps. **2.2 Customs Department** - Information on the annual import–export volumes, as well as the names of companies or other relevant data concerning mercury-added products in this category, including mercury-free products and products containing mercury in amounts below the exemption thresholds. - Customs Tariff Codes Relevant to the Products

<table>
<tr><th>NO.</th><th>Mercury-added Products</th><th>The need to extend additional exceptions</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>
<table>
<tr><th rowspan="2">Mercury-added products</th><th colspan="2">All customs tariffs related to goods</th><th rowspan="2">Remarks</th></tr>
<tr><th>HS2017 (2017 - 2021)</th><th>HS2022 (2022 - present)</th></tr>
<tr><td>cold cathode fluorescent lamps (CCFL)</td><td>8539.39.30</td><td>8539.39.20
8539.39.40</td><td rowspan="2">The dimensions of the fluorescent lamp are not considered a determining factor in its customs tariff classification.</td></tr>
<tr><td>external electrode fluorescent lamps (EEFL)</td><td>8539.39.90</td><td>8539.39.90</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>6.</td><td>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.

A request for a five-year extension from the phase-out date, as specified in Annex A, through 2023.</td><td>
1. Report explaining the reasons for the need to extend the exemption request by specifying the activities that have already been carried out, including the activities and plans that have been planned according to the request for an exception as necessary, and specifying the period for which an additional exception is requested (not exceeding 5 years). In the case of non-electronic measuring devices (medical devices)
Main agency: Food and Drug Administration, Ministry of Public Health
1.1 Implementation progress
The Medical Device Control Division has established guidelines to prohibit, where possible, the manufacture, import and export of non-electronic measuring devices that are classified as medical devices under Section 4 of the Medical Devices Act B.E. 2551 (2008) and its amendments as set out in the Medical Devices Act (No. 2) B.E. 2562 (2019). This includes mercury thermometers and mercury sphygmomanometers.
1.2 Future operational guidelines (in accordance with the additional 5-year exemption period)
The cessation of the manufacture, import or sale of medical devices related to 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 — It is necessary to collect relevant data, provide public communication and raise awareness among manufacturers, medical device users, and patients; prepare for the procurement of alternative materials; allocate a public health budget; and draft regulations and gather feedback from stakeholders across all sectors. Additionally, it is important to ensure understanding of these measures among both manufacturers and consumers. As a result, an additional 5-year exemption period is requested, from January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2030.
For medical devices listed under the Medical Devices Act B.E. 2551 (2008) and as amended by the Medical Devices Act (No. 2) B.E. 2562 (2019), namely mercury-containing thermometers and sphygmomanometers, an action plan has been established to accelerate the amendment of the relevant subordinate legislation in the period 2026–2030 as follows:
<table>
<tr><th rowspan="2">Major Measures / Implementation Activities</th><th colspan="5">Implementation Period</th></tr>
<tr><th>2026</th><th>2027</th><th>2028</th><th>2029</th><th>2030</th></tr>
<tr><td>1. Conduct a study and compile relevant data concerning thermometers and sphygmomanometers.</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>2. Dissemination of Information and Notification to Stakeholders to Facilitate the Transition to Alternative Materials</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
</table>

NO.	Mercury-added Products	The need to extend additional exceptions

3. Amendment of relevant regulations to enforce a ban on the manufacture, importation, and exportation of medical devices, including mercury thermometers and sphygmomanometers.						
3.1 Formulate the official notification		■				
3.2 Conduct public consultations with relevant stakeholders			■	■		
3.3 Submit the (draft) notification for consideration by the working group, the subcommittee and the committee.			■	■		
4. Propose the notification for official signature					■	
5. Promulgate the notification in the Royal Gazette					■	

Note: The planned implementation period can be changed as required.

In the case of non-electronic measuring devices (not classified as medical devices)

It is necessary to request an additional five-year exemption from the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention, as the decision must be based on the findings from the domestic study to be conducted under the "Advanced Minamata Assessment in Thailand" project, which is expected to commence in mid-2025 and span two years. In parallel, consultations within the Legal Working Group are required to develop appropriate regulatory measures for the prohibition of the manufacture, import, and export of non-electronic measuring instruments (excluding medical devices).

The development of domestic regulations to effectively reduce and eventually eliminate the use of mercury in such products, which requires mechanisms and oversight from all relevant sectors.

2. Available information, including in respect of the availability of alternative products and processes that are free of mercury or that involve the consumption of less mercury than the exempt use.

2.1 Food and Drug Administration

Product registration information for Thermometers —Sphygmomanometers as of October 28, 2024

Electronic Thermometer	*Thermometer*	
	Mercury	*อื่น ๆ*
123 registrations	Not found	2 registrations (gallium-alloy) 2 registrations (Sticker)
	1 registration has expired.	
6 registrations	1 registration MAHACHAK INTERNATIONAL COMPANY LIMITED	2 registrations (Aneroid)
	14 registrations have expired	

2.2 Customs Department

- Information on the annual import–export volumes, as well as the names of companies or other relevant data concerning mercury-added products in this category, including mercury-free products and products containing mercury in amounts below the exemption thresholds.

NO.	Mercury-added Products	The need to extend additional exceptions

- Customs Tariff Codes Relevant to the Products

Mercury-added products	*All customs tariffs related to goods*	
	HS2017 (2017 - 2021)	*HS2022 (2022 - present)*
(a) Barometers are instruments for measuring atmospheric pressure.		
1. Electric	9025.80.20	9025.80.00
2. Non-electric	9025.80.30	
(b) Hygrometers are instruments for measuring the moisture content of air or other gases.		
1. Electric	9025.80.20	9025.80.00
2. Non-electric	9025.80.30	
(c) Manometers are instruments used to measure the pressure of liquids or gases in an enclosed space. They are divided into 2 types as follows:		
Group 1: Pressure gauges for motor vehicles		
1. Electric	9026.20.10	9026.20.50
2. Non-electric	9026.20.20	
Group 2: Pressure measuring devices, excluding pressure gauges for motor vehicles		
1. Electric	9026.20.30	9026.20.90
2. Non-electric	9026.20.40	
(d) Thermometers refer to contact-type temperature measuring devices, which are divided into two groups as follows:		
Group 1: Thermometers not incorporated with hydrometers or similar instruments, barometers, hygrometers, or psychrometers.		
1. Liquid-in-glass thermometers designed for direct reading, not combined with any other instruments.	9025.11.00	9025.11.00
2. Temperature gauge for electric vehicles that are not integrated with other equipment.	9025.19.11	9025.19.11
3. Electrical thermometers, excluding temperature gauges for electric vehicles, not incorporated with any other instruments.	9025.19.19	9025.19.19
4. Non-electrical thermometers, excluding liquid-filled direct-reading types, not combined with other devices.	9025.19.20	9025.19.20
Group 2: Thermometers incorporated with hydrometers and similar instruments, barometers, hygrometers, or psychrometers.		
1. Electric	9025.80.20	9025.80.00
2. Non-electric	9025.80.30	
(f) sphygmomanometers	9018.19.00	9018.19.00

NO.	*Mercury-added Products*	*The need to extend additional exceptions*
		The classification of customs tariff codes for the products listed above, under the Harmonized System, is primarily based on their intended use, without regard to the characteristics of the products such as mercury content, the use of electronic systems, installation requirements, accuracy, or the availability of suitable alternative devices or tools.

Planned or Ongoing Activities to Develop Environmentally Friendly Methods for Mercury Waste Collection and Disposal

Department of Industrial Works (Production Process)	*Department of Health (End-of-Life Mercury-Added Products)*
The Department of Industrial Works oversees the management of waste from manufacturers of products listed in items 1–5, as specified in the Ministry of Industry's Notification on the Disposal of Waste or Unused Materials B.E. 2566 (2023) and its amendments. The regulation includes codes for types and categories of waste or unused materials that contain or are contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds, as follows: 1) Code 16 02: Wastes from electrical and electronic equipment - Code 16 02 13 HM: Discarded electrical equipment containing hazardous components not covered under Codes 16 02 09 to 16 02 12, such as monitors, accumulators, mercury switches (e.g., discarded equipment containing hazardous components such as accumulators and batteries mentioned in Code 16 06 and marked as hazardous; mercury switches, glass from cathode ray tubes, and other activated glass, etc.) 2) Code 16 06: Batteries and accumulators - Code 16 06 03 HA: Mercury-containing batteries	Progress: The Department of Health has developed legislation concerning the management of hazardous or toxic municipal waste under the Public Health Act B.E. 2535 (1992), including the Ministerial Regulation on the Management of Hazardous or Toxic Municipal Waste B.E. 2563 (2020) and six related notifications, as follows: 1) Notification on Curriculum and Training Period for Safe Management of Hazardous or Toxic Municipal Waste for Responsible Officials, B.E. 2564 (2021) 2) Notification on Curriculum and Training Period for Safe Management of Hazardous or Toxic Municipal Waste for Workers, B.E. 2564 (2021) 3) Notification on Control Measures for the Transportation of Hazardous or Toxic Municipal Waste, B.E. 2565 (2022) 4) Notification on Classification of Medicines and Psychotropic Substances Used in Medical Treatment as Hazardous or Toxic Municipal Waste, B.E. 2565 (2022) 5) Notification on the Location and Area Requirements for Incineration Facilities for Hazardous or Toxic Municipal Waste, and Sufficient Lighting and Ventilation within the Building for Operational Safety, B.E. 2566 (2023) 6) Notification on Safe Landfill Sites and Measures to Prevent and Mitigate Impacts on Public Health and the Environment, B.E. 2566 (2023) Problems and Obstacles: Smaller local administrative organizations still lack the readiness in terms of both personnel knowledge and capacity to manage hazardous or toxic municipal waste. Future Plans: To push forward a draft Ministerial Regulation on Service Fees for Issuing Permits, Certificates of Notification, and Services for Waste or Municipal Waste Management (version...) B.E. .... (which has been approved by the Public Health Committee at its 147-3/2567 meeting). This would allow local administrative organizations to collect fees from various waste generators and have a budget for effective management.