



MINAMATA
CONVENTION
ON MERCURY

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

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

The decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury at its sixth meeting are set out in the annex to the present addendum.

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Decision MC-6/1: Supply sources and trade

The Conference of the Parties,

Expressing appreciation to parties for sharing information on experiences and challenges faced in the implementation of article 3 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, as well as information on activities conducted in relation to the Bali declaration on combating illegal trade in mercury in response to paragraph 4 of decision MC-5/2,

Noting that parties raised the issue of the presence of informal or illegal primary mining in their territories and cases of mercury trade not conforming with the Convention, as well as illicit trafficking, illegal trade or smuggling of mercury, in particular for use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining, in their national reports under article 21 and in the information submitted in response to paragraph 4 of decision MC-5/2,

Recognizing that such primary mining and trade represent a challenge to the implementation of article 3,

Considering the recommendation of the Implementation and Compliance Committee of the Convention to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting,¹

Noting that, notwithstanding the progress made so far, parties have expressed the need to enhance collaboration and receive additional support and assistance to strengthen implementation of article 3, and acknowledging the role of the Global Environment Facility in providing such support,²

1. *Adopts* the updates³ to the guidance⁴ on the identification of individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons and sources of mercury supply generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year;
2. *Also adopts* the updates⁵ to the guidance⁶ on the use of forms on import and export of mercury to assist parties in identifying, managing and reducing mercury trade from primary mercury mining;
3. *Invites* the parties that reported on experiences and challenges faced in the implementation of paragraph 3 of article 3, on primary mercury mining, in their national reports under article 21 to provide further information to the secretariat with a view to its being shared with the Implementation and Compliance Committee for further consideration;
4. *Encourages* parties, including those benefiting from ongoing projects of the Global Environment Facility, to continue to share information with the secretariat about experiences in preventing and combating illegal trade in mercury, including with respect to the use of forms related to article 3 on mercury trade;
5. *Requests* the secretariat to develop, in collaboration with parties and organizations with expertise on illegal trade, and subject to the availability of resources, a report presenting strategies for addressing the supply and trade of mercury for parties not in compliance with article 3, and, in preparing the report, the secretariat shall:
 - (a) Utilize information collected from parties and other relevant sources;
 - (b) Take into account information on strategies to prevent the diversion of mercury from foreign and domestic sources for use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing, as contained in national action plans on artisanal and small-scale gold mining submitted by parties in accordance with paragraph 3 (b) of article 7;
 - (c) Invite contributions from Parties, the Implementation and Compliance Committee and other stakeholders;

¹ UNEP/MC/COP.6/14, annex, para. 3 (b).

² For example, the newly launched project entitled “Accelerate Minamata Convention compliance through improved understanding and control of mercury trade in Latin America”.

³ UNEP/MC/COP.6/26.

⁴ The guidance was adopted in decision MC-1/2.

⁵ UNEP/MC/COP.6/27.

⁶ The guidance was adopted in decision MC-1/2.

6. *Invites* the secretariat to develop, subject to the availability of resources, guidance for the consistent use of Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System codes related to mercury-containing goods, specifically mercury, mercury compounds and mercury waste;
7. *Requests* the secretariat to submit the report requested in paragraph 5 above for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;
8. *Requests* the Implementation and Compliance Committee to:
 - (a) Assess the reasons that parties have provided as indications that they face challenges in implementing trade-related provisions under article 3 and consider whether recommendations that go beyond the actions already taken by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth and sixth meetings might be beneficial for improving implementation;
 - (b) Cooperate, as needed, with compliance bodies of other multilateral environmental agreements on their activities, with the aim of supporting parties in preventing and combating illegal trade;
9. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Customs Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the member organizations of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, 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 relevant global and regional enforcement networks to assist parties in preventing and combating illegal trade in mercury;
10. *Requests* the secretariat of the Minamata Convention, subject to the availability of resources, to continue to provide advice and conduct awareness-raising and technical assistance activities to strengthen the capacity of parties to fulfil their trade-related obligations under article 3;
11. *Also requests* the secretariat to report to the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting on the implementation of the present decision.

Decision MC-6/2: Advancing work related to potential restrictions on the trade of mercury compounds

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting that paragraph 13 of article 3 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury requires the Conference of the Parties to undertake an evaluation of whether the trade in specific mercury compounds compromises the Convention's objective of protecting human health and the environment,

Recalling that paragraph 13 of article 3 also requires the Conference of the Parties to consider whether specific mercury compounds should, by their listing in an additional annex adopted in accordance with article 27, be made subject to paragraphs 6 and 8 of article 3,

Acknowledging the work carried out during the most recent intersessional period pursuant to decision MC-5/3,

Aiming to further understand the current global supply, trade and use of specific mercury compounds in order to take informed decisions in relation to the Convention,

1. *Acknowledges* the report on the global supply, production, trade and use of mercury compounds;¹
2. *Encourages* parties and stakeholders to reflect on the information contained in the report and to consider the need for an additional annex that would make mercury compounds subject to the trade provisions of paragraphs 6 and 8 of article 3;
3. *Invites* parties and stakeholders to submit to the secretariat, by 31 March 2026, on a voluntary basis, available information on the supply, use and trade of mercury compounds, and to share their views and input on mercury compounds² which could possibly be listed in a proposed annex;
4. *Decides* to establish an open-ended expert group whose mandate will be to consider the information in the above-mentioned report and the information submitted in accordance with paragraph 3 above, to work in English in an online setting, and to submit its recommendations to the secretariat no later than eight months before the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
5. *Invites* parties and stakeholders to participate in the work of the expert group;
6. *Requests* the secretariat to support the expert group in its endeavours and to submit a report on the group's work and its findings for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting.

¹ UNEP/MC/COP.6/5/Add.1.

² This work is intended to study mercury compounds that may be used in products or processes, or that can be converted to elemental mercury. It is not intended to cover mercury compounds that fall under the definition of mercury wastes in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 11.

Decision MC-6/3: Amendments to annex A

The Conference of the Parties,

Having considered the proposal to amend annex A to the Minamata Convention on Mercury as contained in document UNEP/MC/COP.6/6,

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

<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
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:	2020

¹ The 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>
(a) Short length (≤ 500 mm) with mercury content exceeding 3.5 mg per lamp (b) Medium length (> 500 mm and $\leq 1,500$ mm) with mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp (c) Long length ($> 1,500$ mm) with mercury content exceeding 13 mg per lamp	
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
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 ^{1/}	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 ^{1/}	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
Dental amalgam, except for when its use is considered necessary by the dental practitioner based on the needs of the patient	2034

^{1/} The intention is not to cover cosmetics, soaps or creams with trace contaminants of mercury.

2. *Also decides* to undertake, at its twelfth meeting, a review of the need for the exception to use dental amalgam considered in part I of annex A to the Convention;

3. *Further decides* to amend part II of annex A to the Convention as set out in the following table:²

² The added provision is shaded in grey.

<i>Mercury-added products</i>	<i>Provisions</i>
Dental amalgam	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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; (ix) Promoting the use of best environmental practices in dental facilities to reduce releases of mercury and mercury compounds to water and land. <p>In addition, Parties shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Exclude or not allow, by taking measures as appropriate, the use of mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners; (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>In addition, Parties that have not yet phased out dental amalgam shall: 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> <p>In addition, Parties that have not yet phased out dental amalgam shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Take measures, as appropriate, to not allow, or significantly phase down, dental amalgam unless its use is considered necessary by the dental practitioner based on the needs of the patient.

4. *Recognizes* that, for purposes of reporting, for those parties for which the amendment to part I of annex A has entered into force and which have not availed themselves of any exemptions available under article 6, reporting on part II would not be applicable;

5. *Requests* the secretariat to draft a revised reporting format under article 21 to reflect the amendments to annex A and to revise the reporting guidance and the online electronic tool thereon.

Decision MC-6/4: Advancing work related to mercury-added cosmetics

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling that paragraph 1 of article 4 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury provides that parties shall not allow the manufacture, import or export of mercury-added cosmetics listed in part I of annex A to the Convention after the phase-out date specified for those products, except where an exclusion is specified in annex A or the party has a registered exemption pursuant to article 6,

Noting that, despite the listing of cosmetics in annex A, some cosmetics not allowed under the Convention are finding their way into global commerce,

Acknowledging the work undertaken during the most recent intersessional period pursuant to decision MC-5/5,

1. *Welcomes* the report on cosmetics listed in part I of annex A;¹
2. *Encourages* parties without national legislation or other measures, or otherwise facing challenges in implementing their obligations regarding mercury-added cosmetics, to inform the secretariat and to consider the application of article 14 and/or 15 to their situation;
3. *Encourages* the Global Mercury Partnership to continue its efforts, in consultation with interested parties, to compile and disseminate information related to the presence of mercury in cosmetics;
4. *Invites* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, and in collaboration with the Global Mercury Partnership, to gather and provide to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting available information on mechanisms for supporting enforcement and the identification of the presence of mercury in cosmetics, including field sampling and analysis equipment;
5. *Also invites* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to compile and synthesize the information provided by parties in their national reports, or submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 above, related to the challenges in preventing the manufacture, import and export of mercury-added cosmetics, including enforcement challenges, and to report on the matter to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;
6. *Further invites* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to work with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the World Customs Organization and other relevant international organizations with expertise related to the illegal trade of products to further investigate the major sources of manufacture, import and export of mercury-added cosmetics with greater than trace amounts or, for some parties, no more than 1 part per million of mercury that are no longer allowed under article 4, and to report on the matter to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting, including in its report any specific proposals from the relevant international organizations;
7. *Invites* the World Health Organization to:
 - (a) Consult with the United Nations Environment Programme and the Biodiversity Research Institute to provide lessons learned from the Global Environment Facility pilot project on the elimination of mercury-added cosmetics in Gabon, Jamaica and Sri Lanka;
 - (b) Prepare, with support from the Global Mercury Partnership, an illustrative national public health system-wide strategy focused on reduction measures for mercury-added cosmetics, and for skin-lightening products that may not contain mercury, that parties may utilize domestically;
 - (c) Share the lessons learned and an outline of the strategy with the secretariat by 31 December 2026.

¹ UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/8.

Decision MC-6/5: Consideration of the feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing vinyl chloride monomer

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the obligation, set out in paragraph 3 of article 5 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, for each party to take measures to restrict the use of mercury or mercury compounds in the processes listed in part II of annex B to the Convention, which, in the case of vinyl chloride monomer production, includes reporting to the Conference of the Parties on the party's efforts to develop and/or identify alternatives and phase out mercury use in accordance with article 21,

Noting that part II of annex B lists vinyl chloride monomer production and measures to be taken by the parties, including not allowing 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 technically and economically feasible,

Acknowledging the work undertaken during the latest intersessional period pursuant to decision MC-5/6,

1. *Welcomes* the report on the economic and technical feasibility of mercury-free catalysts in vinyl chloride monomer production;¹
2. *Notes with appreciation* the progress reported in eliminating the use of mercury in vinyl chloride monomer production;
3. *Notes* that it has not been possible to reach consensus in establishing the economic and technical feasibility of mercury-free catalysts in vinyl chloride monomer production at the current meeting;
4. *Agrees* to reconsider the issue at its next meeting.

¹ UNEP/MC/COP.6/6/Add.2.

Decision MC-6/6: Timeline for considering requests by parties for extensions of exemptions

The Conference of the Parties

Adopts, for the purpose of facilitating parties' requests for extensions of exemptions under paragraph 6 of article 6 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the timeline set out in the annex to the present decision.

Annex to decision MC-6/6

1. Any request for an extension of an exemption should preferably be submitted at least six months, but no less than two months, before the last meeting of the Conference of the Parties held before the expiry date of the exemption.
2. The request is expected to contain the information specified in paragraph 6 (a), (b) and (c) of article 6 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury for each mercury-added product or process included in the request so that the Conference of the Parties can fully consider the request.
3. The secretariat may consult as needed with the party submitting the extension request.
4. The request will be considered by the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting following the submission of the request.

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Decision MC-6/7: Extensions of exemptions

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting that paragraph 6 of article 6 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury provides that the Conference of the Parties may, at the request of a party, decide to extend an exemption from the relevant phase-out date listed in annex A or B to the Convention,

Recognizing that the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties marks the first time that the Conference has been requested to consider such a request,

Welcoming the revised exemption extension requests from two of the three parties requesting extensions, in which they provide additional information related to paragraph 6 (a), (b) and (c) of article 6 for the consideration of the parties,

Highlighting the continued need to protect human health and the environment from the ongoing manufacture, import and export of the products listed in part I of annex A,

1. *Takes note* of the requests for the extension of exemptions and related information submitted to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting by Bangladesh, India and Thailand pursuant to paragraph 6 of article 6;
2. *Decides* to extend the exemptions from the phase-out dates as requested by Bangladesh;¹
3. *Also decides* to extend the exemptions from the phase-out dates as requested by India;²
4. *Further decides* to extend the exemptions from the phase-out dates as requested by Thailand;³
5. *Notes* that, with the exception of the extensions of exemptions referred to in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 above, all registered exemptions from the 2020 phase-out dates listed in annex A will expire after 31 December 2025, in accordance with paragraph 5 of article 6, and that after that date, no State or regional economic integration organization may register for an exemption with respect to the 2020 phase-out dates, in accordance with paragraph 8 of article 6;
6. *Requests* the secretariat to continue to maintain, update and make available on the website of the Convention the register established under paragraph 3 of article 6 and related information, as appropriate.

¹ UNEP/MC/COP.6/28, annex I.

² Ibid., annex II.

³ Ibid., annex III.

Decision MC-6/8: Artisanal and small-scale gold mining: review of the implementation of article 7

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting that pollution from the use of mercury in gold mining, including artisanal and small-scale gold mining, remains the largest global source of anthropogenic mercury emissions,

Recognizing the efforts made by the relevant parties to develop, submit and implement their national action plans pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) and (b) of article 7 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury,

Recalling paragraph 3 (c) of article 7, which requires all parties that have determined that artisanal and small-scale gold mining in their territory is more than insignificant, notified the secretariat of that determination and developed and submitted their national action plans to provide a review of the progress made in meeting their obligations under article 7 and include the review in their reports to be submitted pursuant to article 21,

Recalling also its decision MC-4/4, in which it called on parties to engage Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities and other relevant stakeholders, in the development and implementation of their national action plans for artisanal and small-scale gold mining,

Recognizing that the prevention of the use and diversion of mercury linked to gold mining, including artisanal and small-scale gold mining, would be enhanced through environmentally sustainable management measures and strengthened accountability throughout the full life cycle of gold supply chains, including buyer and intermediary due diligence, traceability and verification of origin,

Welcoming international efforts to foster coordinated action on artisanal and small-scale gold mining with the aim of reducing the socioenvironmental risks associated with artisanal and small-scale gold mining and minimizing its negative impacts, fostering the development of mercury-free gold extraction processes conducted responsibly and enhancing transparency and traceability throughout the gold value chain,

Recognizing the importance of ensuring a just transition for communities, particularly those in vulnerable situations, when transitioning from using mercury in artisanal and small-scale gold mining,

1. *Calls on* parties whose national action plans on artisanal and small-scale gold mining are due pursuant to paragraph 3 (b) of article 7 to submit their final plans to the secretariat as soon as possible;
2. *Adopts* the amended sections on the review of the implementation of article 7¹ for inclusion in the guidance document on developing a national action plan to reduce and, where feasible, eliminate mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining;
3. *Requests* the secretariat to incorporate the adopted amendments into the guidance document and to cooperate with the Global Mercury Partnership in disseminating the amended guidance, including, as appropriate, at the regional and subregional levels;
4. *Calls on* all parties that have submitted their national action plans to provide a review of the progress made in meeting their obligations under article 7 and to include the review in their reports to be submitted pursuant to article 21, and encourages parties to use the reporting template in annex 7 to the amended guidance in those reports;
5. *Invites* parties that have notified the secretariat pursuant to paragraph 3 of article 7 to make use of the provisional guide on the effective engagement of Indigenous Peoples and of local communities² in the development and implementation of their national action plans, as well as their reviews of progress pursuant to paragraph 3 (c) of article 7, and requests the secretariat to seek feedback on the use of the provisional guide;
6. *Requests* the secretariat, in collaboration with the Global Mercury Partnership and on the basis of the information from the submitted national action plans and reviews of progress in the implementation of article 7, to take stock of and report to the Conference of the Parties on:
 - (a) Measures taken to implement the national action plans;

¹ As presented in document UNEP/MC/COP.6/7/Add.1.

² UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/11.

(b) Identified successful strategies and activities, achievements in implementation, and challenges and barriers encountered in reducing and eliminating the use, emissions and releases of mercury in artisanal and small-scale gold mining, including information on formalizing or regulating artisanal and small-scale gold mining, as well as managing trade and preventing the diversion of mercury for use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining;

7. *Encourages* parties to adopt or strengthen the environmentally sustainable management of gold supply chains and measures to identify buyers and intermediaries and to make them more responsible in the full life cycle of those supply chains, with a view to discouraging mercury use and illicit gold trade;

8. *Also encourages* parties to consider developing or improving open data practices throughout the gold supply chain, making relevant information publicly available, including verification of origin, with a view to ensuring transparency and accountability throughout the gold industry;

9. *Requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, in coordination with relevant international initiatives, to compile comparative experiences on supply-chain transparency and certification and how such practices could impact the use of mercury in gold mining, including artisanal and small-scale gold mining, and could enhance the accountability of buyers and intermediaries, and to present its findings to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;

10. *Recalls* decision MC-5/7, in which it called on all parties that had notified the secretariat pursuant to paragraph 3 of article 7 and on the Global Environment Facility to continue to advance implementation of national action plans through projects and programmes;

11. *Also recalls* decision MC-5/7, in which it encouraged parties to work with Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities, with regard to artisanal and small-scale gold mining;

12. *Requests* the secretariat to report to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting on the implementation of the present decision.

Decision MC-6/9: Advancing work related to mercury waste

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling that, in decisions MC-3/5, MC-4/6 and MC-5/10, the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury decided on thresholds for different categories of mercury wastes under article 11 of the Convention,

Welcoming with appreciation decision BC-17/14 of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, according to which the work programme of the Committee Administering the Mechanism for Promoting Implementation and Compliance for the biennium 2026–2027 includes a review of information provided in national reports on illegal traffic of mercury wastes, in response to the invitation in paragraph 12 of decision MC-5/10 of the Conference of Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury,

Welcoming decision BC-17/7 of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, in which the Conference decided to update the technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds in order to reflect adjustments consequential to the establishment of the threshold for mercury wastes falling under paragraph 2 (c) of article 11 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, in accordance with decision MC-5/10,

Recognizing that the environmentally sound management of mercury waste remains particularly challenging for developing countries, and taking into account article 14,

1. *Invites* parties and relevant stakeholders to submit, as appropriate, any proposed updates to the lists in tables 1, 2 and 3 of the annex to decision MC-3/5 to the secretariat no later than six months before the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties for the secretariat to compile, subject to the availability of resources, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;
2. *Requests* the parties and the secretariat to take the actions agreed on in decision MC-5/10 as soon as practicable or as required to facilitate the implementation of article 11;
3. *Requests* the secretariat to compile and summarize submissions from parties and relevant stakeholders of any scientific and regulatory data on the effectiveness of the threshold for waste falling under paragraph 2 (c) of article 11, as well as on challenges and experiences related to its use, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;
4. *Also requests* the secretariat to compile and summarize submissions from parties of any information on the implementation of the different approach referred to in paragraph 2 of decision MC-5/10, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting.

Decision MC-6/10: Financial mechanism

The Conference of the Parties,

Highlighting the central roles of the Global Environment Facility trust fund and the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance as the entities comprising the financial mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury,

Expressing appreciation for the approval by the Global Environment Facility Council of a new enabling activity for the review of the implementation of article 7 of the Convention,

Taking note of the recommendation of the Implementation and Compliance Committee of the Convention to parties that rely on the Minamata Initial Assessment baseline information to consider more up-to-date sources of information,

Expressing appreciation for the resources generously contributed by donors to the Specific International Programme for the fourth and fifth rounds of replenishment, and expressing appreciation also for the successful launch of the fourth round of applications,

Recalling decision MC-5/1, in which it noted the importance of broadening the participation of Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities, in the implementation of projects and programmes undertaken under the Convention,

Noting with concern that dental amalgam represents the largest remaining use of mercury in mercury-added products,

Recognizing that, since its first meeting, it has adopted additional measures on dental amalgam, which may require further action by parties,

1. *Welcomes* the ongoing ninth replenishment process of the Global Environment Facility trust fund, and highlights the importance of the ninth replenishment for the parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury for the period 2026–2030 with respect to their respective obligations and deadlines to be met under the Convention;
2. *Recalls* decision MC-1/5, in which it provided guidance to the Global Environment Facility;
3. *Provides* additional guidance to the Global Environment Facility, to supplement the guidance set out in the annex to decision MC-1/5, by adding the updating of the Minamata Initial Assessments and the monitoring of human exposure to mercury and environmental concentrations of mercury to the list of activities to implement the provisions of the Convention, contained in section IV.B of the annex to decision MC-1/5, and recalls the importance of providing support to address challenges arising from the obligations related to dental amalgam;
4. *Recalls* its guidance to the Global Environment Facility, in decision MC-5/11, to take into account the time frames to which parties must adhere for the implementation of mandatory obligations in developing its programming directions and resource allocations for the ninth replenishment period, and in further developing projects and programmes under the programming directions for the eighth replenishment, as a supplement to the guidance of the Conference of the Parties, and requests the secretariat of the Convention to transmit the information as outlined in the compilation of obligations and deadlines under the Convention and the extent to which such obligations and deadlines are being met by parties¹ to the Global Environment Facility;
5. *Encourages* the secretariat to continue to cooperate with the secretariat of the Global Environment Facility in the evaluation of its projects;
6. *Encourages* the Global Environment Facility, in reporting project results, to provide data and information on mercury reduction and avoidance as well as on efforts to advance the effective engagement and participation of Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities, and women and youth, to improve the understanding of any measurable results achieved;
7. *Reiterates* the importance of relevant parties' working through their operational focal points to make prompt and full use of the programming directions and resource allocation under the Global Environment Facility trust fund;
8. *Takes note* of the draft analysis by the secretariat of expected funding and staffing needs for the remaining time of the initial term and for a potential extension of the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance for an additional

¹ UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/39.

period not exceeding seven years, and requests the secretariat to work with the Governing Board of the Specific International Programme to finalize the draft analysis and prepare draft recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;

9. *Agrees* to consider the extension of the Specific International Programme for an additional period not exceeding seven years at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, noting that the third review of the financial mechanism is scheduled to take place at the same meeting;

10. *Encourages* the secretariat to continue coordinating with the Global Framework on Chemicals Fund for the Global Framework on Chemicals – for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste and with the Special Programme,² within the scope of their respective mandates, in order to enhance complementarity and avoid duplication, as requested in resolution 6/9 of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

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² Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation 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, the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and the Global Framework on Chemicals – for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste, also known as the Chemicals and Waste Management Programme.

Decision MC-6/11: Third review of the financial mechanism

The Conference of the Parties,

Recognizing the extent of the experience and information available to consider and build on for the third review of the financial mechanism,

Considering paragraph 11 of article 13 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, on the review of the financial mechanism,

1. *Adopts* the terms of reference for the third review of the financial mechanism set out in the annex to the present decision;
2. *Invites* parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and stakeholders to submit information, consistent with the terms of reference for the review and organized according to the listed performance criteria, on their experience gained through their interactions with the financial mechanism, as soon as possible and not later than 30 April 2026;
3. *Requests* the secretariat to compile information relevant to the third review of the financial mechanism and submit it to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its seventh meeting.

Annex to decision MC-6/11

Terms of reference for the third review of the financial mechanism

A. Objective

1. Pursuant to paragraph 11 of article 13 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Conference of the Parties is to review the financial mechanism established under article 13 to support parties in the implementation of the Convention, with a view to taking appropriate action, if necessary, to improve the effectiveness of the financial mechanism. Pursuant to paragraph 11 of article 13, the review is to include an analysis of:

- (a) The level of funding;
- (b) The ability of the financial mechanism to mobilize resources from all sources, the level and type of funding, including differentiation between earmarked and non-earmarked voluntary contributions;
- (c) The guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties to the Global Environment Facility and to the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance in their capacity as the entities entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism;
- (d) The efficiency and effectiveness of the Global Environment Facility and the Specific International Programme in their capacity as the entities entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism;
- (e) The ability of the two entities of the financial mechanism to address the changing needs of developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition.

B. Methodology

2. The third review will cover the activities of the financial mechanism for the period from August 2022 (immediately after the period covered by the second review) to June 2026, when the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility trust fund concludes, inclusive of the third and fourth rounds of applications to the Specific International Programme, with emphasis on the activities concluded during that period.
3. The review will draw on the following sources of information, among others:
 - (a) Information submitted by parties on their experience gained through their interactions with the financial mechanism, organized according to the performance criteria set forth in section D of the present terms of reference;
 - (b) Reports submitted to the Conference of the Parties by the entities entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism;
 - (c) Other reports provided by the entities entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism, including, among other things, reports of the Independent Evaluation Office of the Global

Environment Facility, terminal review and evaluation reports of completed projects under the Specific International Programme and reports on ongoing and completed projects under the Specific International Programme;

(d) Relevant reports and information submitted by: intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations; stakeholders; other entities providing multilateral, regional and bilateral financial and technical assistance pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 3 of article 13; the Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and the Global Framework on Chemicals – for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste (with respect to complementarity and avoiding duplication); the Global Framework on Chemicals Fund; and the Global Mercury Partnership (in relation to its interaction with the financial mechanism in advancing the implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury);

(e) The report of the midterm evaluation of the Specific International Programme;

(f) Reports submitted by parties pursuant to article 21.

4. In keeping with the terms of reference, the secretariat will, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) Make adequate arrangements to ensure that the third review of the financial mechanism is conducted in an independent, transparent, effective and efficient manner;

(b) Hire a consultant to prepare a draft report on the information provided;

(c) Submit the report on the review to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its seventh meeting.

5. The entities entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism are requested to provide information relevant to the review in a timely manner.

6. Parties are requested to provide information pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) above as soon as possible and not later than 30 April 2026.

7. Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, stakeholders, the Special Programme, the Global Framework on Chemicals Fund, the Global Mercury Partnership and relevant entities providing multilateral, regional and bilateral financial and technical assistance are requested to provide relevant information pursuant to the objectives of the present review as soon as possible and not later than 30 April 2026.

C. Report

8. The report on the third review will include the following elements:

(a) An overview of elements (a)–(e) of paragraph 1 above;

(b) Analysis of lessons learned from the activities funded by the financial mechanism during the period covered by the review;

(c) Assessment of the Global Environment Facility's principles of incremental cost and global environmental benefits as they pertain to activities to implement obligations under the Convention, along with lessons learned from the evaluation reports on activities of the Global Environment Facility and the final reports and terminal review and evaluation reports of completed projects under the Specific International Programme;

(d) Assessment of the sustainability, transparency and accessibility of the funding provided by the financial mechanism for the achievement of the objective of the Convention;

(e) Identification of the resources mobilized directly by the financial mechanism, including in-kind contributions and co-financing, and, to the extent possible, quantitative and/or qualitative assessment of the resources mobilized indirectly by actions of the private sector and other stakeholders;

(f) Information on the extent to which recommendations to improve the effectiveness of the financial mechanism identified in the second review of the financial mechanism have been taken up;

(g) Recommendations to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the financial mechanism in meeting the objective of the Convention;

- (h) Assessment against the performance criteria set out in paragraph 9 below.

D. Performance criteria

9. The effectiveness and efficiency of the financial mechanism will be assessed, with consideration of, among other things, the following:

- (a) Responsiveness of the Global Environment Facility and the Specific International Programme to the guidance adopted by or provided by the Conference of the Parties;
- (b) Extent to which the projects funded by the financial mechanism have reduced, or are expected to reduce, the supply, use, emissions and releases of mercury, and deliver other benefits in terms of Convention implementation;
- (c) Transparency and timeliness of the project approval processes;
- (d) Simplicity, flexibility and expeditiousness of the procedures for accessing funds and for implementing and reporting on projects;
- (e) Adequacy of resources;
- (f) Country ownership and sustainability of activities funded by the financial mechanism;
- (g) Level of stakeholder involvement;
- (h) Extent to which the projects funded by the financial mechanism have benefited groups in vulnerable situations;
- (i) Any other significant issues raised by the parties.

Decision MC-6/12: Implementation of article 14 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, on capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 14 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, on capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer,

Having considered the information on initiatives and progress made in relation to alternative technologies, and appreciating the lessons learned from case studies on the successful development, transfer and diffusion of alternative technologies, as presented at its sixth meeting,¹

Noting the limited availability of information on the needs of parties, particularly developing-country parties, with respect to alternative technologies, while at the same time acknowledging current efforts as a step towards closing the information gap and narrowing the focus of further specific interventions to support parties,

Noting also the challenges reported by parties, particularly developing-country parties, in their national reports pursuant to article 21, with respect to alternative technologies,

Expressing its appreciation for the strong foundation for collaboration on technology transfer between the secretariat and the Global Mercury Partnership, 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, including the regional centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions,

1. *Urges* developed-country parties and other parties, within their capabilities, to take into account the challenges identified with regard to the uptake of alternative technologies, specifically in promoting and facilitating the development, transfer and diffusion of up-to-date, environmentally sound alternative technologies to developing-country parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and parties with economies in transition, to strengthen their capacity to effectively implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury;

2. *Encourages* parties, in their national reports pursuant to article 21, including their second full national reports, to include specific information on the development, transfer and diffusion of, and access to, alternative technologies, as well as on the challenges they have experienced in accessing and transferring technology, to assist in a future review of challenges and progress;

3. *Requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, pursuant to paragraph 4 of article 14, to further collect and analyse, in collaboration with the Global Mercury Partnership, among others, information on existing initiatives and progress made in relation to alternative technologies, as well as related needs and challenges, utilizing:

- (a) Information in future national reports under article 21;
- (b) Additional information collected through a survey of technology needs and challenges;
- (c) Other available information, including reports on and evaluations of projects funded by the Global Environment Facility and the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance;

4. *Decides* to consider the matter of alternative technologies pursuant to paragraph 4 of article 14 again at its eighth meeting;

5. *Calls on* parties, and invites non-parties to the Convention and others in a position to do so, to contribute to the special trust fund of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, to enable the implementation of the capacity-building activities described in the 2026–2027 programme of work and budget activity fact sheet for capacity-building and technical assistance (activity 4);

6. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the work of the secretariat in developing and disseminating tools and training materials related to the implementation of parties' obligations under the Convention;

¹ See document UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/18.

7. *Requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to continue to provide capacity-building and technical assistance support to parties pursuant to paragraph 1 of article 14, including through active and sustained engagement with the Global Mercury Partnership.

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Decision MC-6/13: National reporting (article 21): second short national reports

The Conference of the Parties,

Emphasizing the importance of reporting, and recalling the obligation of parties to submit their national reports in accordance with article 21 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury,

Considering the report on the work of the Implementation and Compliance Committee of the Convention at its sixth and seventh meetings, including its conclusions on the reporting performance of parties,¹

Recognizing the challenges in implementing the trade obligations under article 3 posed by informal or illegal primary mercury mining and trade in mercury that do not conform with the provisions of the Convention, including gathering data and reporting on such activities,

Welcoming the efforts of parties to report on informal or illegal primary mercury mining and trade, including as they relate to the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector,

Recalling paragraph 2 of decision MC-5/2, in which it encouraged 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,

1. *Welcomes* the high rate of reporting (86 per cent) by parties for their second short national reports, and acknowledges that there is room for further improvement in the reporting rate;
2. *Invites* parties to achieve a high rate of reporting for their second full national reports, due by 31 December 2025, and requests parties to submit their reports in a timely manner;
3. *Reiterates* its call to parties that have received consent to export mercury to parties and/or non-parties to provide to the secretariat either copies of the consent forms used or other suitable information in their reports submitted pursuant to article 21 in order to show that the relevant requirements of article 3 have been met;
4. *Invites* parties to submit their completed national action plans on the phase-out of dental amalgam either together with their second full national reports, due by 31 December 2025, or with their third short national reports, due by 31 December 2027;
5. *Takes note* of the updates to the guidance for completing the national reporting format as requested in decision MC-5/13,² and encourages parties to use the guidance in the current and next reporting rounds;
6. *Requests* the secretariat:
 - (a) To collect information on best practices for reporting on informal or illegal activities that do not conform with the provisions of the Convention, with a view to identifying information that would be helpful for assessing their scale and nature, and to explore how such information could inform tools or reporting elements to support parties facing such challenges;
 - (b) To continue evaluating, on the basis of parties' identification and experience in completing the second full reports, any significant issues that may arise from the reporting format, and, only to the extent necessary, to develop proposals for enhancing its ease of use and clarity for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its future meetings;
 - (c) To integrate relevant decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at the present and future meetings into the guidance for completing the reporting format, ensuring that national reporting remains consistent with the updated requirements, for review by the parties during the intersessional period;
 - (d) To prepare draft guidance on developing national action plans to phase out dental amalgam, subject to the availability of resources, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;
 - (e) To report to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting on the implementation of the present decision.

¹ UNEP/MC/COP.6/14.

² UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/21.

Decision MC-6/14: Progress in the first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decision MC-5/14, in which it agreed to consider the outcome of the first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury at its seventh meeting,

1. *Takes note* of the progress made by the Effectiveness Evaluation Group and the Open-ended Scientific Group since the fifth meeting, and requests both groups to continue working to support the Conference of the Parties in the first effectiveness evaluation in accordance with their respective terms of reference;
2. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the input from parties and other stakeholders on the effectiveness evaluation, including the submission of monitoring, emission and release data and comments on draft reports, and invites parties to continue providing such input, including comments on the draft documents developed by the Effectiveness Evaluation Group and the Open-ended Scientific Group;
3. *Invites* parties to submit their full national reports under article 21 to the secretariat by 31 December 2025, in order to ensure that the most recent information is available for the first effectiveness evaluation.

Decision MC-6/15: Strengthening effective engagement with Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the rights of Indigenous Peoples as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and that Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities, are disproportionately impacted by the effects of mercury pollution,

Emphasizing that Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities, should play an important role in the implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and underscoring that their full and effective engagement and participation in meetings and processes under the Convention are essential to achieving its objective,

Taking note of the results of the survey on the needs and priorities of Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities, with regard to the effects of mercury on their health, livelihoods, culture and knowledge, and recognizing that effective engagement and participation in the work of the Convention are a high priority for those groups in addressing mercury pollution,

Welcoming the efforts of the secretariat to develop the Indigenous Peoples' Platform, and encouraging parties and other relevant stakeholders to continue to promote policies that enable Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities, to benefit from and contribute to the dissemination of information, awareness and education on emissions and releases of mercury,

Recalling decision MC-5/1 on the effects of mercury pollution on Indigenous Peoples and on local communities,

1. *Urges* parties, and invites States not parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, as well as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and others, to provide support for the effective participation of Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities, as appropriate, particularly those from regions disproportionately impacted by mercury pollution, in work and meetings under the Convention, including through voluntary contributions to the special trust fund of the Convention;

2. *Requests* the secretariat to:

(a) Seek advice from Indigenous Peoples, as well as local communities, through Indigenous Peoples' organizations accredited to the Convention, local communities' organizations accredited to the Convention, and the International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Mercury on potential measures for strengthening their effective engagement in the work of the Convention and on proposed next steps;

(b) Communicate regarding opportunities for engagement and support on the Indigenous Peoples' Platform;

(c) Collaborate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and other relevant organizations and stakeholders, as appropriate, to further strengthen effective engagement regarding mercury pollution;

(d) Report to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting on the implementation of the present decision.

Decision MC-6/16: Addressing health concerns of women and children

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the activities carried out by the secretariat, parties and other stakeholders during the biennium 2024–2025 as suggested in decision MC-5/15 on the gender action plan, including activities to address health concerns of women and children;
2. *Invites* parties to continue their implementation of decision MC-5/15 on the gender action plan, including to address health concerns of women and children during the biennium 2026–2027¹ and to share with the secretariat their related experiences and good practices;
3. *Also invites* parties to provide comments, as appropriate, on possible activities to be carried out by the secretariat, parties and other stakeholders during the biennium 2028–2029;
4. *Requests* the secretariat to carry out activities during the biennium 2026–2027,² subject to the availability of resources;
5. *Also requests* the secretariat to report to the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of the present decision and propose possible activities to be carried out by the secretariat, parties and other stakeholders during the biennium 2028–2029, as appropriate, for consideration by the Conference at its seventh meeting.

¹ Suggested activities are set out in document UNEP/MC/COP.6/29, para. 2.

² Suggested activities are set out in document UNEP/MC/COP.6/29, para. 1.

Decision MC-6/17: Knowledge management and implementation of the digital strategy

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the digital strategy for the Minamata Convention on Mercury,¹ as noted with appreciation in decision MC-5/16, to guide the work of the secretariat in leveraging technology and managing knowledge effectively to support the implementation of the Convention,

Emphasizing the benefits of digitalization in knowledge management and capacity-building for advancing progress towards the objective of the Convention, in accordance with the forward-looking vision of the United Nations 2.0 initiative of fostering innovation, collaboration, and a digital culture across the United Nations system,

Recognizing the need for information exchange in accordance with articles 17 and 24 of the Convention to facilitate cooperation in the exchange of information between parties and relevant stakeholders,

1. *Welcomes* the progress made by the secretariat in implementing the digital strategy during the biennium 2024–2025;²
2. *Requests* the secretariat to continue the implementation of the digital strategy in accordance with the programme of work and budget for the Minamata Convention on Mercury for the biennium 2026–2027 and to prioritize relevant activities for progressive advancement of the strategy in future bienniums, including the potential for the use of artificial intelligence;
3. *Recognizes* the Convention website as the primary source of public information and knowledge about the Convention, and requests the secretariat to keep it updated in accordance with the digital strategy;
4. *Agrees* to support the development of the Minamata Convention Exchange Platform as a cost-effective and transparent vehicle for information exchange pursuant to articles 17 and 24, subject to the availability of resources;
5. *Encourages* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to continue cooperation and coordination activities with the Global Mercury Partnership to advance shared knowledge initiatives concerning mercury-related issues, including the joint development of data products, communication tools and knowledge platforms, while ensuring complementarity;
6. *Requests* the secretariat to continue collaborating with the secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements and other partners, including the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (InforMEA) initiative, on knowledge management, digitalization and information exchange;
7. *Also requests* the secretariat to continue collaborating with 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 to exchange information and share experiences and best practices relating to knowledge management and digitalization;
8. *Further requests* the secretariat to report on progress in the implementation of the digital strategy to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting.

¹ UNEP/MC/COP.5/19, annex I.

² As outlined in document UNEP/MC/COP.6/19.

Decision MC-6/18: Road map for enhancing co-benefits from implementation of the Minamata Convention and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

The Conference of the Parties,

Acknowledging with appreciation the work by the secretariat in response to decision MC-5/17 on mercury and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including the input prepared in response to the calls by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on indicators, as reported to the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury at its sixth meeting,

Acknowledging the invitation by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in its decision 16/35, to the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention, along with the governing bodies of the other chemical and waste conventions, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant conventions and organizations, including the Global Framework on Chemicals – for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste, to collaborate with the three Rio conventions on target 7 of the Framework, “reduce pollution to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity”,

Acknowledging with appreciation the work facilitated by the United Nations Environment Programme under the Bern process, including the outcomes of the third conference under that process,¹

1. *Welcomes* the road map for enhancing co-benefits from implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework by 2030,² prepared by the secretariat pursuant to decision MC-5/17;
2. *Encourages* parties and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to carry out the actions suggested in the road map, on a voluntary basis, consistent with national priorities, circumstances and capacities, and under the leadership of national Governments;
3. *Encourages* parties, and invites other Governments that have submitted notifications pursuant to paragraph 3 of article 7 on artisanal and small-scale gold mining, to make use of the technical support document prepared by the secretariat on integrating action to reduce mercury pollution from artisanal and small-scale gold mining into national biodiversity strategies and action plans aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,³ as appropriate and without prejudice to national circumstances and policy frameworks;
4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to invite the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to consider adding an assessment of pollution and biodiversity to its rolling work programme,⁴ and requests the secretariat to initiate cooperation with the secretariat of the Platform, without duplication of existing work under the Minamata Convention, with a view to exploring possible ways in which the work of the Platform might support the implementation of the Minamata Convention;
5. *Encourages* parties to engage in the Bern process and actively promote cooperation and policy coherence among multilateral environmental agreements at the national level, taking into account national circumstances, needs and priorities, and fully respecting national sovereignty and policy space, through, as appropriate, a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, while avoiding unnecessary additional reporting burdens;
6. *Requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to contribute to the implementation of the road map and to continue its engagement in the Bern process, in collaboration with other multilateral environmental agreements and the United Nations Environment Programme, without creating new obligations for parties and subject to adequate financial and technical support, particularly for developing countries.

¹ See <https://www.unep.org/events/conference/bern-iii-conference-cooperation-among-biodiversity-related-conventions>.

² As presented in section III of document UNEP/MC/COP.6/20.

³ UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/27.

⁴ Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity decision 16/11, para. 3.

Decision MC-6/19: International cooperation and coordination

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling paragraph 5 (b) of article 23 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, which provides that the Conference of the Parties and the secretariat are to cooperate, where appropriate, with relevant international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies,

Expressing its appreciation to the international organizations and initiatives that conducted activities in 2024 and 2025 to promote ratification and implementation of the Convention, as reported to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting, for conducting those activities,

Welcoming the cooperation between the secretariat and the United Nations Children's Fund on a joint publication on the risk of mercury to children,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption, by the United Nations Environment Assembly, at its sixth session,¹ of resolutions on matters related to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and requests the secretariat to contribute to the implementation of those resolutions, as appropriate;
2. *Also welcomes* the establishment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution in Punta del Este, Uruguay, on 20 June 2025, expresses its interest in establishing a partnership with the Panel to advance the work of reaching the objective of the Convention, and requests the secretariat of the Convention to cooperate with the secretariat of the Panel and seek observer status in the plenary of the Panel;
3. *Requests* the secretariat of the Convention to conduct, subject to the availability of resources, a scoping study on possible areas where the strengthening of the science-policy interface would advance implementation of the Convention, with input from parties and others, as well as experts who collaborate in the framework of the International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;
4. *Welcomes* the proposal for activities that provide mutual benefits to the implementation of the Convention and the Global Framework on Chemicals – for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste,² and requests the secretariat to carry out those activities and continue and further enhance cooperation and coordination with the secretariat of the Global Framework on Chemicals;
5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps for membership of the Convention and participation of the secretariat of the Convention in the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, and invites the secretariat to continue to work in close cooperation with the Programme;
6. *Requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to continue cooperation and coordination with the Global Mercury Partnership, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Children's Fund on issues of common interest, and with other international bodies in areas of relevance to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, including in the areas and with the organizations listed in document UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/28;
7. *Also requests* the secretariat to report on the implementation of the present decision to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting, as appropriate.

¹ Resolution 6/3 on enhancing the role and viability of regional forums of ministers of the environment and United Nations Environment Programme regional offices in achieving multilateral cooperation in tackling environmental challenges; resolution 6/4 on promoting synergies, cooperation or collaboration for national implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and other relevant environmental instruments; resolution 6/5 on environmental aspects of minerals and metals; resolution 6/6 on fostering national action to address global environmental challenges through increased cooperation between the United Nations Environment Assembly, the United Nations Environment Programme and multilateral environmental agreements; and resolution 6/9 on sound management of chemicals and waste.

² As outlined in document UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/28.

Decision MC-6/20: Cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

The Conference of the Parties,

Recognizing that the sharing of services within a stable framework will enhance cooperation and coordination based on experience and proximity and can foster the effective implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, 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 without undermining the autonomy of the secretariats or the accountability of their executive heads,

Recalling decisions MC-3/11, MC-4/9 and MC-5/19, on cooperation and coordination with the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions,

1. *Takes note* of the joint report on cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions,¹ and of the outline of cooperation activities planned, including for the sharing and purchase of relevant services, between the two secretariats for the biennium 2026–2027;²

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of continued cooperation on programmatic synergies, of the use of the task force between the two secretariats and the United Nations Environment Programme Chemicals and Health Branch, and of the possibility for the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury to provide secretariat support to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions on a cost recovery basis, in accordance with the programmes of work and budgets of the conventions for each biennium;

3. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions regarding the training of potential chairs and negotiators for meetings of bodies, and requests the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, subject to the availability of resources, to continue contributing to the implementation of such training;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue, with the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and under the overall steering of the task force, as appropriate, to cooperate on relevant administrative, programmatic, scientific and technical, and technical assistance matters, in accordance with the programme of work and budget, and to explore ways of further strengthening cooperation and collaboration with the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;

(b) To continue to implement the sharing of services and of the purchase of relevant services with the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions on a cost recovery basis, as appropriate and in accordance with the programme of work and budget for each biennium;

(c) To report on the implementation of the present decision, including on a stable framework for cooperation and for the sharing of services, providing an outline of the cooperation activities planned under such a framework for the biennium 2028–2029, for the consideration of and, as necessary, further guidance by the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting.

¹ UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/29, annex I.

² Ibid., annex II.

Decision MC-6/21: Programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026–2027

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decision MC-5/20 on the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2024–2025,

Welcoming the annual contribution by Switzerland, the host country of the secretariat, of 1 million Swiss francs, apportioned 60 per cent to the general trust fund and 40 per cent to the special trust fund of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, to be prioritized for the purpose of supporting the participation of representatives from developing countries in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties,

Taking note of the contributions paid to the general trust fund by parties,

Noting that the Convention's full working capital reserve in the general trust fund was established in 2018, and reaffirming that the working capital reserve is maintained at the level of 15 per cent of the annual budget,

Recognizing with appreciation the contributions and pledges made by Canada, Japan, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden to the special trust fund in the biennium 2024–2025,

Recognizing also with appreciation the contributions and pledges made by Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to support activities under the Specific Trust Fund for the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance for the fourth round of applications,

I

General trust fund of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

1. *Takes note* of the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026–2027,¹ the information on financial matters, including the report on expenditures,² the budget activity fact sheets,³ and the report provided by the secretariat on progress in implementing the 2024–2025 work programme;⁴
2. *Approves* the budget for the general trust fund for the biennium 2026–2027 of 8,431,553 United States dollars;
3. *Authorizes* the Executive Secretary to draw down from the estimated available surplus of the general trust fund the amount of 96,050 United States dollars to fund one meeting of the Effectiveness Evaluation Group;
4. *Adopts* the staffing table of the secretariat for the biennium 2026–2027 used for costing purposes to set the overall budget, which is set out in table 3 of the annex to the present decision;
5. *Authorizes*, on an exceptional basis, the Executive Secretary, as a last resort, to draw additional funds, not exceeding 541,749 United States dollars, from the net balance of the general trust fund to cover any shortfall in the approved staffing table for the biennium 2026–2027, should the annual increase applied to real staff costs and used to determine the budgeted staffing cost not be adequate, provided that the net balance is not reduced below the working capital reserve;
6. *Adopts* the indicative scale of assessments for the apportionment of expenses for 2026–2027 as set out in table 2 of the annex to the present decision, and authorizes the Executive Secretary, consistent with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, to adjust the scale to include all parties for which the Convention is in force by 1 January 2026;
7. *Recalls* that contributions to the general trust fund are due by 1 January of the year for which those contributions have been budgeted and at the latest by 31 December of that year, and requests parties to pay their contributions as soon as possible to enable the secretariat to carry out its work;

¹ UNEP/MC/COP.6/23.

² UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/37.

³ UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/38.

⁴ UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/36.

8. *Invites* parties to make every effort to pay any outstanding contributions as soon as possible, and requests the secretariat to report to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting on the progress achieved owing to the efforts made by parties;

9. *Requests* the secretariat to work directly with the permanent missions, ministries of foreign affairs and focal points of the parties in that situation so that they fully pay their outstanding contributions as soon as possible, and to present at appropriate meetings information on the current situation regarding outstanding contributions and their consequences;

II

Special trust fund of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

10. *Takes note* of the report provided by the Executive Secretary on the activities and expenditures for 2024–2025 through the special trust fund as contained in the information on financial matters,⁵ as well as the report provided by the secretariat on progress in implementing the 2024–2025 work programme;⁶

11. *Also takes note* of the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026–2027,⁷ as well as the additional information on financial matters⁸ and the budget activity fact sheets;⁹

12. *Agrees* to the estimates for the special trust fund for the biennium 2026–2027 of 4,891,770 United States dollars;

13. *Notes* that implementation of the planned activities is subject to the availability of resources contributed to the special trust fund;

14. *Encourages* parties to the Convention, and invites non-parties to the Convention and others in a position to do so, to contribute to the special trust fund;

15. *Invites* parties and non-parties to the Convention and others in a position to do so to contribute to the special trust fund to support the participation of representatives of parties from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies;

16. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to organize, subject to the availability of resources, a high-level event to mark the tenth anniversary of the Convention during the eighth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly;

III

Specific Trust Fund for the Minamata Convention on Mercury

17. *Takes note* of the overall report on the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance and the Specific Trust Fund established for those activities;¹⁰

18. *Invites* parties and non-parties to the Convention and others in a position to do so to contribute to the Specific Trust Fund to support capacity-building and technical assistance activities in accordance with article 13 of the Convention;

19. *Encourages* parties to fund a Junior Professional Officer position to assist with the activities of the Specific International Programme;

IV

Preparations for the biennium 2028–2029

20. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare a budget for the biennium 2028–2029 for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting, in 2027, explaining the key principles, assumptions and programmatic strategy on which the budget is based and presenting

⁵ UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/37.

⁶ UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/36.

⁷ UNEP/MC/COP.6/23.

⁸ UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/37.

⁹ UNEP/MC/COP.6/INF/38.

¹⁰ UNEP/MC/COP.6/11.

expenditures for that biennium in a programmatic format and broken down by budget activity, with each activity to be supported by a budget activity fact sheet;

21. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, in preparing the budget and programme of work for the biennium 2028–2029, to present two scenarios:

(a) One maintaining the operational budget at the 2026–2027 level in nominal terms;

(b) One reflecting the changes required to the above-mentioned scenario to meet the projected needs and the costs or savings related thereto, which should not exceed a 5 per cent increase over the 2026–2027 level in nominal terms;

22. *Stresses* the need to ensure that the budget proposals are realistic and represent the agreed priorities of all parties to help ensure a sustainable and stable fund and cash balance, including contributions received;

23. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in keeping with paragraph 8 of rule 5 of the financial rules for the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, its subsidiary bodies and the secretariat of the Convention, to acknowledge promptly the receipt of all pledges and contributions and inform the parties thereof by publishing on the Convention website up-to-date information on the status of pledges and payments of contributions, and to provide detailed, up-to-date information on actual income and expenses of the general trust fund and the special trust fund;

24. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to provide, in line with paragraph 1 of rule 3 of the financial rules for the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, its subsidiary bodies and the secretariat of the Convention, detailed information on actual income and expenditures for each year of the biennium 2024–2025 and for 2026 and estimates of actual expenditures for 2027;

25. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare a report, subject to the availability of resources, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting, presenting options for cost-saving measures. These options may include, *inter alia*, adjustments to the timing, format and duration of meetings convened under the Convention, considerations pertaining to cost-effective technology for translation, considerations related to the staffing of the secretariat, as well as considerations on potential cost-sharing arrangements with the secretariats of other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, drawing on best practices.

Annex to decision MC-6/21

Table 1
Programme of work and budget for the biennium 2026–2027
 (United States dollars)

<i>Budget 2026–2027</i>	<i>General trust fund</i>			<i>Special trust fund</i>		
	<i>2026</i>	<i>2027</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>2026</i>	<i>2027</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Activity</i>						
A. Conferences and meetings						
1. Seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties						
1.1. Seventh meeting		1 045 000	1 045 000		475 000	475 000
1.2. Regional preparatory meetings					420 000	420 000
1. Seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties		1 045 000	1 045 000		895 000	895 000
2. Bureau of the Conference of the Parties						
2.1. Meetings of the Bureau	26 000		26 000			
2. Bureau of the Conference of the Parties	26 000		26 000			
3. Implementation and Compliance Committee						
3.1. Meeting of the Committee	33 000		33 000	12 000		12 000
3. Implementation and Compliance Committee	33 000		33 000	12 000		12 000
Total (A)	59 000	1 045 000	1 104 000	12 000	895 000	907 000
B. Capacity-building and technical assistance						
4. Capacity-building and technical assistance programme of the Minamata Convention						
4.1. Tools, methodologies and delivery modalities				160 000	160 000	320 000
4.2. Specific capacity development activities				270 000	260 000	530 000
4.3. Capacity-building activities on request				160 000	130 000	290 000
4.4. Cross-cutting activities				180 000	200 000	380 000
4. Capacity-building and technical assistance programme of the Minamata Convention				770 000	750 000	1 520 000
Total (B)				770 000	750 000	1 520 000
C. Scientific and technical activities						
5. Scientific support to the parties to the Minamata Convention						
5.1. Improvement in methods for mercury inventories				50 000	50 000	100 000
5.2. Information exchange on modelling and monitoring				50 000	50 000	100 000
5.3. Assessment of the health, environmental and socioeconomic impact of mercury				75 000	75 000	150 000
5.4. Information exchange in mercury reduction technologies				50 000	50 000	100 000

<i>Budget 2026–2027</i>	<i>General trust fund</i>			<i>Special trust fund</i>		
	<i>2026</i>	<i>2027</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>2026</i>	<i>2027</i>	<i>Total</i>
5.5. Cross-cutting scientific and technical activities				570 000	400 000	970 000
5. Scientific support to the parties to the Minamata Convention				795 000	625 000	1 420 000
6. Effectiveness evaluation						
6.1. Effectiveness Evaluation Group	110 000		110 000			
6.2. Other preparatory work and reports to support the effectiveness evaluation						
6. Effectiveness evaluation	110 000		110 000			
7. National reporting under the Minamata Convention						
7.1. Process and analyse national reports	25 000		25 000			
7.2. Ongoing management of information contained in national reports	30 000		30 000			
7.3. Enhance parties' capacity for national reporting	16 000		16 000	12 000		12 000
7. National reporting under the Minamata Convention	71 000		71 000	12 000		12 000
Total (C)	181 000		181 000	795 000	637 000	1 432 000
D. Knowledge and information management and outreach						
8. Publications						
8.1. Publications	25 000	20 000	45 000	12 500	12 500	25 000
8. Publications	25 000	20 000	45 000	12 500	12 500	25 000
9. Communication, outreach and public awareness						
9.1. Communication, outreach and public awareness	34 000	42 000	76 000			
9. Communication, outreach and public awareness	34 000	42 000	76 000			
10. Digital presence						
10.1. Digital strategy	22 500	27 500	50 000	120 000	85 000	205 000
10. Digital presence	22 500	27 500	50 000	120 000	85 000	205 000
Total (D)	81 500	89 500	171 000	132 500	97 500	230 000
E. Overall management						
11. Executive direction and management						
11.1. Overall management*	2 724 996	2 692 495	5 417 491			
11.2. Staff travel	82 061	100 000	182 061			
11. Executive direction and management	2 807 057	2 792 495	5 599 552			
12. International cooperation and coordination						
12.1. Cooperation on the broader sustainable development and environment agenda				50 000	50 000	100 000

<i>Budget 2026–2027</i>	<i>General trust fund</i>			<i>Special trust fund</i>		
	<i>2026</i>	<i>2027</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>2026</i>	<i>2027</i>	<i>Total</i>
12.2. Cooperation within the chemicals and waste cluster		10 000	10 000			
12.3. Other cooperation and coordination						
12. International cooperation and coordination		10 000	10 000	50 000	50 000	100 000
13. Financial resources and mechanism						
13.1. Financial resources	30 000		30 000	24 000		24 000
13.2. Financial mechanism – Global Environment Facility				20 000		20 000
13.3. Financial mechanism – Specific International Programme						
13. Financial resources and mechanism	30 000		30 000	44 000		44 000
Total (E)	2 837 057	2 802 495	5 639 552	94 000	50 000	144 000
F. Legal and policy activities						
14. Legal and policy activities						
14.1. Work programme of the Implementation and Compliance Committee						
14.2. Legal activities						
14.3. National legislation, trade and enforcement						
14.4. Addressing the needs of groups in vulnerable situations				36 000	20 000	56 000
14.5. High-level event on the tenth anniversary of the Convention					40 000	40 000
14. Legal and policy activities				36 000	60 000	96 000
Total (F)				36 000	60 000	96 000
G. Office maintenance and services						
15. Office maintenance and services						
15.1. Office maintenance and services	165 000	165 000	330 000			
15. Office maintenance and services	165 000	165 000	330 000			
16. Information technology services						
16.1. Information technology services	60 500	60 500	121 000			
16. Information technology services	60 500	60 500	121 000			
Total (G)	225 500	225 500	451 000			

<i>Budget 2026–2027</i>	<i>General trust fund</i>			<i>Special trust fund</i>		
	<i>2026</i>	<i>2027</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>2026</i>	<i>2027</i>	<i>Total</i>
Resources required for all activities						
Total (A–G), excluding programme support costs	3 384 057	4 162 495	7 546 552	1 839 500	2 489 500	4 329 000
Programme support costs	439 927	541 124	981 052	239 135	323 635	562 770
Grand total (A–G), including programme support costs	3 823 984	4 703 619	8 527 603	2 078 635	2 813 135	4 891 770
Effectiveness Evaluation Group meeting, including programme support costs funded from 2024 budget (meeting not held in 2024)	(96 050)		(96 050)			
Grand total (after deduction for Effectiveness Evaluation Group meeting)	3 727 934	4 703 619	8 431 553	2 078 635	2 813 135	4 891 770

* On an exceptional basis, the Executive Secretary is authorized to draw additional funds, not exceeding 541,749 United States dollars, from the net balance of the general trust fund to cover any shortfall in the approved staffing table for the biennium 2026–2027.

Table 2

Overview of the indicative scale of assessments and contributions to the general trust fund for the biennium 2026–2027

(United States dollars)

	<i>Party</i>	<i>United Nations scale of assessment (%)</i>	<i>Minamata scale of assessment (%)</i>	<i>Contributions for 2026</i>	<i>Contributions for 2027</i>	<i>Total contributions to the general trust fund for 2026–2027</i>
African States (44)						
1	Algeria	0.087	0.0878	2 707	3 573	6 281
2	Benin	0.005	0.0100	308	407	715
3	Botswana	0.013	0.0131	405	534	938
4	Burkina Faso	0.005	0.0100	308	407	715
5	Burundi	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
6	Cameroon	0.014	0.0141	436	575	1 011
7	Central African Republic	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
8	Chad	0.005	0.0100	308	407	715
9	Comoros	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
10	Congo	0.005	0.0100	308	407	715
11	Côte d'Ivoire	0.024	0.0242	747	986	1 733
12	Djibouti	0.002	0.0100	308	407	715
13	Equatorial Guinea	0.008	0.0100	308	407	715
14	Eritrea	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
15	Eswatini	0.002	0.0100	308	407	715
16	Ethiopia	0.01	0.0101	311	411	722
17	Gabon	0.011	0.0111	342	452	794
18	Gambia	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
19	Ghana	0.025	0.0252	778	1 027	1 805
20	Guinea	0.004	0.0100	308	407	715
21	Guinea-Bissau	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
22	Kenya	0.037	0.0373	1 151	1 520	2 671
23	Lesotho	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
24	Liberia	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
25	Madagascar	0.004	0.0100	308	407	715
26	Malawi	0.003	0.0100	308	407	715
27	Mali	0.005	0.0100	308	407	715
28	Mauritania	0.003	0.0100	308	407	715
29	Mauritius	0.01	0.0101	311	411	722
30	Mozambique	0.002	0.0100	308	407	715
31	Namibia	0.007	0.0100	308	407	715
32	Niger	0.004	0.0100	308	407	715
33	Nigeria	0.15	0.1514	4 668	6 161	10 829
34	Rwanda	0.003	0.0100	308	407	715
35	Sao Tome and Principe	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
36	Senegal	0.007	0.0100	308	407	715
37	Seychelles	0.002	0.0100	308	407	715
38	Sierra Leone	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
39	South Africa	0.251	0.2533	7 811	10 309	18 120

	<i>Party</i>	<i>United Nations scale of assessment (%)</i>	<i>Minamata scale of assessment (%)</i>	<i>Contributions for 2026</i>	<i>Contributions for 2027</i>	<i>Total contributions to the general trust fund for 2026–2027</i>
40	Togo	0.002	0.0100	308	407	715
41	Uganda	0.01	0.0101	311	411	722
42	United Republic of Tanzania	0.01	0.0101	311	411	722
43	Zambia	0.006	0.0100	308	407	715
44	Zimbabwe	0.007	0.0100	308	407	715
Asia-Pacific States (38)						
45	Afghanistan	0.005	0.0100	308	407	715
46	Bahrain	0.05	0.0505	1 556	2 054	3 610
47	Bangladesh	0.01	0.0101	311	411	722
48	Cambodia	0.008	0.0100	308	407	715
49	China	20.004	20.1902	622 535	821 595	1 444 131
50	Cyprus	0.035	0.0353	1 089	1 438	2 527
51	India	1.106	1.1163	34 419	45 425	79 844
52	Indonesia	0.579	0.5844	18 019	23 780	41 799
53	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.386	0.3896	12 013	15 854	27 866
54	Iraq	0.131	0.1322	4 077	5 380	9 457
55	Israel	0.609	0.6147	18 952	25 013	43 965
56	Japan	6.93	6.9945	215 665	284 626	500 291
57	Jordan	0.021	0.0212	654	863	1 516
58	Kiribati	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
59	Kuwait	0.222	0.2241	6 909	9 118	16 027
60	Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.006	0.0100	308	407	715
61	Lebanon	0.022	0.0222	685	904	1 588
62	Maldives	0.004	0.0100	308	407	715
63	Marshall Islands	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
64	Mongolia	0.004	0.0100	308	407	715
65	Oman	0.115	0.1161	3 579	4 723	8 302
66	Pakistan	0.123	0.1241	3 828	5 052	8 880
67	Palau	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
68	Philippines	0.198	0.1998	6 162	8 132	14 294
69	Qatar	0.245	0.2473	7 625	10 063	17 687
70	Republic of Korea	2.349	2.3709	73 102	96 477	169 579
71	Samoa	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
72	Saudi Arabia	1.217	1.2283	37 874	49 984	87 858
73	Singapore	0.479	0.4835	14 907	19 673	34 580
74	Sri Lanka	0.038	0.0384	1 183	1 561	2 743
75	State of Palestine	0.011	0.0111	342	452	794
76	Syrian Arab Republic	0.006	0.0100	308	407	715
77	Thailand	0.341	0.3442	10 612	14 005	24 618
78	Tonga	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
79	Tuvalu	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
80	United Arab Emirates	0.574	0.5793	17 863	23 575	41 438

	<i>Party</i>	<i>United Nations scale of assessment (%)</i>	<i>Minamata scale of assessment (%)</i>	<i>Contributions for 2026</i>	<i>Contributions for 2027</i>	<i>Total contributions to the general trust fund for 2026–2027</i>
81	Vanuatu	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
82	Viet Nam	0.159	0.1605	4 948	6 530	11 479
Eastern European States (19)						
83	Albania	0.01	0.0101	311	411	722
84	Armenia	0.007	0.0100	308	407	715
85	Bulgaria	0.071	0.0717	2 210	2 916	5 126
86	Croatia	0.088	0.0888	2 739	3 614	6 353
87	Czechia	0.344	0.3472	10 705	14 129	24 834
88	Estonia	0.045	0.0454	1 400	1 848	3 249
89	Georgia	0.009	0.0100	308	407	715
90	Hungary	0.223	0.2251	6 940	9 159	16 099
91	Latvia	0.05	0.0505	1 556	2 054	3 610
92	Lithuania	0.081	0.0818	2 521	3 327	5 848
93	Montenegro	0.004	0.0100	308	407	715
94	North Macedonia	0.008	0.0100	308	407	715
95	Poland	0.831	0.8387	25 861	34 130	59 992
96	Republic of Moldova	0.006	0.0100	308	407	715
97	Romania	0.358	0.3613	11 141	14 704	25 845
98	Serbia	0.04	0.0404	1 245	1 643	2 888
99	Slovakia	0.149	0.1504	4 637	6 120	10 757
100	Slovenia	0.077	0.0777	2 396	3 163	5 559
101	Ukraine	0.074	0.0747	2 303	3 039	5 342
Latin America and Caribbean States (26)						
102	Antigua and Barbuda	0.002	0.0100	308	407	715
103	Argentina	0.49	0.4946	15 249	20 125	35 374
104	Bahamas (The)	0.015	0.0151	467	616	1 083
105	Belize	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
106	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0.018	0.0182	560	739	1 299
107	Brazil	1.411	1.4241	43 911	57 952	101 863
108	Chile	0.374	0.3775	11 639	15 361	27 000
109	Colombia	0.197	0.1988	6 131	8 091	14 222
110	Costa Rica	0.063	0.0636	1 961	2 588	4 548
111	Cuba	0.122	0.1231	3 797	5 011	8 807
112	Dominican Republic	0.069	0.0696	2 147	2 834	4 981
113	Ecuador	0.065	0.0656	2 023	2 670	4 692
114	El Salvador	0.013	0.0131	405	534	938
115	Guyana	0.011	0.0111	342	452	794
116	Honduras	0.01	0.0101	311	411	722
117	Jamaica	0.007	0.0100	308	407	715
118	Mexico	1.137	1.1476	35 384	46 698	82 082
119	Nicaragua	0.004	0.0100	308	407	715
120	Panama	0.086	0.0868	2 676	3 532	6 209
121	Paraguay	0.023	0.0232	716	945	1 660

	<i>Party</i>	<i>United Nations scale of assessment (%)</i>	<i>Minamata scale of assessment (%)</i>	<i>Contributions for 2026</i>	<i>Contributions for 2027</i>	<i>Total contributions to the general trust fund for 2026–2027</i>
122	Peru	0.145	0.1463	4 512	5 955	10 468
123	Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
124	Saint Lucia	0.002	0.0100	308	407	715
125	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001	0.0100	308	407	715
126	Suriname	0.002	0.0100	308	407	715
127	Uruguay	0.079	0.0797	2 459	3 245	5 703
Western European and other States (26)						
128	Australia	2.04	2.0590	63 486	83 786	147 272
129	Austria	0.626	0.6318	19 481	25 711	45 192
130	Belgium	0.773	0.7802	24 056	31 748	55 804
131	Canada	2.543	2.5667	79 140	104 445	183 584
132	Denmark	0.531	0.5359	16 525	21 809	38 334
133	European Union	2.5	2.5000	77 084	101 732	178 816
134	Finland	0.386	0.3896	12 013	15 854	27 866
135	France	3.858	3.8939	120 063	158 454	278 517
136	Germany	5.692	5.7450	177 138	233 779	410 917
137	Greece	0.28	0.2826	8 714	11 500	20 214
138	Iceland	0.035	0.0353	1 089	1 438	2 527
139	Ireland	0.472	0.4764	14 689	19 386	34 075
140	Italy	2.813	2.8392	87 542	115 534	203 076
141	Liechtenstein	0.009	0.0100	308	407	715
142	Luxembourg	0.073	0.0737	2 272	2 998	5 270
143	Malta	0.02	0.0202	622	821	1 444
144	Monaco	0.011	0.0111	342	452	794
145	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	1.298	1.3101	40 394	53 311	93 705
146	Norway	0.653	0.6591	20 322	26 820	47 141
147	Portugal	0.328	0.3311	10 208	13 471	23 679
148	Spain	1.895	1.9126	58 973	77 831	136 804
149	Sweden	0.822	0.8297	25 581	33 761	59 342
150	Switzerland	1.029	1.0386	32 023	42 263	74 286
151	Türkiye	0.685	0.6914	21 318	28 134	49 452
152	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	3.991	4.0282	124 202	163 917	288 119
153	United States of America	22	22.0000	678 337	895 240	1 573 577
	Total assessed contributions		100	3 083 350	4 069 275	7 152 625
	Total approved budget (including host country contribution*)			3 727 934	4 703 619	8 431 553

* Includes the estimated host country contribution of Switzerland to the general trust fund in United States dollars.

Table 3
Indicative secretariat staffing for the biennium 2026–2027

<i>Staff category and level</i>	<i>General trust fund</i>	<i>Special trust fund</i>	<i>UNEP programme support costs</i>	<i>Total</i>
A. Professional categories				
D-1	1			1
P-5	1	1		2
P-4	3		1	4
P-3	2			2
P-2 ^a			1	1
Subtotal (A)	7	1	2	10
B. General Service category				
GS ^b	4		1	5
Subtotal (B)	4	0	1	5
Total (A + B)	11	1	3	15

Abbreviation: UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme.

^a A P-2 Associate Administrative Officer funded by UNEP programme support costs joined in December 2024 (position at 50 per cent).

^b The GS-5 Administrative Assistant position remains vacant for the biennium 2026–2027 and is expected to be filled when funds become available.

Decision MC-6/22: Dates and venue of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Decides* to convene the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury in Geneva from 14 to 18 June 2027;¹
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in order to assist parties in their preparations for the meeting, to support, subject to the availability of resources, regional meetings, held in coordination with other regional meetings, to facilitate regional preparatory processes;
3. *Invites* the Executive Secretary, in order to further assist parties and regions in their preparations, to distribute the provisional agenda, together with supporting documents, to the parties, in the official languages of the United Nations, at least eight weeks before the opening of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties;
4. *Invites* parties to submit offers to host the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties at least three months before the opening of the seventh meeting, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting.

¹ Following the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, new dates became available at the venue, the Geneva International Conference Centre, for the period 6–10 September 2027. In the light of this development, and to avoid altering the usual duration of the intersessional period, the Bureau agreed in December 2025 that the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties would be held at the Geneva International Conference Centre from 6 to 10 September 2027, with regional preparatory meetings taking place on 5 September 2027.