2025 FULL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Report submitted on 21 August 2025

REPORTING PERIOD:
1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024

Attachments can be found on the website

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party
Austria

Date on which its instrument of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance was deposited
12 June 2017

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party
10 September 2017

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management

Title of Contact Officer
Ms.

Name of Contact Officer
Helga Schrott

Mailing address
helga.schrott@bmluk.gv.at

Telephone number
+43171162612327, +43171162612323

Fax number
{Empty}

E-mail
jakob.windisch@bmluk.gv.at

Second E-mail
HELGA.SCHROTT@BMLUK.GV.AT

Web page
https://www.bmluk.gv.at/en/

3. Information about the contact officer submitting the reporting format if different from the above

Focal Point is submitting the national report

- ○ Information is submitted by the national focal point
- ◉ Information is submitted through the national focal point by the contact officer

a3_subsection

Full name of the institution
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management

Title of contact officer
Mr.

Name of contact officer
Jakob Windisch

Mailing address
Stubenbastei 5
1010 Vienna

Telephone number
+436603666567

Fax number
{Empty}

E-mail
jakob.windisch@bmluk.gv.at

Second E-mail
{Empty}

Web page
https://www.bmluk.gv.at/themen/klima-und-umwelt/chemiepolitik/international/quecksilber.html

▼ ART. 3: MERCURY SUPPLY SOURCES AND TRADE

3.1: Does the party have any primary mercury mines that were operating within its territory at the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ○ Yes – primary mercury mining with available data
- ○ Yes – primary mercury mining with no available data
- ◉ No

3.2: Does the party have any primary mercury mines that are now in operation that were not in operation at the time of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ○ Yes – primary mercury mining with available data
- ○ Yes – primary mercury mining with no available data
- ◉ No

3.3: (A) Has the party endeavoured to identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons that are located within its territory?

3.3: (A) Has the party endeavoured to identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons that are located within its territory?

- ○ Yes – with new data* (also to be selected by parties reporting for the first time)
- ◉ Yes – endeavoured and indicates same stocks as reported in the previous report
- ○ No

3.3: (B) Has the party endeavoured to identify individual sources of mercury-supply-generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year that are located within its territory?

3.3:(B) Has the party endeavoured to identify individual sources of mercury-supply-generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year that are located within its territory?

- ○ Yes – with new data* (also to be selected by parties reporting for the first time)
- ◉ Yes – endeavoured and indicates same stocks as reported in the previous report
- ○ No

3.4: Has the party determined that it has excess mercury available from the decommissioning of chlor-alkali facilities?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No – has determined it has no excess mercury
- ○ No – has not made a determination

3.5: *Has the party received consent, or relied on a general notification of consent, in accordance with article 3, including any required certification from importing non-parties, for all exports of mercury from the party's territory in the reporting period?

- ☐ Yes – exports to parties
- ☐ Yes – exports to non-parties
- ☑ No – no export took place
- ☐ No – consent was not given

3.6: Has the party allowed the import of mercury from a non-party?

- ◉ No
- ○ Yes
- ○ The importing party has relied on paragraph 7 of article 3

Part E – Additional comments on this article

The implementation of the provisions of the MC is provided by Regulation(EU) 2017/852 on mercury (European Union law) and the Austrian Chemicals Act BGBl I No 53/1997, as amended,as well as Ordinance BGBl. II No 102/2017 concerning disposal on national level.

▼ ART. 4: MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS

4.1. Has the party taken any appropriate measures to not allow the manufacture, import or export of mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annex A of the Convention after the phase-out date specified for those products?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No
- ○ Yes (implementing paragraph 2 of article 4)

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

The implementation of the provisions of the MC is provided by Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury (EuropeanUnion law) and the Austrian Chemicals Act 1996 BGBl. I No 53/1997, as amended, on national level. Restrictions on mercury in batteries and in electrical and electronic equipment are regulated at EU level in Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 concerning batteries and waste batteries, supplemented by Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Ordinance (Federal Law Gazette II No. 121/2005) and in the Battery Ordinance (Federal Law Gazette II No. 159/2008). Due to these restrictions, the amount of waste containing mercury has been decreasing for years. Treatment requirements for waste containing mercury, such as waste electrical and electronic equipment and batteries, are laid down in Austria in the Waste Treatment Obligations Ordinance(BGBl. II No. 102/2017). The final treatment or disposal of mercury-containing waste usually takes place abroad.
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1542/oj
Study on "Implementing Minamata Convention on Mercury in Austria" (2020):https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/studien-

reports/publikationsdetail?pub_id=2401&cHash=49c40586ebc410dfec11e682e73f3a9f
https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/fileadmin/site/publikationen/rep0785bfz.pdf

If yes, has the party registered for an exemption pursuant to article 6?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

4.3: (A) Has the party taken two or more measures listed in subparagraphs (i) to (ix) of part II of annex A for the mercury-added products listed in part II of annex A in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

4.3:(A) Has the party taken two or more measures listed in subparagraphs (i) to (ix) of part II of annex A for the mercury-added products listed in part II of annex A in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No

If yes, please provide information on the measures.
(i) Setting national objectives aiming at dental caries prevention and health promotion, thereby minimizing the need for dental restoration. The revised Regulation (EU) 2024/1849 amending Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury as regards dental amalgam and other mercury-added products subject to export, import and manufacturing restrictions, prohibits the last intentional remaining uses of mercury in the EU. The new rules prohibit the use, except for specific medical needs, and export of dental amalgam by 1 January 2025 . (vi) and (vii) Austrian citizens who do not go to a private dentist but instead to one of the public dental health centres across Austria, have the option of receiving a tooth filling covered by public health insurance. In these cases, Alkasit is used.

https://www.gesundheitskasse.at/cdscontent/?contentid=10007.901040&portal=oegkportal

4.3: (B) If the amendment to annex A adopted in decision MC-4/3 has entered into force for the party, has the party (please check the appropriate box below) taken relevant measures:

4.3:(B) If the amendment to annex A adopted in decision MC-4/3 has entered into force for the party, has the party (please check the appropriate box below) taken relevant measures:

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No
- ○ Not applicable

If the party answered yes please select from the bellow checkboxes

- ☑ Excluded or not allowed, by taking measures as appropriate, the use of mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners
- ☑ Excluded or not allowed, by taking measures as appropriate, or recommended against, the use of dental amalgam for the dental treatment of deciduous teeth of patients under 15 years of age and of pregnant and breastfeeding women, except when such use is considered necessary by the dental practitioner based on the needs of the patient

If the party answered yes to either option above, please provide information on the measures.
Regulation (EU) 2024/1849 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 amending Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury as regards dental amalgam and other mercury-added products subject to export, import and manufacturing restrictions
Dental amalgam shall only be used in pre-dosed encapsulated form;
From 1 January 2025, dental amalgam shall not be used for dental treatment in the Union, except when deemed strictly necessary by the dental practitioner based on the specific medical needs of the patient.

4.4: Has the party taken measures to prevent the incorporation into assembled products of mercury-added products whose manufacture, import and export are not allowed for it under article 4?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No
- ○ No - not applicable (do not have facilities assembling products using mercury-added products)

If yes, please provide information on the measures.
Pursuant Regulation (EU) 2017/852 - Article 8 (1) Economic operators shall not manufacture or place on the market new mercury-added products unless authorised by European Commission. The Commission shall examine and assess whether it has been demonstrated that the new mercury-added product or new manufacturing processwould provide significant environmental or health benefits and pose no significant risks either to the environmentor to human health, and that no technically practicable mercury-free alternatives providing such benefits areavailable.

4.5: Has the party discouraged the manufacture and the distribution in commerce of mercury-added products not covered by any known use in accordance with article 4, paragraph 6?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No - no action taken
- ○ No - an assessment of the risks and benefits of the product demonstrates benefits to human health or the environment

If yes, please provide information on the measures.
Pursuant Regulation (EU) 2017/852 - Article 8 (3) Where an economic operator intends to apply for a decision bythe Commission (see Q 4.4) in order to manufacture or place on the market a new mercury-added product, or touse a new manufacturing process, that would provide significant environmental or health benefits and pose nosignificant risks either to the environment or to human health, and where no technically practicable mercury-freealternatives providing such benefits are available, that economic operator shall notify the competent authorities ofthe EU Member State concerned. The Member State concerned shall forward to the Commission the notificationreceived if it considers on the basis of its own assessment that the criteria (see Q 4.3) are fulfilled.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

Study on "Implementing Minamata Convention on Mercury in Austria" (2020):https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/studien-reports/publikationsdetail?pub_id=2401&cHash=49c40586ebc410dfec11e682e73f3a9f
https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/fileadmin/site/publikationen/rep0785bfz.pdf
EU Mercury Regulation (EU) 2017/852: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852

▼ ART. 5: MANUFACTURING PROCESSES IN WHICH MERCURY OR MERCURY COMPOUNDS ARE USED

5.1: Are there facilities within the territory of the party that use mercury or mercury compounds for the processes listed in Annex B of the Minamata Convention in accordance with paragraph 5 of article 5 of the Convention?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No
- ○ Do not know

5.2: Are measures in place to not allow the use of mercury or mercury compounds in manufacturing processes listed in Part I of Annex B after the phase-out date specified in that Annex for the individual process?

CHLOR-ALKALI PRODUCTION

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ◉ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

ACETALDEHYDE PRODUCTION IN WHICH MERCURY OR MERCURY COMPOUNDS ARE USED AS A CATALYST

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ◉ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

5.3: Are measures in place to restrict the use of mercury or mercury compounds in the processes listed in Part II of Annex B in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

VINYL CHLORIDE MONOMER PRODUCTION

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ◉ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

SODIUM OR POTASSIUM METHYLATE OR ETHYLATE

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ◉ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

PRODUCTION OF POLYURETHANE USING MERCURY-CONTAINING CATALYSTS

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ◉ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

5.4: Is there any use of mercury or mercury compounds in a facility using the manufacturing processes listed in Annex B that did not exist prior to the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

5.5: Has the party discouraged the development of any facility using any other manufacturing process in which mercury or mercury compounds are intentionally used that did not exist prior to the date of entry into force of the Convention?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No - no action taken
- ○ No - the party demonstrated to the Conference of the Parties the significant environmental and health benefits of the manufacturing process and that there are no technically and economically feasible mercury-free alternatives available providing such benefits.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

5.5: New uses of mercury in industry and products are prohibited by EU Mercury Regulation (EU) 2017/852, except when significant environmental or health benefits are demonstrated and no mercury-free alternatives delivering such benefits are available.

▼ ART. 7: ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE GOLD MINING

7.1: Have steps been taken to reduce, and where feasible eliminate, the use of mercury and mercury compounds in, and the emissions and releases to the environment of mercury from, artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing subject to article 7 within your territory?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ◉ There is no artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing subject to article 7 in which mercury amalgamation is used in the territory

7.2: Has the party determined, and notified the secretariat, that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing within its territory is more than insignificant?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

7.5: Supplemental: Has the party cooperated with other countries or relevant intergovernmental organizations or other entities to achieve the objective of this article?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

Please provide information
{Empty}

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 8: EMISSIONS

8.1: Identify any Annex D source categories for which there are new sources of emissions of mercury or mercury compounds as defined in paragraph 2 (c) of article 8.

For each of those source categories describe the measures in place, including the effectiveness of such measures, to implement the requirements of paragraph 4 of article 8.

- ☐ Coal-fired power plants
- ☐ Coal-fired industrial boilers
- ☐ Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals
- ☐ Waste incineration facilities
- ☐ Cement clinker production facilities

Has the party required the use of best available techniques or best environmental practices (BAT/BEP) to control and where feasible reduce emissions for new sources no later than 5 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No (please explain)

If Yes, please explain
{Empty}

8.2: Identify any Annex D source categories for which there are existing sources of emissions of mercury or mercury compounds as defined in paragraph 2 (e) of article 8.

For each of those source categories, select and provide details on the measures implemented under paragraph 5 of article 8 and explain the progress that these applied measures have achieved in reducing emissions over time in your territory:

▼ COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS

- ☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- ☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

▼ COAL-FIRED INDUSTRIAL BOILERS

- ☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources

- [ ] Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- [ ] Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

▼ SMELTING AND ROASTING PROCESSES USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF NON-FERROUS METALS

- [ ] A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- [ ] Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- [ ] Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- [ ] Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- [ ] Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

▼ WASTE INCINERATION FACILITIES

- [ ] A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- [ ] Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- [ ] Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- [ ] Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- [ ] Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

▼ CEMENT CLINKER PRODUCTION FACILITIES

- [ ] A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- [ ] Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- [ ] Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- [ ] Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- [ ] Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

Have the measures for existing sources under paragraph 5 of article 8 been implemented no later than 10 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

8.3: Has the party prepared an inventory of emissions from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the Convention for it?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No
- ( ) Have not been a party for 5 years

If yes, when was the inventory last updated?
15 April 2024

Please indicate where this inventory is available
Austria's National Inventory Report (2024): https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/fileadmin/site/publikationen/rep0909.pdf

Attach

- AUT_8.3.pdf

8.4: Has the party chosen to establish criteria to identify relevant sources covered within a source category?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please explain how the criteria for any category include at least 75 percent of the emissions from that category and explain how the party took into account guidance adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

The Industrial Emissions Portal Regulation (IEPR) (EU) 2024/1244 provides public access to key environmental data from industrial facilities. By the Industrial Emissions Directive 2010/75/EU , BAT (Best Available Techniques) conclusions were drawn up, which serve as a reference document for setting permit conditions. The associated emission values listed there must not be exceeded under normal operating conditions. For the industrial activities "non-ferrous metals, iron and steel, waste incineration, waste treatment, large combustion plants, cement and lime and refining",emission levels to air and water associated with the best available techniques are available. These emission values were compared with the values given in the BAT/BEP Minamata Guidance Document (see Table 7)

8.5: Has the party chosen to prepare a national plan setting out the measures to be taken to control emissions from relevant sources and its expected targets, goals and outcomes?

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

Part E - Additional comments on this article

Emission calculations provide the data basis for the reporting obligations under the Convention on Long-RangeTransboundary Air Pollution, which includes mercury emissions. On the basis of these calculations, which arecarried out according to a uniform methodology, the majority of Austrian mercury emissions are caused by industrial production - especially iron and steel production - and the chemical industry, followed by the energysupply and small-scale consumption sectors.

▼ ART. 9: RELEASES

9.1: Are there, within the party's territory, relevant sources of releases as defined in paragraph 2 (b) of article 9?

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No
- ( ) Do not know (please explain)

9.2: Has the party established an inventory of releases from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the convention for it?

- ( ) Yes
- (●) Relevant sources do not exist in the territory
- ( ) Have not been a party for 5 years
- ( ) No (please explain)

Part E - Additional comments on this article

PRTR - Pollutant Release and Transfer Register: since 2009, the largest industries in Europe have to report annualy their pollutant releases to air, water, soil. This data is publicly available on Internet: https://prtr.unece.org/
or European Industrial Emissions Portal: https://industry.eea.europa.eu/#/home

▼ ART. 10: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND INTERIM STORAGE OF MERCURY, OTHER THAN WASTE MERCURY

10.1: Has the party taken measures to ensure that the interim storage of non-waste mercury and mercury compounds intended for a use allowed to a party under the Convention is undertaken in an environmentally sound manner?

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No (please explain)
- ( ) Do not know (please explain)

If no, please explain

There is no interim storage in accordance with Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/2526 of 23 September 2022 amending Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the temporary storage of mercury waste in liquid form

Part E - Additional comments on this article

Regulation (EU) 2017/852, in particular Article 7 (3) complies with the provisions of Article 10 (2) of the Convention.

▼ ART. 11: MERCURY WASTES

11.1: Have measures outlined in article 11, paragraph 3, been implemented for the party's mercury waste?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No
- [ ] Yes - the party has taken measures so that mercury waste is managed in an environmentally sound manner

☐ Yes - the party has taken measures so that mercury waste is recovered, recycled, reclaimed or directly re-used for a use allowed to a party under the Convention or for environmentally sound disposal pursuant to paragraph 3 (a)

☑ Yes - the party has taken measures so that mercury waste is not transported across international boundaries except for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal

Please describe measure and effectiveness of measures
{Empty}

If the party answered yes to any measures above, please describe the measures implemented pursuant to paragraph 3, and please also describe the effectiveness of those measures.
Transport of Mercury wastes to underground disposal in Germany in order to ensure environmentally sound disposal in conformity with article 11 MC and Basel Convention.

11.2: *Are there facilities for final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds in the party's territory?

○ Yes

◉ No

○ Do not know (please explain)

Part E - Additional comments on this article

Waste Treatment Obligation Ordinance BGBl. II Nr. 102/2017:
https://www.bmluk.gv.at/themen/klima-und-umwelt/abfall-und-kreislaufwirtschaft/recht/abfallwirtschaftsgesetz-verordnung/abfallbehandlung.html

▼ ART. 12: CONTAMINATED SITES

12.1: Has the party endeavoured to develop strategies for identifying and assessing sites contaminated by mercury or mercury compounds in its territory?

◉ Yes

○ No

Please elaborate
In Austria, historically contaminated sites have been systematically investigated since 1989. In 2020, 69.184 contaminated and abandoned sites were recorded in the database of the Federal Environment Agency. For 312 sites, a significant threat to the environment was identified, 168 sites (as of January 1, 2020) have already been secured and remediated. At seven contaminated sites, mercury was classified as a site-specific relevant contaminant. At two contaminated sites, significant localised contamination of the groundwater was found. At three former sites, intensive contamination of the top soil by mercury was detected. In
addition, at another former chemical industry site in Tyrol, subsoil contamination by mercury is known, some of which has already been removed. The size, intensity and environmental impact of the remaining contamination are currently being investigated within the framework of the enforcement of the Austrian Contaminated Sites Remediation Act.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

For detailled information on the Austrian Contaminated Sites Programm see: https://www.altlasten.gv.at/

▼ ART. 13: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISM

13.1: Has the party undertaken to provide, within its capabilities, resources in respect of those national activities that are intended to implement the Convention in accordance with its national policies, priorities, plans and programmes?

◉ Yes

○ No

Please specify
Two reports about national status, programmes and developments entitled "Minamata Convention on Mercury in Austria" (2016 and 2021).
Reference: https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/studien-reports/publikationsdetail?pub_id=2401&cHash=49c40586ebc410dfec11e682e73f3a9f
Furthermore, national stakeholders and decision makers are informed about Minamata developments on a regular basis.

13.2: Supplemental: Has the party, within its capabilities, contributed to the mechanism referred to in paragraph 5 of article 13?

◉ Yes

○ No

Please provide comments, if any.
The Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (GEF): Austria is a member of GEF.
Specific International Programme (SIP) for Minamata
https://minamataconvention.org/sites/default/files/documents/contributions/Status%20of%20contributions_Specific%20TF_as%20of%2030.06.2025.pdf

13.3: Supplemental: Has the party provided financial resources to assist developing-country parties and/or parties with economies in transition in the implementation of the Convention through other bilateral, regional and multilateral sources or channels?

○ Yes

◉ No

Please specify
{Empty}

Please provide comments, if any.

{Empty}

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 14: CAPACITY-BUILDING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

14.1: Has the party cooperated to provide capacity-building or technical assistance, pursuant to article 14, to another party to the Convention?

○ Yes

◉ No

Please specify
Austria intended to stimulate capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer programmes between European Member States and developing country parties concerning Contaminated Sites management. (EU Common Forum on Contaminated Land https://www.commonforum.eu/4/meetings#c25627)

14.2: Supplemental: Has the party received capacity-building or technical assistance pursuant to article 14?

○ Yes

◉ No

Please specify
Austria is not a developing country party.

Please provide comments, if any.
{Empty}

14.3: Has the party promoted and facilitated the development, transfer and diffusion of and access to, up-to-date environmentally sound alternative technologies?

○ Yes

◉ No

○ Other

Please specify
Promote The Guidance https://minamataconvention.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/Guidance_Contaminated_Sites_EN.pdf
It may be considered within the EU Common Forum on Contaminated Land as higlighted under 14.1 for remediation technologies of contaminated soil and groundwater.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 16: HEALTH ASPECTS

16.1: Have measures been taken to provide information to the public on exposure to mercury in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 16?

◉ Yes

○ No

Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.
The report "Minamata Convention on Mercury in Austria" includes data of Hg monitoring and is publicly availableon Internet.
All air emission data is available on the Internet: https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/umweltthemen/luft/luftschadstoffe
All Contaminated Sites data is available on the Internet: https://www.altlasten.gv.at/
Human biomonitoring supports the assessment of human exposure to chemicals by measuring mercury, their metabolites or markers of subsequent health effects in body fluids or tissues.
and many more ...

16.2: Have any measures been taken to protect human health in accordance with article 16 beyond the provision of information to the public on exposure to mercury (referred to in question 16.1)?

◉ Yes

○ No

Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.
Since 1 January 2025, dental amalgam is not used for dental treatment in Austria (and the EU), except when deemed strictly necessary by the dental practitioner based on the specific medical needs of the patient.
Thiomersal (ethyl mercury), which was previously used as a preservative in inactivated vaccines, is currently not used in any vaccines intended for children in Austria
Mercury is regularly analysed in groundwater and surface water as part of the monitoring of water quality (GZÜV) in Austria.
In Austria, moss monitoring has been carried out at five-year intervals since 1995.
Since 1986, the bioindicator network of the Austrian Federal Forest Research Centre (BFW) has been providing data on mercury in spruce needles and in some cases litterfall of sessile oak and beech.
Research on the distribution of mercury in aquatic systems at the University of Vienna.
Human data are collected as part of a research project at the Medical University of Vienna (Institute of Medical Genetics).
...and more

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 17: INFORMATION EXCHANGE

17.1: Has the party facilitated the exchange of information referred to in article 17, paragraph 1?

◉ Yes

○ No

If yes, the Party may wish to indicate in the space provided below the exchange of information it has facilitated, such as:

☑ Scientific, technical, economic and legal information concerning mercury and mercury compounds, including toxicological, ecotoxicological and safety information

Scientific, technical, economic and legal information concerning mercury and mercury compounds, including toxicological, ecotoxicological and safety information

The Contaminated Sites data is available on the Internet: https://www.altlasten.gv.at/
Epidemiological information: https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/ueber-uns/partnernetzwerke/hbm-plattform

☐ Information on the reduction or elimination of the production, use, trade, emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds

☐ Information on technically and economically viable alternatives to:

☐ Epidemiological information concerning health impacts associated with exposure to mercury and mercury compounds, in close cooperation with the World Health Organization and other relevant organizations, as appropriate. (Art. 17.1 (a)-(d))

Part E - Additional comments on this article

Most of information exchange in line with Article 17 requirements is performed at EU level.

▼ ART. 18: PUBLIC INFORMATION, AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

18.1: Have measures been taken to promote and facilitate the provision to the public of the kinds of information listed in article 18, paragraph 1?

◉ Yes

○ No

If yes, the party may wish to indicate in the space provided below, the measures it has taken to promote and facilitate information to the public, such as:
(a) Provision to the public of available information on:

☐ The effects of mercury and mercury compounds on human health and the environment

☐ Alternatives to mercury and mercury compounds

☐ The topics identified in paragraph 1 of article 17

☐ The results of its research, development and monitoring activities under article 19

☐ Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention

(b) Education, training and public awareness related to the effects of exposure to mercury and mercury compounds on human health and the environment in collaboration with relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and vulnerable populations, as appropriate.

Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention

{Empty}

(Art. 18 (1) (a) and (b))

Part E - Additional comments on this article

PRTR - Pollutant Release and Transfer Register: https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/umweltthemen/industrie/daten-industrie/prtr and general information to the public given at the website of the Ministry: https://www.bmluk.gv.at/themen/klima-und-umwelt/chemiepolitik/international/quecksilber.html and information by Directive (EU) 2024/2881 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe

▼ ART. 19: RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING

19.1: Has the party undertaken any research, development and monitoring in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 19?

◉ Yes

○ No

If yes, the party may wish to indicate in the space provided below, the research, development and monitoring it has undertaken, such as:

☐ Inventories of use, consumption, anthropogenic emissions to air and releases to water and land of mercury and mercury compounds

☑ Modelling and geographically representative monitoring of levels of mercury and mercury compounds in vulnerable populations and in environmental media, including biotic media such as fish, marine mammals, sea turtles and birds, as well as collaboration in the collection and exchange of relevant and appropriate samples

Modelling and geographically representative monitoring of levels of mercury and mercury compounds in vulnerable populations and in environmental media, including biotic media such as fish, marine mammals, sea turtles and birds, as well as collaboration in the collection and exchange of relevant and appropriate samples

Mercury calculator (Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety)
With our mercury calculator you can easily find out how much mercury you are ingesting through fish.
You enter how much fish you eat, your body weight and which fish you eat.
The result shows you what proportion of your tolerable weekly intake (TWI) of mercury you have reached. As long as you remain below 100%, there is no health risk.

☐ Assessments of the impact of mercury and mercury compounds on human health and the environment, in addition to social, economic and cultural impacts, particularly in respect of vulnerable populations

☐ Harmonized methodologies for the activities undertaken under subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) of paragraph 1 of article 19

☑ Information on the environmental cycle, transport (including long-range transport and deposition), transformation and fate of mercury and mercury compounds in a range of ecosystems, taking appropriate account of the distinction between anthropogenic and natural emissions and releases of mercury and of remobilization of mercury from historic deposition

Information on the environmental cycle, transport (including long-range transport and deposition), transformation and fate of mercury and mercury compounds in a range of ecosystems, taking appropriate account of the distinction between anthropogenic and natural emissions and releases of mercury and of remobilization of mercury from historic deposition
https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0304389421031332
Fate of mercury in an Austrian saline lake compared to other "regular" central European lakes.

☑ Information on commerce and trade in mercury and mercury compounds and mercury-added products

Information on commerce and trade in mercury and mercury compounds and mercury-added products
Global supply, production, trade and use of mercury compounds (MC 5/3)
The MC Secretariat invitation for comments and input led to an EU submission. Austria referred to ECHA data concerning the PIC-Procedure (exports from the EU, see https://echa.europa.eu/pic) in accordance with the Rotterdam Convention. The Ministry coordinated with the Austrian Economic Chamber, Statistics Austria and the Austrian Customs Services to verify the figures in the tables provided by the draft study.

☐ Information and research on the technical and economic availability of mercury-free products and processes and on best available techniques and best environmental practices to reduce and monitor emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds

(Art. 19 (1) (a)-(g))

Part E - Additional comments on this article

https://www.ages.at/en/human/nutrition-food/residues-contaminants-from-a-to-z/mercury?sword_list%5B0%5D=Quecksilber&no_cache=1

Hg-monitoring data in Austria: Study on "Implementing Minamata Convention on Mercury in Austria"(2020):
https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/studien-reports/publikationsdetail?pub_id=2401&cHash=49c40586ebc410dfec11e682e73f3a9f

▼ COMMENTS REGARDING POSSIBLE CHALLENGES IN MEETING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE CONVENTION

Part C: Comments regarding possible challenges in meeting the objectives of the Convention

{Empty}

▼ COMMENTS REGARDING THE REPORTING FORMAT AND POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS, IF ANY

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

{Empty}