

REPORTING PERIOD:

16 August 2017 to 31 December 2020

Reporting on measures to be taken to implement the provisions of the Minamata Convention, the effectiveness of such measures and the challenges encountered.

Offline paper version*

(*The Online Reporting Tool and its Offline Paper Version are based on and consistent with the Annex to Decision MC-1/8: Timing and format of reporting by the parties. The Offline Paper Version prepared by the Secretariat is intended for use by parties to prepare their national reports. It is not intended to replace or be a substitute for the Online Reporting Tool. As per paragraph 7 of Decision MC-1/8, parties are encouraged to use the electronic version of the report when submitting the report to the secretariat.

INSTRUCTIONS

Pursuant to article 21 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, each Party to the Convention shall report to the Conference of the Parties, through the Secretariat, on the measures it has taken to implement the provisions of the Convention, on the effectiveness of such measures and on possible challenges in meeting the objective of the Convention. In Decision MC-1/8, the Conference of the Parties agreed on the timing and format of national reporting by the parties. The full format contains 43 questions to be answered by all parties every four years, while the short report contains four questions (indicated by an asterisk in the full format) to be answered every two years.

The first short reports were due for submission by 31 December 2019. The first full reports are due for submission by 31 December 2021.

Report Sections

The full reporting format consists of five parts, Part A to Part E, where Part B consists of 43 questions.

- Part A: General Information on the Party for which the report is being submitted.
- Part B : Information on measures taken by the reporting Party to implement therelevantprovisionsandontheeffectivenessofsuchmeasuresinmeetingtheobjectiveoftheConvention(contains43questionsbyarticle).
- Part C: Opportunity to comment on possible challenges in meeting the objective of the Convention.
- Part D: Opportunity to comment on the reporting format and possible improvements.
- Part E : Opportunity to provide additional comments on each of the articles in free text if the Party chooses to do so (Note: In the online reporting system the opportunity to provide additional comments on each of the articles in free text is provided per article through out there port, as opposed to at the end as a separate section).

In decision MC-3/13, on guidance for completing the national reporting format, the Conference of the Parties, recognized the need for complete and consistent national reporting to provide information for the effectiveness evaluation and for supporting compliance, and requested the Secretariat to prepare draft guidance for the full national reporting format to clarify the information being sought. TheConference of the Parties further encouraged parties to use the draft guidance on a provisional basis to assist with preparing the full national reports due by 31 December 2021.

ReferenceDocuments

- **Draft Reporting Guidance:** <https://www.mercuryconvention.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/DRAFT-Reporting-Guidance.pdf> **Online**
- **Reporting Tool User Guide :** <https://www.mercuryconvention.org/sites/default/files/documents/other/Online-reporting-tool-user-guide-2021.pdf>

Important!

- Reporting is possible in the **6 UN languages:** Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Please use the language switcher at the top of the screen after opening the report to select your preferred language.
- A technical team is ready to help. Please contact the secretariat if you experience e any challenges whether technical or substantive to complete your national report. You can use the contact form or send an email to MEA-MinamataSecretariat@un.org indicating in the subject that your message is related to “National Reporting”.
- Plan ahead in order to secure the information required for all parts of the reporting format, and particularly for the questions in part B, as well as the attachments and links that may be needed, in good time to ensure that reports are submitted in full by the deadline.
- When reporting annual data, specify they ear(s). Where the reporting period is not 1 January to 31 December, specify the period. When
- answering open questions, ensure that the responses are succinct while at the same time offering a “meaningful story”.
- Check for consistency between the responses to different questions.
- Note the units in which information on amounts are to be provided (e.g. metric tons).

Part A: General Information on the Party

1. Information on the party

Name of party

CAMEROON

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

10/03/2021

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

08/06/2021

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, PROTECTION OF NATURE AND SUSTANABLE DEVELOPMENT

Title of contact officer

SUB-DIRECTOR OF STANDARDS, LICENSING AND VISAS

Name of contact officer

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

Information is submitted by the national focal point.

Information is submitted by another contact officer.

Full name of the institution

Title of contact officer

Name of contact officer

Mailing address

Telephone number

E-mail

Second E-mail

Web-page

Part B: Information on measures taken by the reporting Party to implement the relevant provisions and on the effectiveness of such measures in meeting the objective of the Convention

Art.3: Mercury supply sources and trade

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? (Para. 3)

Yes No

If yes, please indicate:

- a) The anticipated date of closure of the mine(s): (month, year) OR
- b) The date upon which the mine (s) closed: (month, year)
- c) *Total amount mined _____metric tons per year

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? (Para.3, para.11)

Yes No

If yes, please explain.

Has the party endeavoured to identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons and sources of mercury supply generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year that are located within its territory? (Para. 5)

Yes No

*If the party answered **Yes** to Question 3 above:

- i. Please attach the results of your endeavour or indicate where it is available on the internet, unless unchanged from a previous reporting round.
- ii. Supplemental: Please provide any related information, for example on the use or disposal of mercury from such stocks and sources.

If the party answered **No** above, please explain.

All efforts to identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons and source of mercury supply generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons in Cameroon have so far been in vain. These include regular environmental inspections in gold mining sites, inventories of chemicals during the drafting of the national chemical profile and during the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA).

This however does not necessarily mean there are no stocks. The use of mercury in artisanal and small scale gold mining is forbidden by regulations in force. Its use with cyanide is therefore illegal by virtue of the 2016 regulation enacted by the Minister of Mines that bans the use of these substances in ASGM sector (order No.000554/MINMIDT/SG/DAJ/CR of 16 june 2016 to ban use of mercury and cyanide in the ASGM sector). This could explain why even though information collected from these areas states that mercury is highly used, it remains a commodity only circulating on the black market.

Does the party have excess mercury available from the decommissioning of chlor-alkali facilities? (Para. 5 (b))

Yes No

If **yes**, please explain the measures taken to ensure that the excess mercury was disposed of in accordance with the guidelines for environmentally sound management referred to in paragraph 3(a) of article 11 using operations that did not lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct re-use or alternative uses.

***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? (Para.6, para.7)**

- Yes, exports to parties
- Yes, exports to non-parties
- No

If yes,

a. And the party has submitted copies of the consent forms to the secretariat, then no further information is needed.

If the party has not previously provided such copies, it is recommended that it do so.

Otherwise, please provide other suitable information showing that the relevant requirements of paragraph 6 of article 3 have been met.

Supplemental: Please provide information on the use of the exported mercury.

b. If exports were based on a general notification in accordance with article 3, paragraph 7, please indicate, if available, the total amount exported and any relevant terms or conditions in the general notification related to use.

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

- No
- Yes

If yes , and the Party has submitted copies of the consent forms to the secretariat, then no further information is needed.

If the party has not previously provided such copies, it is recommended that it do so.

Otherwise, please provide other suitable information showing that the relevant requirements of paragraph 8 of article3 have been met.

Supplemental: Please provide information on the quantities and countries of origin.

The production, use, importation, transit and circulation of mercury and its compounds is prohibited in Cameroon referring to the Decree No. 2011/2581/PM of 23th August 2011 enacted by the Prime Minister of Cameroon regulating harmful and/or dangerous chemicals.

It's in the framework of application of this regulation that Cameroon denied the importation of 3 tons of mercury from Cuba in April 2021.

The importing party has relied on paragraph 7 of article 3.

If **yes**, or if **the party relied on paragraph 7 of article 3**, did the non-Party provide certification that the mercury is not from sources identified under paragraph 3 or paragraph 5 (b) of article 3 (para.8)?

Yes

No

The party has submitted its general notification of consent, applied paragraph 9 of article 3, and provided information on the quantities and countries of origin.

If **no**, please explain.

Art.4: Mercury-added products

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? (Para. 1)

If the party is implementing paragraph 2, please skip to question 4.2.

Yes No

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

If no, has the party registered for an exemption pursuant to article 6 ?

Yes No

If yes, for which products (please check the list below)? (Para.1,para.2(d))

- Batteries, except for button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content <2% and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content < 2%
- 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 20mg per bridge, switch or relay
- Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) for general lighting purposes that are ≤ 30watts with a mercury content exceeding 5mg per lamp burner
- Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes : (a) Triband phosphor <60watts with mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp; (b) Halophosphate phosphor ≤ 40 watts with a mercury content exceeding 10mg per lamp
- High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes
- Mercury in cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays
- 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
- Pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics

- The following non-electronic measuring devices except non-electronic measuring devices installed in large-scale equipment or those used for high precision measurement: (a) barometers; (b) hygrometers; (c) manometers; (d) thermometers; (e) sphygmomanometers

If yes (implementing paragraph 2 of article 4): (Para.2)

Has the party reported to the Conference of the Parties at the first opportunity a description of the measures or strategies implemented, including a quantification of the reductions achieved? (Para.2(a))

Yes No

Has the party implemented measures or strategies to reduce the use of mercury in any products listed in Part I of Annex A for which a de minimis value has not yet been obtained? (Para.2 (b))

Yes No

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

Has the party considered additional measures to achieve further reductions? (Para.2(c))

Yes No

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

Has the party taken two or more measures for the mercury-added products listed in Part II of Annex A in accordance with the provisions set out there in? (Para.3)

Yes No

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

By

- Promoting the use of cost-effective and clinically effective mercury-free alternatives for dental restoration through sensitization by NGOs;
- Encouraging representative professional organizations and dental schools to educate and train dental professionals and students on the use of mercury-free dental restoration alternative.

Has the party taken measures to prevent the incorporation in to assembled products of mercury-added products whose manufacture, import and export are not allowed under article 4 ? (Para.5)

Yes No

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

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 ? (Para.6)

Yes No

If **yes**, please provide information on the measures.

If **no**, has there been an assessment of the risks and benefits of the product that demonstrates environmental or health benefits ? Has the party provided to the secretariat, as appropriate, information on any such product?

Yes No

If **yes**, please name the product:

Art.5: Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used

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? (Para. 5)

Yes

If yes, please provide information on measures taken to address emissions and releases of mercury or mercury compounds from such facilities.

If available, please provide information on the number and type of facilities and the estimated annual amount of mercury or mercury compounds used in those facilities.

Please provide information on how much mercury (in metric tons) is used in the processes listed in the two first entries of Part II of Annex B in the last year of the reporting period.

No

Do not know (*please explain*)

Please add explanation below:

There are no known facilities within the territory 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

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? (Para. 2)

Chlor-alkaliproduction

Yes No Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

If **yes**, please provide information on these measures.

Acetaldehyde production in which mercury or mercury compounds are used as a catalyst

Yes No Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

If **yes**, please provide information on these measures.

If **no** to either of the questions above, has the party registered for an exemption pursuant to article 6 ?

Yes No

If **yes**, for which process (es)?

- Chlor-alkaliproduction
 Acetaldehyde production in which mercury or mercury compounds are used as a catalyst

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 there in ? (Para.3)

Vinylchloridemonomerproduction

Yes No Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

If **yes**, please provide information on these measures.

Sodium or potassium methylate or ethylate

Yes No Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

If **yes**, please provide information on these measures.

Production of polyurethane using mercury-containing catalysts

Yes No Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

If **yes**, please provide information on these measures.

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 in to force of the Convention for the party? (Para. 6)

Yes No

If yes, please explain the circumstances.

Is there any facility that has been developed using any other manufacturing process in which mercury or mercury compounds are intentionally used that did not exist prior to the date of entry in to force of the Convention? (Para. 7)

Yes No

If yes, please provide information on how the party tried to discourage this development or that the party has demonstrated the environmental and health benefits to the Conference of the Parties and that there are no technically and economically feasible mercury-free alternatives available providing such benefits.

Art.7: Artisanal and small-scale gold mining

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 with in your territory?(Para.2)

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.

If yes, please provide information on the steps.

The use of mercury amalgamation in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) in Cameroon was banned in 2016 following the adoption of the Minamata Convention on Mercury in 2013 with the active participation of the Cameroon delegation to all the five sessions of intergovernmental negotiation committees (mercury INCs). However, illegal gold mining with mercury amalgam is still ongoing in Cameroon due to government limited resources to enforce the new regulation.

Has the party determined and notified the secretariat that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing with in its territory is more than insignificant?

Yes No (*If no, please proceed to article 8 on emissions*)

Has the party developed and implemented a national action plan and submitted it to the secretariat? (Para. 3 (a), para. 3 (b))

Yes No In progress

Attach your most recent review that must be completed under paragraph 3 (c) of article 7, unless it is not yet due (Para.3 (c))

Supplemental: Has the party cooperated with other countries or relevant intergovernmental organizations or other entities to achieve the objective of this article ? (Para.4)

Yes

No

If yes, please provide information.

Art.8: Emissions

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

Measures are being taken to control releases of emissions into the environment during regular environmental inspections

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

If **no**, please explain.

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 deliverco-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures

Progress

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

Progress

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

Concerning development and implementation of emission reduction programs/strategies for existing industries, such mechanisms/policy are not put in place. Mercury emissions data are not submitted to MINEPDED for roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals. However, emission limit values (ELVs) have been established for this category of industry but did not consider mercury emissions. The requirements relating to emission control have also been established in the Cameroon national « standard NC 2858: 2021» for air emission.

Progress

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 deliverco-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures

Relating to development and implementation of emission reduction programs/strategies for existing industries, such mechanisms/policy are not put in place. Mercury emissions data are not submitted to MINEPDED for waste incineration facilities. However, emission limit values (ELVs) has been established for this category facilities and taking into account mercury emissions referring to the Cameroon national «standard NC 2863: 2021». The requirements relating to emission control have also been established in the national standard developed for air emission.

Progress

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 deliverco-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures

Concerning development and implementation of emission reduction programs/strategies for existing industries, such mechanisms/policy are not put in place. Mercury emissions data are not submitted to MINEPDED for Cement clinker production facilities. However, emission limit values (ELVs) have been established for this category of facilities but did not considered mercury emissions. The requirements relating to emission control have also been established in the national « standard NC 2858: 2021» for air emission.

Progress

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

If **no**, please explain.

Has the party prepared an inventory of emissions from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the Convention for it? (Para. 7)

Yes

If yes, when was the inventory last updated? (dd/mm/yyyy) __/__/__

Please indicate where this inventory is available.

The inventory of emissions is available in Minamata Initial Assessment of Cameroon

No

If no such inventory exists, please explain.

Have not been a party for 5years.

Has the party chosen to establish criteria to identify relevant sources covered within a source category? (Para. 2 (b))

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.

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? (Para.3)

Yes No

If **yes**, has the party submitted its national plan to the Conference of the Parties under this article no later than 4 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

Yes No

If **no**, please explain.

In Progress

Art.9: Releases

Are there, within the party's territory, relevant sources of releases as defined in paragraph 2 (b) of article 9? (Para. 4)

Yes No Do not know (*please explain*)

If **yes**, please indicate the measures taken to address releases from relevant sources and the effectiveness of those measures.

Please explain.

There are no measures taken yet to address releases came from the relevant sources mentioned in the annex D of Convention.

It should however be noted that open burning and landfilling of waste are identified as relevant sources during Minamata Initial Assessment of Cameroon. The inventory of mercury gave quantities of release from these relevant sources.

Has the party established an inventory of releases from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the convention for it? (Para. 6)

Yes

When was the inventory last updated? (dd/mm/yyyy) __/__/__

Please indicate where the information is available.

The inventory is available in Minamata Initial Assessment of Cameroon

Relevant sources do not exist in the territory

Have not been a party for 5 years

No (*please explain*)

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? (Para.2)

Yes No Do not know (*please explain*)

If yes, please indicate the measures taken to ensure that such interim storage is undertaken in an environmentally sound manner and the effectiveness of those measures.

Please explain.

Art.11: Mercury wastes

Have measures outlined in article 11, paragraph 3, been implemented for the party's mercury waste? (Para. 3)

Yes

No

If **yes**, please describe the measures implemented pursuant to paragraph 3, and please also describe the effectiveness of those measures.

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*)

If **yes**, if the information is available, how much waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds has been subjected to final disposal under the reporting period? Please specify the method of the final disposal operation/operations.

Please explain.

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? (Para.1)

Yes No

Please elaborate.

Art.13: Financial resources and mechanism

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? (Para. 1)

Yes No

Please specify.

Please provide comments, if any.

Supplemental: Has the party, with in its capabilities, contributed to the mechanism referred to in paragraph 5 of article 13? (Para. 12)

Yes

No

Please specify.

Please provide comments, if any.

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?(Para.3)

Yes

No

Please specify.

Please provide comments, if any.

Art.14: Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer

Has the party cooperated to provide capacity-building or technical assistance, pursuant to article14, to another party to the Convention? (Para.1)

Yes No

Please specify.

Supplemental: Has the party received capacity-building or technical assistance pursuant to article 14? (Para. 1)

Yes No

Please specify.

Please provide comments, if any.

Has the party promoted and facilitated the development, transfer and diffusion of, and access to, up-to-date environmentally sound alternative technologies? (Para.3)

Yes No Other

Please specify.

Art.16: Health aspects

Have measures been taken to provide information to the public on exposure to mercury in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 16? (Para. 1)

Yes No

Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.

A program for information on health and environmental risks on exposure of mercury are not developed at the level of institutions.
However, the information on risk of exposure to mercury is regularly organized by NGOs and civil society organizations.

Have any other measures been taken to protect human health in accordance with article 16 ? (Para. 1)

Yes No

Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.

Health based ambient environmental quality standards for mercury were adopted by the relevant standardization organization in Cameroon in February 2021.

Art.17: Information exchange

17.1. Has the party facilitated the exchange of information referred to in article 17, paragraph1?
(Para. 1)

Yes No

Please provide more information, if any.

Sharing of informations has been made with others countries of African Region and the secretariat of the Convention, on available alternatives in Cameroon, especially concerning some mercury added-products such as dental amalgams.

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 article18, paragraph1? (Para.1)

Yes No

If yes, please indicate the measures that have been taken and the effectiveness of those measures.

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? (Para. 1)

Yes

No

If yes, please describe these actions.

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

1. Limited resources to enforce the implementation of the regulation in place relating illegal use of mercury in ASGM sector
2. Limited resources to put in place regulation necessary to phase out mercury added products
3. Lack of equipment and weak capacities of environmental inspectors for onsite inspections of existing facilities particularly with regards to stack measurements and control of emission.
4. Lack of capacities of environmental sound interim storage of mercury. In Cameroon, interim storage of mercury compounds, other than wastes is not regulated. It will therefore be necessary to reinforce the capacities of Services in charge of storage or management of waste and chemicals in general, and mercury or its compounds particularly.
5. Capacities for assessing and communicating of health and environmental risks of exposure to mercury and its compounds, preventing, mitigating and providing early warnings for industrial/chemical emergencies and conducting effective response (rescue and recovery) measures during such accidents are weak.
6. Capacities for environmental conformity surveys in ASGM sector are weak.

Supplemental: Part D: Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

The format is a good reporting tool to measure progress in implementation of the Convention by parties.

Part E: Additional comments on each of the articles in free text (at the option of the party)

Regarding to article 3, there is no chlor-alkali production in the country.

For article 4, in Cameroon importation and distribution of mercury-added products specified by the Convention, are not regulated. The manufacture of mercury-added products did not exist. There are no measures taken to discourage the distribution in commerce of mercury added product.

Concerning article 11, the largest problem is poor operational capacities, including infrastructure for collection, treatment, storage and disposal/elimination of hazardous wastes, particularly for mercury waste. A lot of companies don't have capacity for environmental safe elimination of mercury wastes.

The unique measure regarding article 11 is that Cameroon is a party of Basel Convention. However, technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds developed under the Basel Convention are not applied and there is no knowledge and capacity within the Chemicals and Waste Management Service in using this document.

For article 12, the inventory system of contaminated sites does not exist within the Chemicals and Waste Management Service of MINEPDED. Relevant capacities for developing and implementing site inventory and cleanup/remediation strategies are absent/weak.