2025 FULL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Report submitted on 30 December 2025
*Question 8.2 amended by Estonia on 23 March 2026

REPORTING PERIOD:
1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party
Estonia

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

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

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution
Ministry of Climate

Title of Contact Officer
Ms.

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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

▼ 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

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▼ 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.
As Estonia is a member state of the European Union the EU mercury regulation is directly applicable to Estonia. Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (Text with EEA relevance) can be found here https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852
This regulation covers also the manufacture and use and trade of mercury-added products and with this regulation the products listed in Part I of Annex A of the convention are also covered (Annex II of the regulation).

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.
In accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2017/852:
1. From 1 January 2019, dental amalgam shall only be used in pre-dosed encapsulated form. The use of mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners shall be prohibited.
2. From 1 July 2018, dental amalgam shall not be used for dental treatment of deciduous teeth, of children under 15 years and of pregnant or breastfeeding women, except when deemed strictly necessary by the
dental practitioner based on the specific medical needs of the patient.
2a. 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. Fully respecting Member States' competence for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care, and by way of derogation from the first subparagraph, in Member States in which dental amalgam is the only publicly reimbursed material at a rate of at least 90 % under national law for patients who are not eligible for other reimbursed materials of dental filling and persons with low income are socioeconomically disproportionately affected by the phase-out date of

1 January 2025, dental amalgam may be used for dental treatment until 30 June 2026. Member States shall provide, and make publicly available, reasoned explanations for making use of the derogation, including the
appropriate measures to be implemented by 30 June 2026, and notify them to the Commission by 31 August 2024.
3. By 1 July 2019, each Member State shall set out a national plan concerning the measures it intends to implement to phase down the use of dental amalgam. Member States shall make their national plans publicly available on the internet and shall transmit them to the Commission within one month of
their adoption.
4. From 1 January 2019, operators of dental facilities in which dental amalgam is used or dental amalgam fillings or teeth containing such fillings are removed, shall ensure that their facilities are equipped with
amalgam separators for the retention and collection of amalgam particles, including those contained in used water.
Such operators shall ensure that:
(a) amalgam separators put into service from 1 January 2018 provide a
retention level of at least 95 % of amalgam particles;
(b) from 1 January 2021, all amalgam separators in use provide the
retention level specified in point (a).
Amalgam separators shall be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to ensure the highest practicable level of retention.
5. Capsules and amalgam separators complying with European standards, or with other national or international standards that provide an equivalent level of quality and retention, shall be
presumed to satisfy the requirements set out in paragraphs 1 and 4.
6. Dental practitioners shall ensure that their amalgam waste, including amalgam residues, particles and fillings, and teeth, or parts thereof, contaminated by dental amalgam, is handled and collected by
an authorised waste management establishment or undertaking. Dental practitioners shall not release directly or indirectly such amalgam waste into the environment under any circumstances.
7. From 1 January 2025, the export of dental amalgam shall be
prohibited. From 1 July 2026, the import and manufacturing of dental amalgam
shall be prohibited. By way of derogation from the second subparagraph of this paragraph,
the import and manufacturing of dental amalgam shall be allowed for
specific medical needs as referred to in paragraph 2a, first subparagraph.

Regulation can be found here https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852

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

- [x] Excluded or not allowed, by taking measures as appropriate, the use of mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners
- [x] 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.
In accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2017/852:
1. From 1 January 2019, dental amalgam shall only be used in

pre-dosed encapsulated form. The use of mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners shall be prohibited.
2. From 1 July 2018, dental amalgam shall not be used for dental treatment of deciduous teeth, of children under 15 years and of pregnant or breastfeeding women, except when deemed strictly necessary by the dental practitioner based on the specific medical needs of the patient.
2a. 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.

Regulation can be found here https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852

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.
To ensure health and environment safety of the products, measures regarding mercury-added products are addressed in the EU acquis, namely by EU mercury regulation 2017/852 (text can be found here https://eurlex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852)Article 2(4) of the 2017/852/EU Mercury Regulation defines mercury-added products fullly in line with Art. 2(f) of the Minamata Convention (included product components). Art 5 of the 2017/852/EU Mercury Regulation covers export, import and manufacturing of mercury-added products.

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.
As Estonia is a member state of the European Union the EU mercury regulation is directly applicable to Estonia. 2017/852/EU Mercury Regulation (text can be found here https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852). Article 8 of this regulation addresses new mercury-added products and new manufacturing processes. This article stipulates that economic operators shall not manufacture or place on the market mercury-added products that were not being manufactured prior to 1 January 2018 ('new mercury-added products') unless authorised to do so by means of a decision taken pursuant to paragraph 6 of this Article or allowed to do so under Directive 2011/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ 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.

If yes, please provide information on the measures taken.
Acoording to the EU Mercury Regulation 2017/852 article 8:
1. Economic operators shall not manufacture or place on the market mercury-added products that were not being manufactured prior to 1 January 2018 ('new mercury-added products') unless authorised to do so by means of a decision taken pursuant to paragraph 6 of this Article or allowed to do so under Directive 2011/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council.
2. Economic operators shall not use manufacturing processes involving the use of mercury or mercury compounds that were not processes used prior to 1 January 2018 ('new manufacturing processes') unless authorised to do so by means of a decision taken pursuant to paragraph 6 article 8 of the EU Mercury Regulation.

Part E – Additional comments on this article

Regarding questions 5.2 and 5.3 Estonia does not have these facilities but legally the measures are in place for the activities listed in questions 5.2 and 5.3. These measures are in place in the EU Mercury Regulation 2017/852.

▼ 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
There are no new source categories in Estonia that are listed in Annex D. However as Estonia is a member state of the European Union, then legally this requirement is covered by the EU Industrial Emissions Directive 2010/75/EU that establishes best available techniques (BAT) conclusions for different sectors.

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
The use of BAT is mandatory according to the 2010/75/EU Industrial Emissions Directive. Emissions of mercury and mercury compounds are controlled via best available techniques associated emission levels set out in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/2010 of 12
November 2019 establishing the best available techniques (BAT) conclusions, under Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, for waste incineration.
EU Industrial Emissions Directive is transposed to the national law - Industrial Emissions Act https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/504092025008/consolide
As a fundamental principle of action, all new and existing installations must make use of the BAT and operate according to BAT-based permit conditions, which must ensure that all appropriate preventive measures are taken against pollution.

Progress
Information on the progress is publicly available on the Estonian Environment Portal under Topics - Ambient air - Emissions from sources with environmental permits: https://keskkonnaportaal.ee/en/topics/ambient-air/emissions-sources-environmental-permits

A general overview of the area where our waste incineration facility is located shows the following mercury (Hg) emissions: 2021 – 70 kg; 2022 – 62 kg; 2023 – 81 kg; 2024 – 64 kg. However, this overview includes emissions from all source categories in the area. The waste incineration facility is the only source category in that area that falls under the Convention.

A more detailed overview of Hg emission data from the waste incineration facility indicates that emissions decreased in 2024 compared to 2021, although overall emission levels have remained relatively stable.

▼ 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 December 2025

Please indicate where this inventory is available
Inventory data for Estonia and other European Union Member States are available through the Industrial Emissions Portal of the European Environment Agency (https://industry.eea.europa.eu/industrial-emissions). The portal provides access to information on industrial emissions and transfers for a wide range of pollutants, including mercury. The data are reported annually by operators of industrial installations in accordance with EU legislation, primarily under the Industrial Emissions Directive, and are submitted via the EU Registry on Industrial Sites. The portal also integrates data from the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR), which forms part of the underlying reporting and historical data framework
In Estonia, information on mercury emissions is also made publicly available through the national Environment Portal (https://keskkonnaportaal.ee/en/topics/ambient-air/emissions-sources-environmental-permits).

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

○ Yes

◉ No

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

{Empty}

▼ 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

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▼ 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 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.
There are no locations in the territory of Estonia, that are storing mercury on an interim basis. However as Estonia is a member state of the European Union the EU legislation is applicable in Estonia. According to Article 7 of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury, the interim storage of mercury and of
mercury compounds and mixtures of mercury shall be carried out in an environmentally sound manner,
in accordance with the thresholds and requirements set out in Directive 2012/18/EU on the control of
major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances and Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ 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

Please describe measure and effectiveness of measures
{Empty}

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)

Please describe measure and effectiveness of measures
{Empty}

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.
As Estonia is a member state of the European Union the EU mercury regulation is directly applicable to Estonia and in addition EU waste law that addresses mercury. The measure described under Art. 11(3)(b) of the Convention is implemented at EU level in Article 4(1)
of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on Mercury.

The measure described under Art. 11(3)(b) of the Convention is implemented at EU level in Article 4(1)
of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on Mercury.
Estonia is a Party to the Basel Convention. The measure described under Art. 11(3)(c) of the Convention is
implemented at EU level in Articles 34 and 35 of Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2006 on shipments of waste.

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

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▼ 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 Estonia mercury contaminated sites are identified on the basis of a broader policy and regulatory framework, where mercury is one of many pollutants of concern. Therefore only mercury specific strategy is not planned. Mercury-contaminated sites are identified in Estonian Environment Portal (https://register.keskkonnaportaal.ee/register/search?objectType=RESIDUAL_POLLUTION&status=kinnitatud&validityStatus=Kehtiv) via the implementation of measures regarding the identification of sites contaminated with hazardous substances. Mercury is one amongst other pollutants that are considered when identifying contaminated sites.

In 2024, a research programme was launched on the topic "A land and soil use management system for the efficient and sustainable use of soil ecosystem services, biodiversity conservation, and climate impact mitigation." One of the thematic areas of the project is the development of monitoring capacities. This theme also covers soil contaminants. The objective of soil monitoring is to study and assess changes over time in indicators characterising soil quality. The chemical soil parameters examined during monitoring also include heavy metals, including mercury. Project ends 2027. More information about the project can be found https://keskkonnaportaal.ee/et/teemad/muld-ja-maahoive/maa-ja-mullakasutuse-teadus-arendusprojekt#Seirevimekustearendamine

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ 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
Resources have been provided to implement national policies and strategies relevant to the objectives of the Minamata Convention. For example the monitoring of mercury content in the environment is integrated in the relevant sub programmes (different water bodies and integrated monitoring programme) of the national environmental monitoring programme.
Information about environmental monitoring on the webpage of the Environment Agiency.
https://keskkonnaagentuur.ee/en/goals-activities/environmental-monitoring
Resources have also been provided for remediation of different contaminated sites, where mercury is one amongst other pollutants.

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.
{Empty}

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
Due to different budget deliberations and decisions taken at the national level, it has not been possible to provide such contributions.

Please provide comments, if any.
{Empty}

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ 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
At the wider European Union setting this objective is covered.

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

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

Please specify
{Empty}

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
This objective is supported at the European Union level.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ 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.
Measures to protect human health from the exposure of hazardous chemicals, including mercury, are in place mostly via implementation of the European Union legislation. The use of dental amalgam is prohibited in the European Union (thefore also Estonia) from the beginning of 2025. However, in Estonia, the use of dental amalgam had already been phased out by dental practitioners many years before the official ban.

At the national level National Health Plan 2020-2030 is adopted https://www.sm.ee/rahvastiku-tervise-arengukava-2020-2030 and among other health related issues, it also focuses on the risks that hazardous chemicals can pose.
Estonian Rescue Board has made information publicly available of how to react when chemical accident with mercury occurs. https://www.rescue.ee/et/juhend/kaeitumisjuhised-keemiaonnetuste-korral/elavhobeda-kokkukorjamine
Information regarding the health risks of mercury are also available on Estonian Poison Information Centre website https://www.16662.ee/inimesele/murgistusriskid/murgistused-kemikaalidest

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.
In the summer of 2024, a human biomonitoring project was launched, which also addresses mercury. The title of the project is: “Biomonitoring of populations exposed to the oil shale sector (workers and residents), second stage – implementation of biomonitoring.” Within the scope of the activity, the content of heavy metals (including mercury) and other substances in human biomaterials (specifically blood, urine, and hair) will be examined. At the end of the biomonitoring study, the results will be communicated to the public (decision-makers, policymakers, companies, residents, and other stakeholders) through information days, and policy recommendations will be provided for the development of environmental and health policies and for the design of intervention measures. This project will end in 2027. More information can be found https://www.etis.ee/Portal/Projects/Display/5b138d28-7a82-4c1c-83da-3fa7e5805887

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ 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

☐ 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))

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))
In the summer of 2024, a human biomonitoring project was launched, which also addresses mercury. The title of the project is: “Biomonitoring of populations exposed to the oil shale sector (workers and residents), second stage – implementation of biomonitoring.” Within the scope of the activity, the content of heavy metals (including mercury) and other substances in human biomaterials (specifically blood, urine, and hair) will be examined. At the end of the biomonitoring study, the results will be communicated to the public (decision-makers, policymakers, companies, residents, and other stakeholders) through information days, and policy recommendations will be provided for the development of environmental and health policies and for the design of intervention measures. This project will end in 2027. More information can be found https://www.etis.ee/Portal/Projects/Display/5b138d28-7a82-4c1c-83da-3fa7e5805887

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ 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

The effects of mercury and mercury compounds on human health and the environment
The website of the Ministry of Regional Affairs and Agriculture (link to the information https://www.agri.ee/elavhobedast-toidus) provides information for the Estonian public on the harmful effects of mercury found in food. At the same time, it emphasizes that based on food consumption studies of the Estonian population and the fish species most commonly consumed in Estonia (which have low mercury content), there is no need to limit fish consumption.

☐ 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

The results of its research, development and monitoring activities under article 19
The Environmental Portal (https://keskkonnaportaal.ee/en) is a single gateway to all public environmental data in Estonia.

The Environmental Portal is a public web portal with a map-based application that aggregates and publishes environmental data stored in various databases. It ensures public access to environmental information and supports the implementation of environment-related projects, spatial planning, and decision-making processes. The portal also brings together information on mercury in different environmental compartments.

☑ Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention

Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention
Ministry of Climate is responsible ministry for the Minamata Convention. Therefore information regarding the Convention and meeting its obligations can be found on the website of the Ministry of Climate https://kliimaministeerium.ee/elurikkus-keskkonnakaitse/toostusheide-ja-kemikaalid/kemikaalid

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

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ 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

Inventories of use, consumption, anthropogenic emissions to air and releases to water and land of mercury and mercury compounds
Mercury is one the the heavy metals that is monitored by different sub programmes of the national monitoring programme. Information about the national monitoring programme can be found the Environmental Monitoring Information System website https://kese.envir.ee/

☑ 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
EstModel provides monitoring-based load estimates via its web application at https://estmodel.app/en/estimates
EstModel is a simple coefficient-based assessment model used to estimate annual substance loads from catchments. It operates with limited input data, distinguishes between natural, anthropogenic, and atmospheric contributions, supports the use of monitoring data as well as point and diffuse sources, allows custom model development and coefficient optimization using machine learning, and can also be used to support the modelling of mercury levels.

☑ 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

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
In the summer of 2024, a human biomonitoring project was launched, which also addresses mercury. The title of the project is: “Biomonitoring of populations exposed to the oil shale sector (workers and residents), second stage – implementation of biomonitoring.” Within the scope of the activity, the content of heavy metals (including mercury) and other substances in human biomaterials (specifically blood, urine, and hair) will be examined. At the end of the biomonitoring study, the results will be communicated to the public (decision-makers, policymakers, companies, residents, and other stakeholders) through information days, and policy recommendations will be provided for the development of environmental and health policies and for the design of intervention measures. This project will end in 2027. More information can be found https://www.etis.ee/Portal/Projects/Display/5b138d28-7a82-4c1c-83da-3fa7e5805887

☐ 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 commerce and trade in mercury and mercury compounds and mercury-added products

☐ 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

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

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

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

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

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