INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party
Ghana

Date on which its instrument of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance was deposited
23 March 2017

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party
16 August 2017

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution
Environmental Protection Agency

Title of National Focal Point
Mr.

Name of National Focal Point
Sam ADU-KUMI

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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
- No

Additional information on this question if needed
Ghana has never operated any mercury mine within its territory.

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
- No

3.3. 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?

- Yes
- No

If the party answered No above, please explain.
Ghana has no known 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.

Through the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) and National Action Plan (NAP) on ASGM, Ghana conducted an inventory and identified sources of releases and emissions of mercury or mercury compounds.

The MIA results showed that Ghana does not mine mercury and neither is it produced as a by-product of other metal mining. However, the country imports mercury and mercury containing products. Artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), represents about 80% of the total mercury demand in Ghana.

Out of the imported quantities, available data suggests individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds are below 50 metric tons and sources of mercury supply generating stocks are below 10
metric tons per year stocks. However, the NAP documented mercury use in the ASGM sector as 42.5 – 62 tonnes per year

3.4. Does the party have excess mercury available from the decommissioning of chlor-alkali facilities?

☐ Yes
☐ No

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

Additional information if needed
{Empty}

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 the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

{Empty}

▼ 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)

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

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?
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?

- Yes
- No

**If yes, please provide information on the measures.**
1. Ghana’s Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) has banned mercury containing cosmetics and mainstreamed the Minamata Convention in their workplan to guide activities.
2. Ghana’s Health Facility Regulatory Authority (HeFRA) has also mainstreamed the Minamata Convention in their workplans to guide their activities.
3. Energy Commission has reviewed its existing regulation on the ban of used fridges, used air conditioners and incandescent filament lamps to “Used Electrical appliances” which includes cathode-ray tube (CRT) televisions and monitors.
   It is also considering a draft regulation to ban the importation of lamps containing mercury in the not too distant future.
4. Ghana Health Service (GHS) has reviewed its procurement guidelines to stop the procurement of mercury-containing medical devices.

Has the party considered additional measures to achieve further reductions?

- Yes
- No

**4.3. 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 therein?**

- Yes
- No

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

The Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Health, Ghana Health Service and the Ghana Dental Association has adopted a strategy of phasing out mercury containing thermometers and sphygmomanometers and phasing down dental amalgam. Dental amalgam is considered as cheap, affordable, and very effective as compared with the alternatives. The Government is promoting good oral hygiene to prevent dental caries and also minimization of dental amalgam waste as a strategy for phasing down the use of dental amalgam as well as sound management of the amalgam waste.

**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 under article 4?**

- Yes
- No

**If yes, please provide information on the measures.**
1. Regulators such as the Ghana’s Food and Drugs Authority who regulate the importation of medical devices like thermometers and sphygmomanometers have been sensitized on the country’s obligations under the Convention to take appropriate measures to prevent the incorporation into assembled...
products of mercury-added products whose manufacture, import and export are not allowed under article 4
2. Incidentally, thermometers and sphygmomanometers are NOT manufactured in Ghana

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

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:
- An inventory of mercury containing Sphygmomanometer and thermometers was carried out as part of the Minamata Initial Assessment in 2018

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

{Empty}

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
☐ I do not know

Please explain
Measures are far advanced to undertake an inventory/assessment of 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.

That is the more reason why the country requested for exemption o enable it address such issues before the expiration of the exemption in 2025.

There are no known facilities engaged in the primary production of polyurethane using mercury-containing catalysts. However, there might be potential sources of mercury or mercury compounds used in the secondary production of polyurethane foams.
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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not applicable (do not have these facilities)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHLOR-ALKALI PRODUCTION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACETALDEHYDE PRODUCTION IN WHICH MERCURY OR MERCURY COMPOUNDS ARE USED AS A CATALYST</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not applicable (do not have these facilities)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VINYL CHLORIDE MONOMER PRODUCTION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SODIUM OR POTASSIUM METHYLATE OR ETHYLATE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PRODUCTION OF POLYURETHANE USING MERCURY–CONTAINING CATALYSTS

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

**If yes, please provide information on these measures.**
There are no known facilities engaged in the primary production of polyurethane using mercury-containing catalysts. However, there might be potential sources of mercury or mercury compounds used in the secondary production of polyurethane foams. There is Ghana Standard for Environment and Health Protection – Requirement for Ambient Air Quality and Point Source/Stack Emissions (GS 1236:2019). This set the limit for environmental emissions which includes mercury and mercury compounds.

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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. 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 into force of the Convention?

- Yes
- No

**Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so**

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▼ **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.

If yes, please provide information on the steps.
1. A Minamata Convention Implementation Committee (MCIM) has been established in 2017 to coordinate the implementation of the Convention in Ghana.
2. A Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) was conducted in 2018 to provide initial baseline of mercury emissions and releases in the ASGM sub-sector in Ghana.
3. A Technical Working Group (TWG) for ASGM was formed in 2017 under the Committee to provide technical assistance for the preparation of the National Action Plan 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.
4. A baseline assessment of mercury uses and practices in the ASGM sub-sector has been conducted in 2019 to support the development of a National Action Plan.
5. Engagements have been done in 2019 with selected ASGM districts for development of the health component under the NAP focusing on the health impacts of mercury use in ASGM for the development of a public health strategy.
6. Under the NAP on ASGM, Ghana collaborated with World Health Organisation (WHO) to carry out Rapid Health Assessment to support the development of a Public Health strategy for the NAP on ASGM.
7. A National Action Plan (NAP) was developed in December 2020 and submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat. The NAP outlines a series of activities and strategies through which the objective of the Convention, in the area of ASGM will be achieved by Ghana. These include implementation strategies on formalization of the sector, promoting reduction of emissions, releases and risks of exposure to mercury; managing trade and preventing diversion of mercury and mercury compounds; involvement of stakeholders; strengthening public health initiatives aimed at prevention and mitigation of exposures; provision of information to miners and affected communities; and additional strategies including market-based mechanisms.
8. Since 2017, Government of Ghana has collaborated with non-governmental organisations and development partners to implement projects that seek to reduce the use of mercury in the ASGM sub-sector. These include:
   a. Global Opportunities for Long-term Development in Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Programme (GOLD+ programme)
      In July 2020, Ghana was selected by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to be part of the second phase of its Global Opportunities for Long-term Development in Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Programme (GOLD+ programme). This programme is a USD 6.3 million special facility designed by the GEF to fast-track mercury reduction in the ASGM sector and to make small-scale mining cleaner, safer and profitable. UNDP is the lead agency and will be implementing the project with EPA and with support from UNIDO. The programme components include support the formalisation of the ASGM sector; granting of access to finance enhanced by financial inclusion and responsible supply chains; introduction of best available technologies for small scale mining and knowledge sharing, communication and local capacity building support.
   b. Africa Environmental Health and Pollution Management Program (EHPMP)
      The project is funded by the World Bank and aims to promote sustainable inclusive growth by improving access to environmental services through knowledge sharing and capacity building; strengthening human capital by improving health of vulnerable populations, especially women and children; complementing other regional initiatives and individual projects, focusing on competitiveness, sustainability and governance in Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania and Zambia. Components include: (1) institutional strengthening, capacity building and knowledge sharing; (2) support to policy dialogue and regulatory enhancements; and (3) demonstrating application of technological tools and economic approaches. In Ghana, it will improve artisanal practices of small-scale miners, enhance the sector's competitiveness (by adopting new mining technologies, improving land and water management), and protect the poor and vulnerable (by improving maternal and child health and labour practices).
   c. Reduction of Mercury Use in the Artisanal & Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Sector through the Development of Tailored Mercury-Free Processing Workflows for ASGM Operations in Ghana
      This project is funded by the US Department of State and implemented by Friends of the Nation. It aims to develop mercury-free process flows for small scale miners, based on the typical characteristics of ores found in Ghana. The project will provide small-scale gold miners assistance in equipment...
selection, reagents, and increased recovery -- without the need for mercury -- based on the ore type. This information will allow miners to choose cost-effective approaches for their own mercury-free processes.

d. The Responsive Engagement and Collective Learning Approaches to Inform Mercury Substitution in ASGM, Ghana (RECLAIMS ASGM Ghana)
Funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES), and implemented by the Fund for Peace, this project aims to reduce mercury use in ASGM through both technological and policy means. RECLAIMS is focusing on two key ASGM pilot areas, Western region in the south and Upper East region in the north, to demonstrate best practices and to engage in community sensitization, with the goal to replicate and scale up throughout the country. RECLAIMS will complement existing efforts of various government agencies on ASGM. RECLAIMS will coordinate

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

7.3. Has the party developed and implemented a national action plan and submitted it to the secretariat?

- Yes
- No
- In progress

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

{Empty}

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
1. Ghana received support from UNITAR, GEF AND UNDP to develop Minamata Initial Assessment in 2018. As part of the support government officers were trained on how to conduct level one mercury inventory.
2. Ghana collaborated with UNIDO in 2018 to conduct a study of mercury and gold trade flows and regulatory frameworks in 12 ECOWAS member states (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Mali, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo.)
3. Ghana collaborated with WHO, GEF and UNIDO in 2020 to develop National Action Plan on ASGM (including capacity building on conducting mercury inventory)
4. Ghana is collaborating with upcoming projects (African Environmental Health and Pollution Management Program, Ghana Landscape Restoration and Small-Scale Mining Project, GOLD+)
5. Since 2018 Ghana has participated in exchange visits with Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia to learn best practices in formalizing the ASGM sector and value-addition of minerals
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 power plants**

There are no coal-fired power plants.

- Coal-fired industrial boilers

**Coal-fired industrial boilers**

There are no coal-fired industrial boilers.

- Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals

**Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals**

Possible use of coal in the recycling of lead acid batteries

- Legislation (Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1994 (Act 490), Environmental Assessment Regulations, 1999 (LI 1652), Hazardous and Electronic Waste Control and Management Act, 2016 (Act 917), Hazardous, Electronic and Other Wastes (Classification) Control and Management Regulations, 2016 (LI 2250), Requirements for Ambient Air Quality and Point Source/Stack Emissions—GS 1236:2019,

- Specific conditions of permit, Imposition of fines and penalties).

- Enforcement of the installation of appropriate pollution control system to meet regulatory standards

- Waste incineration facilities

**Waste incineration facilities**

- Legislation (Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1994 (Act 490), Environmental Assessment Regulations, 1999 (LI 1652), Hazardous and Electronic Waste Control and Management Act, 2016 (Act 917), Hazardous, Electronic and Other Wastes (Classification) Control and Management Regulations, 2016 (LI 2250), Requirements for Ambient Air Quality and Point Source/Stack Emissions—GS 1236:2019,

- Specific conditions of permit, Imposition of fines and penalties).

- Enforcement of the installation of appropriate pollution control system to meet regulatory standards
Cement clinker production facilities

Not applicable

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
Ghana is yet to 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.

Attach relevant documentation
{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**

1. Establishment of the Ghana National Cleaner Production Centre to develop and implement projects and activities that will promote resource efficiency and cleaner production activities in areas of energy, water and raw–material efficiency and waste management practices in industries that would result in reduced manufacturing cost, lowered pollution and improved health and safety performance.
2. Legislation (Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1994 (Act 490), Environmental Assessment Regulations, 1999 (LI 1652), Hazardous and Electronic Waste Control and Management Act, 2016 (Act 917), Hazardous, Electronic and Other Wastes (Classification) Control and Management Regulations, 2016 (LI 2250), Requirements for Ambient Air Quality and Point Source/Stack Emissions–GS 1236:2019,
3. Specific conditions of permit, Imposition of fines and penalties).
4. Enforcement of the installation of appropriate pollution control system to meet regulatory standards
5. Establishment of an Environmental Performance Rating and Disclosure Tool (AKOBEN)
Progress
1. Through the Ghana National Cleaner Production programmes, there is improved compliance in pollution control of manufacturing industries
2. The implementation of AKOBEN has resulted in improved environmental performance of manufacturing industries

▼ 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
1. Establishment of the Ghana National Cleaner Production Centre to develop and implement projects and activities that will promote resource efficiency and cleaner production activities in areas of energy, water and raw-material efficiency and waste management practices in industries that would result in reduced manufacturing cost, lowered pollution and improved health and safety performance.
2. Legislation (Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1994 (Act 490), Environmental Assessment Regulations, 1999 (LI 1652), Hazardous and Electronic Waste Control and Management Act, 2016 (Act 917), Hazardous, Electronic and Other Wastes (Classification) Control and Management Regulations, 2016 (LI 2250), Requirements for Ambient Air Quality and Point Source/Stack Emissions GS 1236:2019,
3. Specific conditions of permit, Imposition of fines and penalties).
4. Enforcement of the installation of appropriate pollution control system to meet regulatory standards
**Progress**
Through the Ghana National Cleaner Production programmes, there is improved compliance in pollution control of manufacturing industries.

**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**
1. Establishment of the Ghana National Cleaner Production Centre to develop and implement projects and activities that will promote resource efficiency and cleaner production activities in areas of energy, water and raw-material efficiency and waste management practices in industries that would result in reduced manufacturing cost, lowered pollution and improved health and safety performance.
3. Enforcement of the installation of appropriate pollution control system to meet regulatory standards

**Progress**
1. Waste incineration facilities are required by law to submit annual reports of activities to the EPA.
2. Through the Ghana National Cleaner Production programmes, there is improved compliance in pollution control of manufacturing industries
3. The implementation of AKOBEN has resulted in improved environmental performance of manufacturing industries

**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**
1. Establishment of the Ghana National Cleaner Production Centre to develop and implement projects and activities that will promote resource efficiency and cleaner production activities in areas of energy, water and raw-material efficiency and waste management practices in industries that would result in reduced manufacturing cost, lowered pollution and improved health and safety performance.
3. Specific conditions of permit, Imposition of fines and penalties
4. Enforcement of the installation of appropriate pollution control system to meet regulatory standards

**Progress**
1. Through the Ghana National Cleaner Production programmes, there is improved compliance in pollution control of manufacturing industries
2. The implementation of AKOBEN has resulted in improved environmental performance of manufacturing industries

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

Please explain
Ghana is yet to 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.

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?
Mon, 12/31/2018 – 00:00

Please indicate where this inventory is available
Inventory is contained in the Ghana MIA Report of 2018 submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat (see attached).

Attach
- GHA_8.3.pdf
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

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

Please explain
Ghana is yet to take steps to develop a National Action Plan (Art. 22) on setting out the measures to be taken to control emissions from relevant sources and its expected targets, goals and outcomes.

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

{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
- I do not know

Please indicate the measures taken to address releases from relevant sources and the effectiveness of those measures.

1. Legislation (Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1994 (Act 490), Environmental Assessment Regulations, 1999 (LI 1652), Hazardous and Electronic Waste Control and Management Act, 2016 (Act 917), Hazardous, Electronic and Other Wastes (Classification) Control and Management Regulations, 2016 (LI 2250), Requirements for Ambient Air Quality and Point Source/Stack Emissions–G5 1236:2019 have been enacted to control and manage hazardous chemicals including mercury releases into the environment.

2. In the health sector, trainings have been conducted for health workers on the health and environmental effects of mercury. The government in collaboration with UNDP under the Health–Care Waste Management project, supported health facilities in mercury phase out activities and awareness raising on the Minamata Convention. The project conducted an inventory of mercury containing devices (BP apparatus and thermometers) within 7 health facilities. This involved an assessment of the number
of mercury-containing devices (damaged and in use) in these facilities. Data gathered were used in estimating the level of mercury use and possible mercury releases in the environment from these facilities.

3. Under the Reducing UPOPs and Mercury Releases from the Health Sector in Africa Project, health sector strategy was developed for phasing-down the use of mercury containing medical devices and products.

4. The Ministry of Health and Ghana Health Service has begun actions to implement the health sector strategy to phase down/phase out mercury-containing devices and dental amalgam. This is under the Strengthening Ghana’s Health Sector for the Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury project (Specific International Program 2020–2022)

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

When was the inventory last updated?
2008–12–31

Please indicate where this inventory is available
Inventory is contained in the Ghana MIA Report of 2018 submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat (see Part A for attached copy of report). The inventory has not been updated since then.

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so
{Empty}

▼ 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
- I do not know

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so
{Empty}
ART. 11: MERCURY WASTES

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

☐ Yes
☐ No

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

Ghana has enacted implementing legislation for the Basel Convention for the Control and Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their disposal (including mercury waste). These are:
• Hazardous and Electronic Waste Control and Management Act, 2016 (Act 917)
• Hazardous, Electronic and Other Wastes (Classification), Control and Management Regulations, 2016 (L.I. 2250)

There are limitations in terms of scope (Ghana has only one identified waste management equipped to deal with mercury contaminated waste from the health sector). Currently, Ghana does not have any interim storage facility in place.

11.2. Are there facilities for final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds in the party’s territory?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ I do not know

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

{Empty}

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
Ghana intends to apply the guidance on managing contaminated sites to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

1. Ghana through the NAP on ASGM (2020), has mapped out hotspot contaminated sites in the ASGM sector based on historical knowledge as well as intensity of ASGM activities.
2. Based on the mapping, the country will develop strategies for identifying, assessing and remediating sites contaminated by mercury or mercury compounds

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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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
Ghana will identify resources required to implement national activities as part of the development of the NIP (Article 20).

1. Through the National Action Plan on ASGM, sources of funds from domestic and international partners were clearly identified. So far, resources from governmental, non-governmental, bilateral and multilateral sources, are being mobilized to support the implementation of the Convention. Some of the financial resources being mobilised are under the following projects:
   a. Global Opportunities for Long-term Development in Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Programme (GOLD+ programme) – this is funded from the Global Environmental Facility Trust Fund
   b. Africa Environmental Health and Pollution Management Program (EHPMP) – this is funded from the Global Environmental Facility Trust Fund through the World Bank
   c. The Responsive Engagement and Collective Learning Approaches to Inform Mercury Substitution in ASGM, Ghana (RECLAIMS ASGM Ghana) funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES) and implemented by the Fund for Peace.
   d. Reducing UPOPs and Mercury Releases from the Health Sector in Africa – National Component funded by the Global Environmental Facility Trust Fund through UNDP.
   e. Strengthening Ghana’s Health Sector for the Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury project (Specific International Program 2020–2022)

2. Governmental institutions such as the Environmental Protection Agency, Ghana Health Service, Minerals Commission who have responsibilities under the Convention, have mainstreamed their obligations in their workplans and are being implemented

Please provide comments, if any.
Despite the progress made in resource mobilization, Ghana is seeking for additional resources from governmental, non-governmental, bilateral and multilateral partners to implement the Convention

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

☐ Yes
☐ No
Please specify
No contribution is made yet to the Financial Mechanisms under Article 13.

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
No such contributions has been made.

Please provide comments, if any.
{Empty}

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

{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
1. Ghana collaborated with UNIDO to conduct a study of mercury and gold trade flows and regulatory frameworks in 12 ECOWAS member states (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Mali, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo.)
2. Ghana facilitated exchange visits with Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia to share information and learn best practices in formalizing the ASGM sector, reduction of mercury uses in ASGM sector and sound environmental management practices
3. Ghana Health Service and the Ministry of Health, with financial support from the UNDP/GEF Medical waste management project, Ghana, organized two (2) health sector stakeholder consultation workshops in 2018 and 2019 for senior managers in the health sector agencies under the Ministry of Health to:
   4. sensitize and raise awareness among on Minamata Convention
   5. Inform them to update their administrative procedures to eliminate the procurement of mercury containing medical devices.
   6. Agree on a roadmap for developing a national health sector strategy for phasing out mercury containing medical devices or products from the health sector.

4. Ghana Health Service and the Ministry of Health, with financial support from the UNDP/GEF Medical waste management have conducted capacity building workshops for health workers in the seven (7)
project hospitals (3 Teaching, 2 regional, and 1 district hospital and 1 health center) with objectives to:
- Phase out mercury containing medical devices
- Phase down use of dental amalgam
- Manage mercury waste including dental amalgam

5. Manage mercury spills

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

☐ Yes
☐ No

Please specify

1. Ghana received support from UNITAR, GEF AND UNDP to develop Minamata Initial Assessment. As part of the support government officers were trained on how to conduct level one mercury inventory.
2. Ghana collaborated with UNIDO to conduct a study of mercury and gold trade flows and regulatory frameworks in 12 Ecowas member states (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Mali, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo.)
3. Ghana collaborated with WHO, GEF and UNIDO to develop National Action Plan on ASGM (including capacity building on conducting mercury inventory). As part of the NAP on ASGM, a Public Health Strategy was developed to strengthen public health initiatives aimed at prevention and mitigation of exposures
4. Ghana is collaborating with upcoming projects (African Environmental Health and Pollution Management Program, Ghana Landscape Restoration and Small-Scale Mining Project, GOLD+)
5. Since 2018 Ghana has participated in exchange visits with Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia to learn best practices in formalizing the ASGM sector and value–addition of minerals.
6. Ghana has received support from the Specific International Program 2020–2022 under the Strengthening Ghana's Health Sector for the Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury project to phase down/phase out mercury–containing devices in the health sector.
7. The goal of the UNDP/ MOH medical waste project (2015–2020) was to “eliminate the release of UPOPs and phase out/down mercury releases from the health sector. This project involved capacity building workshops and the supply of mercury free medical devices for health care workers in the project health facilities and at the national level of the health system with the aim to phase out/down mercury releases from the health sector.
8. The Government of Ghana through the Ghana Health Service and Ministry of Health, with support from UNEP, has provided trainer of trainer capacity building to health workers, to train other health workers in their districts and community members on the exposures to mercury and their effects of human health. The project has also produced information, educational and communication materials for distribution at the health facilities.
9. Under the Reducing UPOPs and Mercury Releases from the Health Sector in Africa – National Component Project which was funded by the Global Environmental Facility Trust Fund through UNDP, the Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Health and Ghana Health Service was supported in phasing–down the use of Mercury containing medical devices and products, while improving practices for Mercury containing wastes with the objective to reduce releases of Mercury in support obligations under the Minamata Convention.

Please provide comments, if any.
The support we have received has helped the country’s fulfillment of its obligation under the Convention.
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**

**Health aspects:**

- During the two (2) health sector stakeholder consultation workshops in 2018 and 2019 for senior managers in the health sector, we promoted the use of Digital thermometers, and mercury free sphygmomanometers.

- We also promoted the use of composite resins for dental restoration, however the consensus was that dental amalgam was still required in our setting

**ASGM:**

a. Reduction of Mercury Use in the Artisanal & Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Sector through the Development of Tailored Mercury-Free Processing Workflows for ASGM Operations in Ghana

This project is funded by the US Department of State and implemented by Friends of the Nation. It aims to develop mercury-free process flows for small scale miners, based on the typical characteristics of ores found in Ghana. The project will provide small-scale gold miners assistance in equipment selection, reagents, and increased recovery -- without the need for mercury -- based on the ore type. This information will allow miners to choose cost-effective approaches for their own mercury-free processes.

b. The Responsive Engagement and Collective Learning Approaches to Inform Mercury Substitution in ASGM, Ghana (RECLAIMS ASGM Ghana)

Funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES), and implemented by the Fund for Peace, this project aims to reduce mercury use in ASGM through both technological and policy means. RECLAIMS is focusing on two key ASGM pilot areas, Western region in the south and Upper East region in the north, to demonstrate best practices and to engage in community sensitization, with the goal to replicate and scale up throughout the country. RECLAIMS will complement existing efforts of various government agencies on ASGM. RECLAIMS will coordinate multi-stakeholder platforms for key agencies, civil society, miners and donors to increase information exchange on their efforts related to ASGM reform and conduct awareness activities to promote safe and sustainable ASGM in Ghana

**Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so**

{Empty}
Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.
1. As part of the NAP on ASGM, a Public Health Strategy was developed to strengthen public health initiatives aimed at prevention and mitigation of exposures.
2. The Government of Ghana through the Ghana Health Service and Ministry of Health, with support from UNEP, has provided trainer of trainer capacity building to health workers, to train other health workers in their districts and community members on the exposures to mercury and their effects of human health. The project has also produced information, educational and communication materials for distribution at the health facilities.
3. Under the Reducing UPOPs and Mercury Releases from the Health Sector in Africa – National Component Project which was funded by the Global Environmental Facility Trust Fund through UNDP, the Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Health and Ghana Health Service was supported in phasing down the use of Mercury containing medical devices and products, while improving practices for Mercury containing wastes with the objective to reduce releases of Mercury in support obligations under the Minamata Convention.

16.2. Have any other measures been taken to protect human health in accordance with article 16?

- Yes
- No

Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.
Under the NAP on ASGM, Ghana collaborated with World Health Organization (WHO) to carry out Rapid Health Assessment to support the development of a Public Health strategy for the NAP on ASGM.

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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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

Please provide more information, if any
1. Ghana collaborated with UNIDO to conduct a study of mercury and gold trade flows and regulatory frameworks in 12 ECOWAS member states (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Mali, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Togo.)
2. Ghana facilitated exchange visits with Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia to share information and learn best practices in formalizing the ASGM sector, reduction of mercury use in ASGM sector and sound environmental management practices.
3. Ghana has participated in the Conference of Parties of the Convention to share information and learn on best practices in formalizing the ASGM sector, reduction of mercury use in ASGM sector and sound environmental management practices.

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so
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, please indicate the measures that have been taken and the effectiveness of those measures.

In collaboration with non-governmental organizations and development partners, Ghana has been promoting public information, awareness and education on the health and environmental effects of mercury and mercury compounds and alternatives to mercury and mercury compounds.

Under the Minamata Initial Assessment, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on the impacts of mercury on health and the environment were produced and disseminated countrywide.

In the ASGM sector, the government has partnered with NGOs to increase awareness on the health and environmental effects of mercury on miners and vulnerable populations in mining areas. With the support from academic institutions, research is being conducted to improve mercury free processing techniques for gold processing based on ore characteristics. For example, the University of Mines and Technology collaborated with Friends of the Nation to develop tailored Mercury-free workflows for ASGM operations and trained miners on the development of targeted, mercury-free process workflows based on the metallurgy and mineralogy of different ore bodies in Ghana’s mining regions. In partnership with the International Labor Organization CARING Gold programme, awareness raising was conducted on improved working conditions for miners. It focuses on the impact of mercury on human health and the environment in six communities in the Western, Eastern and Ashanti Regions of Ghana.

In the health sector, trainings have been conducted for health workers on the health and environmental effects of mercury. The government in collaboration with UNDP under the Health-Care Waste Management project, supported health facilities in mercury phase out activities and awareness raising on the Minamata Convention. The project conducted an inventory of mercury containing devices (BP apparatus and thermometers) within 7 health facilities. This involved an assessment of the number of mercury-containing devices (damaged and in use) in these facilities. Data gathered were used in estimating the level of mercury use and possible mercury releases in the environment from these facilities.

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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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?
If yes, please describe these actions

1. A Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) conducted to provide initial baseline of mercury emissions and releases in the ASGM sub-sector in Ghana
2. A Technical Working Group (TWG) for ASGM was formed under the Committee to provide technical assistance for the preparation of the National Action Plan 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.
3. A baseline assessment of mercury uses and practices in the ASGM sub-sector has been conducted to support the development of a National Action Plan
4. Engagements have been done with selected ASGM districts for development of the health component focusing on the health impacts of mercury use in ASGM for the development of a public health strategy
5. A National Action Plan (NAP) was developed in December 2020 and submitted to the Minamata Convention Secretariat. The NAP outlines a series of activities and strategies through which the objective of the Convention, in the area of ASGM will be achieved by Ghana. These include implementation strategies on formalization of the sector, promoting reduction of emissions, releases and risks of exposure to mercury; managing trade and preventing diversion of mercury and mercury compounds; involvement of stakeholders; strengthening public health initiatives aimed at prevention and mitigation of exposures; provision of information to miners and affected communities; and additional strategies including market-based mechanisms.
6. Since 2017, Government of Ghana has collaborated with non-governmental organizations and development partners to implement projects that seeks to reduce the use of mercury in the ASGM sub-sector. These include:

   a. Global Opportunities for Long-term Development in Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Programme (GOLD+ programme)
      In July 2020, Ghana was selected by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to be part of the second phase of its Global Opportunities for Long-term Development in Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Programme (GOLD+ programme). This programme is a USD 6.3 million special facility designed by the GEF to fast-track mercury reduction in the ASGM sector and to make small-scale mining cleaner, safer and profitable. UNDP is the lead agency and will be implementing the project with EPA and with support from UNIDO. The programme components include support the formalisation of the ASGM sector; granting of access to finance enhanced by financial inclusion and responsible supply chains; introduction of best available technologies for small scale mining and knowledge sharing, communication and local capacity building support.
   b. Africa Environmental Health and Pollution Management Program (EHPMP)
      The project is funded by the World Bank and aims to promote sustainable inclusive growth by improving access to environmental services through knowledge sharing and capacity building; strengthening human capital by improving health of vulnerable populations, especially women and children; complementing other regional initiatives and individual projects, focusing on competitiveness, sustainability and governance in Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania and Zambia. Components include: (1) institutional strengthening, capacity building and knowledge sharing; (2) support to policy dialogue and regulatory enhancements; and (3) demonstrating application of technological tools and economic approaches. In Ghana, it will improve artisanal practices of small-scale miners, enhance the sector's competitiveness (by adopting new mining technologies, improving land and water management), and protect the poor and vulnerable (by improving maternal and child health and labour practices).
   c. Reduction of Mercury Use in the Artisanal & Small-Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Sector through the Development of Tailored Mercury-Free Processing Workflows for ASGM Operations in Ghana
      This project is funded by the US Department of State and implemented by Friends of the Nation. It aims to develop mercury-free process flows for small scale miners, based on the typical characteristics of ores found in Ghana. The project will provide small-scale gold miners assistance in equipment selection, reagents, and increased recovery -- without the need for mercury -- based on the ore type. This information will allow miners to choose cost-effective approaches for their own mercury-free processes.
   d. The Responsive Engagement and Collective Learning Approaches to Inform Mercury Substitution in
ASGM, Ghana (RECLAIMS ASGM Ghana)
Funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES), and implemented by the Fund for Peace, this project aims to reduce mercury use in ASGM through both technological and policy means. RECLAIMS is focusing on two key ASGM pilot areas, Western region in the south and Upper East region in the north, to demonstrate best practices and to engage in community sensitization, with the goal to replicate and scale up throughout the country. RECLAIMS will complement existing efforts of various government agencies on ASGM. RECLAIMS will coordinate multi-stakeholder platforms for key agencies, civil society, miners and donors to increase information exchange on their efforts related to ASGM reform and conduct awareness activities to promote safe and sustainable ASGM in Ghana.

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ COMMENTS

Part C: Comments regarding possible challenges in meeting the objectives of the Convention (Art. 21, para. 1)

1. Inadequate funding
2. Limited technical capacity
3. The text of the Convention is too technical
4. Limited human resources
5. Need orientation on completing the reporting template

▼ SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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

Need orientation on completing the reporting template