2025 FULL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Report submitted on 10 February 2026

REPORTING PERIOD:
1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party
Iran (Islamic Republic of)

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

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

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Title of Contact Officer
Mr.

Name of Contact Officer
Khodayar Rouzbahani

Mailing address
Building No.8, Amir Abdollahian Ave, Imam Khomeini Sq., Tehran, Iran

Telephone number
+982161154336

Fax number
{Empty}

E-mail
khrouzbahani@yahoo.com

Second E-mail
k.rouzbahani@mfa.gov.ir

Web page
{Empty}

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

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i. Please attach the results of your endeavour or indicate where it is available on the Internet;
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i. Please attach the results of your endeavour or indicate where it is available on the Internet;
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ii. Supplemental: Please provide any related information – for example, on the use or disposal of mercury from such stocks.
At Bandar Imam Petrochemical Complex (located on the northwest side of the Persian Gulf in Khouzestan province), a total of 19,837.5 kg of fresh mercury and 212,665 kg of excess mercury (with a purity greater than 95%), generated from the decommissioned of the chlor-alkali unit, is currently stored on site.
At Abadan Petrochemical Complex (located on the northwest side of the Persian Gulf in Khouzestan province), 1,330 kg of fresh mercury are stored in special and standard containers, while an additional 17 tons of used mercury are retained within the mercury cells of the company's chlor-alkali unit.

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

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

1. Decommissioning of the chlor-alkali plant of the Bandar Imam Petrochemical Complex carried out in 2016. The amount of mercury generated from the decommissioning is 212,665 kg of high-purity mercury (95%), (has been removed without being used in the chlor-alkali process), which is stored and kept in 13 tanks. The amount of unused mercury (fresh) is 19,837.5 kg, which is stored in 34.5 kg capsules. The conditions for transfer to qualified companies, potential recycling options, and the possibility of obtaining authorization for export are currently under assessment.
2.Decommissioning of the chlor-alkali plant of the Shiraz Petrochemical Complex (located in Fars Province, on the south of Iran), was carried out in 2009. All excess mercury in electrolysis cells in this plant, were extracted, capsulated and delivered to the Bandar Imam Petrochemical Complex.
3.The chlor-alkali unit of Abadan Petrochemical Company has been taken out of service since April 2024 due to the need for major overhauls. At present there is no plans for recommissioning or decommissioning for the plant. Options for replacing the mercury-based chlor-alkali process with a membrane-based process, as well as the related financing mechanisms, are under consideration, taking into account the expiry of the specific exemption in 2030. Currently 1,330 kg of fresh mercury are stored in special and standard containers, while an additional 17 tons of used mercury are retained within the mercury cells of the company's chlor-alkali unit.

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?

- [x] Yes – exports to parties
- [ ] Yes – exports to non-parties
- [ ] No – no export took place
- [ ] No – consent was not given

ba35_subsection

If the party answered yes,(a) and the party has submitted copies of the consent forms to the secretariat, then no further information is needed.If the party has not previously provided such copies, it is recommended that it do so.

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

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

Request for importing of fresh mercury has been received through the proper channel by a member state and the request was sent to related Iranian company.

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

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Kindly attach all relevant information

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

{Empty}

Relevant terms or conditions in the general notification related to use

{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 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.

In the sector of relays and switches, the country's general policies, in line with the requirements of the Minamata Convention, have been directed towards reduction and elimination of the use of mercury. The production and import of these equipment are increasingly carried out based on mercury-free alternative technologies, and the use of mercury-containing relays and switches is limited and is being replaced with mercury-free options.

The establishment of an import ban on mercury vapor lamps has taken place. Also, within the framework of national policies for energy consumption optimization and reduction of environmental pollutants. Mercury-containing lamps have significantly been removed from the consumption cycle and replaced with mercury-free LED lamps.

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.

- Ban on importing amalgam into the country
- Mandatory use of amalgam separators in dental office units

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

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

- (●) Yes

○ No

○ Not applicable

If the party answered yes please select from the bellow checkboxes

☑ Excluded or not allowed, by taking measures as appropriate, the use of mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners

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

If the party answered yes to either option above, please provide information on the measures.
• Under subparagraph viii, the use of dental amalgam is restricted to its encapsulated form in public or private dental offices and clinics.
• Under subparagraph ii, national steps towards reduction of amalgam use has taken place in the form of ban on importing amalgam into the country
• Mandatory use of amalgam separators in dental office units to reduce releases of mercury and mercury compounds to water and land under subparagraph ix.

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.
The import ban on mercury vapor lamps has been introduced. Also, within the framework of national policies to optimize energy consumption and reduce environmental pollutants, mercury-containing lamps have significantly phased out of the consumption cycle and replaced with mercury-free LED lamps. Governmental loans have been provided to support the production of LED lamps as a suitable alternative to mercury vapor lamps.

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.
To discourage manufacture of the mercury vapor lamps, loans have been provided to the manufacturers of LED lamps.

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

If yes, please provide information on measures taken to address emissions and releases of mercury or mercury compounds from such facilities.
There is only one Chlor-alkali plant in Iran that located in Abadan Petrochemical Company. At present, notwithstanding the granting of a specific exemption valid until 2030, has been taken out of service since April 2024 due to the unavailability of financial resources required to undertake major overhauls. At present, the company has no plans of recommissioning or decommissioning this plant. Consequently, the annual consumption has been suspended at present.
Measures to minimize mercury emissions and releases
A range of measures has been implemented to minimize mercury emission and release, including:
1. Treatment of mercury-contaminated waste water through a dedicated mercury treatment system;
2. Seasonal sampling and analysis of mercury contamination within the facility, conducted by a laboratory accredited by the Environmental Protection Organization; and
Transfer of all mercury-contaminated waste generated at the facility to companies who are eligible and qualified to manage such waste in an environmentally sound manner.

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

Please provide information on how much mercury (in metric tons) is used in the processes listed in the two first entries of Part II of Annex B in the last year of the reporting period.
The annual consumption has been suspended at present.

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)

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

5.3: Are measures in place to restrict the use of mercury or mercury compounds in the processes listed in Part II of Annex B in accordance

with the provisions set out therein?

VINYL CHLORIDE MONOMER PRODUCTION

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

SODIUM OR POTASSIUM METHYLATE OR ETHYLATE

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

PRODUCTION OF POLYURETHANE USING MERCURY-CONTAINING CATALYSTS

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

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

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

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

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

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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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

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

Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals
There are several non-ferrous metal smelting and roasting facilities.

☑ Waste incineration facilities

Waste incineration facilities
There are a few waste incineration units.

☑ Cement clinker production facilities

Cement clinker production facilities
There are a certain amount of 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
The development of a systematic monitoring and measurement program, in combination with existing control technologies, lays the groundwork for future implementation of best available techniques (BAT) and best environmental practices (BEP) in accordance with Article 8.4-8.6,

facilitating progressive compliance, verification, and reporting.
These measures support the gradual establishment of a national mercury emission inventory, which will allow for the evaluation of facility-specific mercury emissions, assessment of mitigation measures, and alignment with the Convention's objectives regarding the identification of mercury sources, quantification of releases, and implementation of effective emission controls.

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

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

▼ COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS

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

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

▼ COAL-FIRED INDUSTRIAL BOILERS

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

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

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

- [ ] A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☑ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources

☑ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions

☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

▼ **WASTE INCINERATION FACILITIES**

☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☑ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources

☑ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions

☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

▼ **CEMENT CLINKER PRODUCTION FACILITIES**

☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

☑ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources

☑ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions

☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

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

○ Yes

◉ No

Please explain

In accordance with Article 8, paragraphs 4, 5 and 6, of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, Parties may take into account the potential contribution of existing air pollution control technologies installed at relevant industrial sources to the control and reduction of mercury emissions to the atmosphere, particularly within the framework of co-benefit (multi-pollutant) emission control approaches.
In this context, the abatement of particulate matter emissions, as achieved through such control systems, may also lead to the simultaneous reduction of other particulate-bound pollutants, including mercury and mercury compounds, consistent with the application of best available techniques (BAT) and best environmental practices (BEP), where appropriate.

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 no such inventory exists, please explain

A comprehensive national mercury inventory has not yet been completed. However, within the framework of a project currently being implemented with financial support from the second round of the Minamata Convention Specific International Program (SIP2), capacity building and institutional arrangements for the development of a national mercury inventory system have been established. This work is being conducted in accordance with the UNEP Toolkit for the Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases, ensuring that the inventory methodology adheres to internationally recognized guidance and best practices.
In the next phase, the inventory will be finalized through the entry, verification, and validation of data, consistent with the requirements of Article 8 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, including the development of national mercury release inventories and the assessment of sources and releases.

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

Due to the absence of a comprehensive national mercury inventory, the completion of a fully integrated national inventory has not yet been feasible. Nevertheless, monitoring and data collection activities are being conducted for identified industrial facilities, focusing on major point sources of mercury emissions.
In recognition of the critical importance of mercury for public health and environmental protection in the country, an air sampling device has been procured and deployed, which provides the technical foundation for accurate measurement, monitoring, and reporting of mercury emissions from industrial sources. This equipment facilitates systematic data collection, enabling gradual expansion of the inventory as more facilities are assessed.
It should be noted that large industrial facilities in the country are subject to self-reporting obligations under national regulations, providing a primary source of emission data to support the development of a national mercury inventory. These measures, in combination with monitoring and sampling activities, are aligned with the objectives of Article 8 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, including the identification of mercury sources, quantification of releases, and implementation of effective emission controls.

Collectively, these efforts lay the groundwork for a progressive, systematic, and verifiable national mercury inventory, which will support future reporting, compliance, and policy development in accordance with the Convention's requirements.

▼ 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)

Please explain

Our initial investigations indicate that there are no point sources of mercury emissions in the petroleum industry. We are currently undertaking a more in-depth study to identify potential sources of mercury emissions. However, this study presents challenges, as discussed below.
Challenges and gaps:
Based on assessments conducted within the oil industry, the main challenges encountered in completing the UNEP Toolkit for the identification and quantification of mercury emissions and releases from point sources are as follows:
1. Insufficient training of personnel, highlighting the need for structured capacity-building on the proper application of the Toolkit and clarification of outstanding issues at the operational level.
2. Lack of mercury measurement and analytical equipment at emission sources.
3. Financial constraints affecting the implementation of measurement, reporting, and verification activities.
Needs for technical and financial assistance
In order to address the above-mentioned challenges, there is a need for technical and financial support through the mechanisms of the Minamata Convention, including:
- Capacity-building and specialized training programmes for relevant technical and operational staff on the application of the UNEP Toolkit;
- Provision of mercury measurement and analytical equipment at key emission and release sources;
- Support for research activities aimed at improving the quality and reliability of activity data and emission factors; and
- Strengthening institutional coordination mechanisms to avoid double counting and improve data aggregation and consistency.

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)

Please explain

No clear information available. Developing an inventory under SIP-2 project of Iran is in progress.

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.
At Bandar Imam Petrochemical, 19,837.5 kg of fresh mercury is stored in 575 capsules of 34.5 kg each in the chemical storage warehouse under closed-circuit camera surveillance.
In addition, 212,665 kg of excess mercury, removed from the chlor-alkali process, is stored in 14 large tanks and 58 flasks. All tanks and flasks are sealed and kept within the industrial site under continuous surveillance by closed-circuit cameras and security personnel. Any planning related to the sale, transfer, or management of this excess mercury will be carried out in accordance with national regulations and the provisions of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.
At Abadan Petrochemical Company, 1,330 kg of mercury are currently stored in the warehouse. The mercury is kept in dedicated containers, sealed and maintained under controlled and supervised conditions. Given that no final decision has been taken to phase out the chlor-alkali unit of this complex prior to the expiry of the specific exemption in 2030, the transfer or disposition of this quantity of mercury is not currently under consideration.

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

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.
The National Implementation Regulations on Environmentally Sound Management of Mercury Wastes has been ratified in March 2013 by the Hazardous Chemicals and Wastes Subcommittee affiliated to the National Sustainable Development Committee. This National regulations has been developed taking into account the provisions of the National Waste Management Law, Basel Convention and the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

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)

If the party answered yes to any measures above, please select from the following

☑ Yes - there are facilities in the party's territory

☐ Yes - there are facilities outside the party's territory accessible to the party (in accordance with paragraph 5 of article 11)

If there are facilities in the party's territory and if the information is available, how much waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds has been subject to final disposal under the reporting period? Please specify the method of the final disposal operation/operations. If the party does not have specific data on waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds, the party may report on the data including other mercury waste, with an explanatory note.

Bandar Imam Petrochemical has a dedicated landfill covering an area of 10 hectares, part of which is designed and constructed for the disposal of hazardous waste, such as waste containing mercury. Before the construction of this landfill, environmental impact assessment studies were conducted and a permit was obtained from the Environmental Protection Agency. Before the decommissioning of the chlor-alkali plant, the mercury-containing waste was disposed in the landfill. Before the burial operation

Until 2016 (prior to the phase-out), as well as during the decommissioning of the chlor-alkali plant, all mercury-containing wastes were dewatered using a filter press and subsequently transferred to this landfill in accordance with applicable environmental guidelines.

All wastes containing mercury compounds have been managed under isolated and encapsulated conditions and have been stabilized and rendered environmentally sound.

At Abadan Petrochemical Company, wastes generated from the chlor-alkali unit, including filter press cake, wastewater treatment plant sludge, mercury-containing containers, and mercury-contaminated graphite from decomposers, have been managed using appropriate and environmentally sound practices. Following the emptying of mercury flasks, their lids were sealed after cleaning and verification that they were free of residual mercury, and the flasks are stored separately in a designated storage area. Filter press cake and wastewater treatment sludge are stored in concrete-lined pits under controlled conditions.

Mercury-contaminated graphite generated in years prior to 2024 was transferred to qualified companies for recycling. In recent years, no such waste has been generated due to the chlor-alkali unit being taken out of service.

Kindly attach any additional relevant information

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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

At Bandar Imam Petrochemical Company, Identification and assessment of the landfill site are carried out through seasonal mercury measurements conducted by laboratories accredited by the Environmental Protection Organization. To date, monitoring results have not indicated any mercury contamination in the landfill soil.

The company ensures that, should any contamination be detected during periodic monitoring, clean-up and remediation measures will be implemented in accordance with the methodologies recommended in the Basel Convention technical guidelines.

At Abadan Petrochemical Company, two research projects and one self-monitoring activity have been conducted. In all three cases, no mercury contamination exceeding the defined regulatory limits was reported. Mercury concentrations in soil are measured on a periodic basis by laboratories accredited by the Environmental Protection Organization. The results indicate that mercury levels in soil remain within the permissible limits for various land-use categories.

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

1- In the SIP-1 and SIP-2 project of Iran under Minamata Convention there has been some in kind contribution for the implementation of those projects. 2- The Environment Department of Iran funded a joint project with University of Tehran titled " implementation of the Minamata Convention in Iran ". In this project following measures were carried out :- Developing forms to identify and collect information on mercury - added products- Developing forms to identify and collect information on manufacturing process in which mercury or mercury compounds are used- Developing information for a toolkit (level 1) on emission and mercury release- Identifying the gaps for collecting the needed information. 3- In kind contribution of the Department of Environment for organizing two workshops with participation and financial assistance of Japan:- In 2015 an awareness raising workshop was held for introducing the Convention to the relevant national and provincial officials and experts- in 2017 a workshop was held for introducing, UNEP's Toolkit for identification and quantification of mercury releases and emission to the relevant national and provincial officials and experts 5- Department of Environment funded crating an online platform (https://iranemp.ir with restricted access) for collecting, registering and evaluating the information provided through self-declaration of 15/20 pollutant industries. The basic information of the emissions and release of mercury and mercury compounds by the relevant industries also can be registered in this platform.

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.

Due to imposing illegal sanctions on Iran and as a developing country in need of financial resources, the country has not been in a position to contribute to the financial mechanism of the Convention.

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 imposing illegal sanctions on Iran and as a developing country in need of financial resources, the country has not been in a position to contribute to assist developing-country parties and/or parties with economies in transition in the implementation of the Convention.

Please provide comments, if any.
{Empty}

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

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

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

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

Please specify
Considering imposing the illegal sanctions on the country, scarce of resources and the fact that Iran is a developing country, it has not been possible to provide capacity building and technical assistance to another party.

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

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No

Please specify
Iran has received 100,000 dollar financial assistance for its SIP-1 project titled: Implementation of the Minamata convention for mercury management in Abadan petrochemical company. - Under SIP-2, Iran is currently implementing the project: "Capacity-building for effective implementation of Minamata Convention focusing on mercury inventory". The funding of this project is 150,000 dollar.- Iran proposal under SIP-3 has been approved but its contract agreement is yet to be signed.

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
Despite illegal sanctions, tremendous financial and technical challenges; Iran has facilitated the environmentally sound alternative technologies in certain areas including: using LED instead of mercury containing lamps, promoting safer alternatives for dental amalgam, converting the mercury cells to membrane technology in chlor-alkali plant of Bandar Imam.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 16: HEALTH ASPECTS

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

- ○ Yes

No

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

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 17: INFORMATION EXCHANGE

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

Yes

No

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ 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

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

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ 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

In accordance with Article 19 (a) of the Convention and in SIP-2 project of Iran, developing an inventory of emission and release of mercury and mercury compounds implemented. While this

project still has not completed, certain initial information has been collected based on a toolkit from the relevant internal stakeholders.

☐ 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

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

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

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

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

Information on commerce and trade in mercury and mercury compounds and mercury-added products
In line with Article 19 (f) of the Convention and in SIP-2 project of Iran, certain information on commerce and trade of mercury and mercury compounds have been collected.

☐ 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

{Empty}

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

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

Below are certain challenges in meeting the objectives of the Convention in Iran:
1) Collecting the reliable and updated information and data from different stakeholders responsible for
implementing the Convention;
2) Certain technologies in the industries and other sources related with mercury in the country are not
new and due to economic challenges and illegal unilateral sanctions on Iran it is not possible to transfer, improve or modernize those technologies;
This is a great challenge in the face of developing an inventory and collecting reliable information and
data form industries and other sources related with mercury;
3) Import of equipment/instruments needed for determination of the the heavy metals particularly for
mercury is subject to illegal unilateral sanctions imposed on Iran. Therefore identifying even the low content of the mercury in a scientific and precise values is not possible and measurable.
4) Relevant foreign companies who provide maintenance, technical services, products, equipment and
spare parts for monitoring, measuring and controlling mercury pollutant don't cooperate and sell them
to Iran. This is a big challenge for implementing the emission and release provision of the Convention.

5) There have been numerous scientific studies on the different aspects of mercury and its impact on health and environment in Iran. Most of those studies have been published in Persian and needs to be
translated to English. To this end, it is necessary to provide financial resources and overcome legal challenges.
6) A developing country needs capacity building, technology transfer and financial resources to meet the objectives of Minamata Convention.

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

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

{Empty}