2025 FULL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Report submitted on 29 December 2025

REPORTING PERIOD:
1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party
Ireland

Date on which its instrument of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance was deposited
18 March 2019

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party
16 June 2019

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution
Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment

Title of Contact Officer
Ms.

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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

If the party answered no to the question, please explain.
Unchanged from previous report (confirmed through Article 18 mercury regulations reporting to the European Commission).

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

If the party answered no to the question, please explain.
Unchanged from previous report (confirmed through Article 18 mercury regulations reporting to the European Commission).

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

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

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

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

If the party answered no - consent was not given, please provide information on the trade which was not in compliance with the Convention, the challenges met by the party and/or its needs in meeting the requirements of paragraphs 6 and 7 of article 3.
No exports of mercury took place

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

No imports from a non-party have been allowed.

▼ 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.
Implemented Mercury Regulation (EU) 2017/852 article 5 on export, import and manufacture of mercury added products.

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.
The Dental Treatment Services Scheme(DTSS) provides free oral healthcare to medical card holders aged 16 and over in Ireland and includes access to posterior dental composite - https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/pcrs/circulars/dental/dental-circular-01724-nohl-memo-to-dentists-re-legislative-change-in-relation-to-amalgam.pdf
A HSE (Health Service Executive) Circular 017/24 provided updated clinical guidelines for professionals and students - https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/pcrs/circulars/dental/dental-circular-01724-nohl-memo-to-dentists-re-legislative-change-in-relation-to-amalgam.pdf
The EU Regulation (2017/852) was transposed into Irish law via S.I. 522/2018. In June 2024 amending regulation (EU) 2017/852 was adopted further restricting dental amalgam use. This was updated into Irish Law by S.I. 754/2024."

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 no to question 4.3(B) above, please explain

-The use of Mercury in bulk form is prohibited in Ireland and only encapsulated dental amalgam capsules are allowed under S.I No. 533 of 2018 implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/852. S.I. No. 533 also prohibits the use of dental amalgam for deciduous teeth, patients under 15 years of age and pregnant and breastfeeding women except when deemed strictly necessary by the dental practitioner based on the specific medical needs of the patient.
-Ireland previously published its 'National Plan for Phase-down to Phase out of Amalgam towards 2030' as part of Ireland's National Oral Health Policy 'Smile agus Sláinte'. This plan also lists the phase out of dental amalgam for relevant measures under decision MC-4/3.
-In 2022 provisions were introduced to allow for the use of non-mercury restorations for all teeth in adults who are eligible to receive care under the public system.
-A monitoring tool was put in place post 01 January 2025 to record the exceptional reasons that dental practitioners used amalgam.
-A prospective clinical approval mechanism is now being considered for the use of amalgam in exceptional circumstances for publicly funded services."

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.
Measures have been taken under the following:
EU Mercury Regulation (EU) 2017/852 Article 8, and national implementing regulations
RoHS Directive 2011/65/EU, and national implementing regulations
Regulation (EU) 2023/1542, concerning batteries and waste batteries, and national implementing regulations
Irish legislation under the Chemicals Act implements REACH (1907/2006), Commission Regulation (EU) No. 847/2012 which restricts use of mercury in several measuring devices and Commission Regulation (EU) No. 848/2012 prohibits manufacture, use & placing on the market of 5 phenylmercury compounds
End of Life Vehicles Directive 2000/53/EC and national implementing regulations

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.
Discouraged the manufacture and distribution of mercury added products in accordance with Mercury Regulation (EU) 2017/852
S.I. No. 754/2024 European Union (Mercury) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 amend the 2018 Mercury Regulation (S.I. No. 533 of 2018) in relation to the prohibition of on site manufacture, import and export of various mercury added products. The amendment also establishes the mandatory use of pre dosed encapsulated dental amalgam and amalgam separators in dental practices.
The EPA also released guidance in 2022 on metallic Mercury Storage and Transport covering the regulatory requirements for the separation, storage and labelling of metallic mercury waste. It also outlines the restriction of metallic mercury waste up to 12 months in permitted facilities. The measures outlined in the guidance discourage the ongoing commerce or secondary reuse of Mercury.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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

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

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No
- ( ) Do not know

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

CHLOR-ALKALI PRODUCTION

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

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

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

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

VINYL CHLORIDE MONOMER PRODUCTION

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

SODIUM OR POTASSIUM METHYLATE OR ETHYLATE

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

PRODUCTION OF POLYURETHANE USING MERCURY-CONTAINING CATALYSTS

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

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

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

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

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

Part E - Additional comments on this article

N/A as per Article 18 reporting

▼ 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 power plants
Since 2021 a multi year development to develop a new renewable energy hub has been progressing with the goal of achieving net zero emissions by 2040.

The site has continued to move towards a total phase out of coal burning power generation to renewable energy with phase one of the transformation to a renewable energy hub completed in 2022. The use of coal ceased in June 2025.

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

Waste incineration facilities
Use of BAT/BEP and controlling of emission limit values are in place at these waste incineration facilities

The Commission Implementing Decision for waste incineration (2019/2010/EU) tightened emission limit values(ELV) for Mercury and its compounds to align with latest developments in BAT. The ELV for both waste incinerators was reduced from 0.05 mg/m³ to 0.02 mg/m³ on 12th November 2023. Monitoring of air emissions at both sites has not recorded any exceedance of this lower ELV.

☑ Cement clinker production facilities

Cement clinker production facilities
Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from cement clinker production facilities, reporting under European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (EPRTR) and use of alternative technologies all contribute to the reduction in emissions of mercury.

There are 4 cement clinker production facilities in Ireland. Mercury emissions at these cement clinker production facilities are either stable or declining.

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)

No (please explain)
We also note that the Commission are developing guidance on abatement technologies for emissions of mercury from crematoria.

No New Sources

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
Since 2021 a multi year development to develop a new renewable energy hub has been progressing with the goal of achieving net zero emissions by 2040.

Progress
The site has continued to move towards a total phase out of coal burning power generation to renewable energy with phase one of the transformation to a renewable energy hub completed in 2022. The use of coal ceased in June 2025.

▼ 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
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▼ 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

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

Measures
Use of BAT/BEP and controlling of emission limit values are in place at these waste incineration facilities

Progress
The Commission Implementing Decision for waste incineration (2019/2010/EU) tightened emission limit values(ELV) for Mercury and its compounds to align with latest developments in BAT. The ELV for both waste incinerators was reduced from 0.05 mg/m³ to 0.02 mg/m³ on 12th November 2023. Monitoring of air emissions at both sites has not recorded any exceedance of this lower ELV.

▼ CEMENT CLINKER PRODUCTION FACILITIES

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

Measures
Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from cement clinker production facilities, reporting under European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (EPRTR) and use of alternative technologies all contribute to the reduction in emissions of mercury.

Progress
There are 4 cement clinker production facilities in Ireland. Mercury emissions at these cement clinker production facilities are either stable or declining.

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

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

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

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

If yes, when was the inventory last updated?
31 December 2024

Please indicate where this inventory is available
https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/PRTR

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

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

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

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

Part E - Additional comments on this article

Ireland's Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) is updated annually with information provided to the EPA by facility operators and is used to track major pollutant releases to air, land and water) from different sectors and facilities - https://www.epa.ie/our-services/compliance--enforcement/whats-happening/pollutant-release-and-transfer-register/scope-of-the-prtr/. This data (as set out in the PRTR regulation) is then reported to the European Commission.
Also relevant is Irelands Informative Inventory report 2025 - https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/climate-change/air-emissions/IIR_Ireland-2025_web_v2.pdf. Total national emissions of Hg have decreased from 0.75 t in 1990 to 0.23 t in 2023, a reduction of 69.3 per cent"

CLRTAP reporting includes additional source categories above what is required in Annex D. PRTR would require reporting from all relevant sources. At individual installation level for mercury

No specific National Mercury Control Plan in Ireland but the EU regulatory measures are enforced through S.I. 533/2018 (as amended) which applies to emissions and releases from industrial sources. This is in compliance with the Minamata Convention Article 8

▼ 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 indicate the measures taken to address releases from relevant sources and the effectiveness of those measures.
-The Pollutant Release & Transfer Register (PRTR) indicates releases for installations in Ireland in excess of specific thresholds including Mercury.
-Mercury releases are limited under EU Industrial Emissions Directive 2010/75/EU (IED).
- Measures relate to controlling upstream sources, so for example requiring amalgam separators in dental practices, controlling and limiting industrial emissions through licensing under the industrial emissions directive.
-Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Ireland are established for waste electrical and electronic equipment which segregate mercury waste streams to prevent mercury contamination of other waste streams (https://www.weeeireland.ie/household-recycling/ and European Recycling Platform (ERP) schemes https://erp-recycling.org/ie/weee/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIhJWJgJfe9AIV9MuGCh3PigTbEAAYASAAEgKwgfD_BwE) .

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)

When was the inventory last updated?
31 December 2024

Please indicate where this inventory is available.
{Empty}

Please explain
https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/PRTR

Part E - Additional comments on this article

The most recent data published on the PRTR website https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/PRTR is 2023, which was published at the end of 2024. The 2024 data is due to be published before the end of 2025.

▼ 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.
Interim storage (where required) of mercury, mercury compounds and mixtures of mercury must be carried out in an environmentally sound manner, in accordance with the thresholds and requirements set out in EU Directives 2012/18/EU and 2010/75/EU on Major Accident Hazards and Industrial Emissions respectively. Metallic mercury waste must be stored in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

A Guidance Document for the Transportation of Metallic Mercury Waste for Hazardous Waste Collection Permit Holders and for the Storage of Metallic Mercury Waste for Hazardous Waste Transfer Facilities is available from the Environmental Protection Agency - https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/waste/guidance-for-the-transportation-and-temporary-storage-of-metallic-mercury-waste.php

▼ 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
Through European and national legislation including Mercury Regulation EU 2017/852, SI 533 of 2018- European Union (Mercury) Regulations 2018, Waste Management Acts 1996-Date. Under Waste Management Acts - permits are granted by EPA.

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

Please describe measure and effectiveness of measures
Through European and national legislation including Mercury Regulation EU 2017/852, SI 533 of 2018- European Union (Mercury) Regulations 2018, Waste Management Acts 1996-Date. Under Waste Management Acts - permits are granted by EPA.

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

Please describe measure and effectiveness of measures
Through European and national legislation including Mercury Regulation EU 2017/852, SI 533 of 2018- European Union (Mercury) Regulations 2018, Waste Management Acts 1996-Date. Under Waste Management Acts - permits are granted by EPA.

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.
Through European and national legislation including Mercury Regulation EU 2017/852, SI 533 of 2018- European Union (Mercury) Regulations 2018, Waste Management Acts 1996-Date. Under Waste Management Acts - permits are granted by EPA.

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

○ Yes

◉ No

○ Do not know (please explain)

Part E - Additional comments on this article

No facilities in Ireland, Mercury waste is exported

▼ 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
Yes the following directives/guidance are followed in the determination of sites contaminated by Mercury:
-Directive 2010/75/EU (EU) on industrial emissions (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2010/75/oj/eng) covers the assessment of contaminated sites and Environmental Liability Directive 2004/35/CE (on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage) which was amended by Regulation (EU) 2019/1010 on the alignment of reporting obligations in the field of legislation related to the environment.
-The Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC looks at the prioritisation of certain substances taking into account evidence from monitoring of widespread environmental contamination or the indication of the possibility of widespread environmental contamination. Mercury and it's compounds are identified as a priority hazardous substance.
-The Local Government (Water pollution) Act 1977 Revised (updated to 28 August 2024), covers 'polluting matter' which includes Mercury and its compounds.
-The EPA have published 'Guidance on the management of contaminated land and groundwater at EPA licensed sites' which outlines the approach to dealing with contaminated land- https://www.epa.ie/publications/compliance--enforcement/waste/Guidance_on_the_Management_of_Contaminated_Land_and_Groundwater_at_EPA_Licensed_Sites.pdf,

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
National Legislation on mercury SI 533 of 2018 (as amended) sets out the roles and powers of competent authorities assigned to implement the obligations under the convention, in addition legislation relating to waste, water and emissions monitoring, products, and industrial licensing is also relevant

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.
For the 8th Replenishment of the GEF, Ireland pledged €10 million over the period 2022 to 2026, equating to a €2.5 million annual contribution. Prior to this Ireland met its funding pledges (€5.73m) during GEF7 which ran from 2018 to
2022.

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
Ireland has not 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 nor multilateral sources or channels.

Please provide comments, if any.
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Part E - Additional comments on this article

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

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

○ Yes

◉ No

Please specify
No

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

○ Yes

◉ No

Please specify
No

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
Ireland has continued to implement it's long standing policy to cut pollution from mercury sources and phase out Mercury from products and processes where technically and economically feasible. This is evidenced by the trending drop in Mercury emissions as per Ireland's Informative Inventory Report 2025 https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/climate-change/air-emissions/IIR_Ireland-2025_web_v2.pdf. Total national emissions of Hg have decreased from 0.75 t in 1990 to 0.23 t in 2023, a reduction of 69.3 per cent.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 16: HEALTH ASPECTS

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

◉ Yes

○ No

Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.
a)-The EPA maintains a dedicated Mercury section on it's website (last updated 2021) providing information on health impacts and environmental exposure.
-SeaHealth UCD provide an e bulletin with issue 40 released in September 2022. This bulletin targets a wide audience including fisheries, aquaculture personnel, processors, retailers, and consumers. The 2022 update on mercury exposure captures the lowered maximum mercury levels for cephalopods and marine gastropods. It also provides information on fish consumption and exposure for vulnerable groups.
-The FSAI provides guidance on fish consumption (https://www.fsai.ie/consumer-advice/food-safety-and-hygiene/chemicals-in-food/mercury-and-fish-consumption#:~:text=The%20FSAI%20is%20advising%20pregnant%20and%20breastfeeding%20women%2C,other%20fish%20as%20part%20of%20a%20balanced%20die particularly among pregnant and breastfeeding women, women of childbearing age and young children. The advice is to avoid swordfish, marlin and shark and to limit consumption of tuna. This webpage was updated in 2024 to provide an additional link to information on the mercury monitoring programme carried out by the Marine Institute.
-The HSE provide advice on their website around preventing mercury exposure to your child by avoiding the use of Mercury thermometers. They also provide information around seafood consumption when breastfeeding due to the affect on mercury levels on the developing brain.
b) -The HSA released 'A code of practice for chemical agent regulations' in 2021 and again in 2024. The Code of Practice states the occupational exposure limit values for Mercury and divalent inorganic mercury compounds including mercuric oxide and mercuric chloride (measured as mercury).
c) - The HBM4IRE project was launched in Ireland in 2022 with the aim of evaluating the feasibility of establishing a nationwide biomonitoring of chemicals including Mercury.
d) - A circular and memo on the Dental Amalgam phase out was sent by the HSE to update staff with a role in dental services in October and November of 2024 https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/pcrs/circulars/dental/dental-circular-01724-nohl-memo-to-dentists-re-legislative-change-in-relation-to-amalgam.pdf
-The Dental Council of Ireland published information explaining that the Dental Amalgam Code of practice was revised in December 2024 https://www.dentalcouncil.ie/news/2024-12-06_revised-code-of-practice-regarding-dental-amalgam.html

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

◉ Yes

○ No

Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.
In 2022 provisions were introduced to allow for the use of non-mercury restorations for all teeth in adults who are eligible to receive care under the public system.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 17: INFORMATION EXCHANGE

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

◉ Yes

○ No

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

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

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

Reports and information notes have been published which provide relevant information including:
-Ireland's Informative Inventory Report 2024 covers air pollutant emissions in Ireland 1990-2022 including Mercury emissions https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/climate-change/air-emissions/IIR_Ireland_2024v1.pdf
-Ireland's Seafood Development Agency (BIM) released an information note in 2023 providing guidance around Mercury in seafood, especially Albacore Tuna https://bim.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/BIM-Albacore-Tuna-Mercury-Report.pdf
-Ireland's State of the Environment Report 2024 references Mercury across multiple chapters covering different sectors of the environment as well as key economic sectors https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/state-of-the-environment/EPA-SOE-Report-2024-BOOK-LOWRES.pdf
-The EPA report No. 417 'Assessment of the Environmental and Health Impacts Arising from Mercury-free Dental Restorative Materials' was published in 2022. This study analysed mercury free dental alternatives for effectiveness, safety and environmental impact.
- As reported in Water Quality in Ireland 2019-2024 (https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/freshwater--marine/water-quality-2019-2024-summary-report.php) all surface water bodies fail to achieve good chemical status due to the presence of mercury in fish at concentrations above environmental standards. Mercury is the main causes of non-ubiquitous failures. In 45 of the 51 water bodies where fish was tested and 5 of the 25 water bodies where shellfish was tested for mercury, concentrations in excess of the EQS were found. Mercury is released into the environment from sources such as burning of fossil fuels, industrial emissions, historic mining activities, and wastewater treatment plants and enters water bodies via atmospheric deposition or discharges. Restrictions on the uses of mercury have reduced emissions. Mercury in biota EQS exceedances were widely distributed, and failures were detected in areas free from any known direct sources. This suggests the sources are many and diffuse. The results are in line with the OSPAR assessments of marine contaminants. The high exceedance rates are consistent with rates reported for the UK and in Europe, where most or all water bodies monitored have exceedances for mercury in biota. It should be noted that although most fish in Irish waters contain concentrations of mercury above the EQS, they are well below the food regulatory standard and do not represent a risk to the human consumer providing advice from the food safety authority is followed. The OSPAR assessments indicate mercury concentrations in biota are reducing over time. Given the high level of exceedances in the 2019-2024 monitoring dataset it is very likely that more widespread testing would result in all Irish surface water bodies failing to achieve good chemical status due to EQS exceedances for mercury in biota.

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

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

Reports and information notes have been published which provide relevant information including:
-Ireland's Informative Inventory Report 2024 covers air pollutant emissions in Ireland 1990-2022 including Mercury emissions https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/climate-change/air-emissions/IIR_Ireland_2024v1.pdf
-Ireland's Seafood Development Agency (BIM) released an information note in 2023 providing guidance around Mercury in seafood, especially Albacore Tuna https://bim.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/BIM-Albacore-Tuna-Mercury-Report.pdf
-Ireland's State of the Environment Report 2024 references Mercury across multiple chapters covering different sectors of the environment as well as key economic sectors https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/state-of-the-environment/EPA-SOE-Report-2024-BOOK-LOWRES.pdf
-The EPA report No. 417 'Assessment of the Environmental and Health Impacts Arising from Mercury-free Dental Restorative Materials' was published in 2022. This study analysed mercury free dental alternatives for effectiveness, safety and environmental impact.
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☑ Information on technically and economically viable alternatives to:

Mercury-added products

-Ireland's State of the Environment Report 2024 references Mercury across multiple chapters covering different sectors of the environment as well as key economic sectors https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/state-of-the-environment/EPA-SOE-Report-2024-BOOK-LOWRES.pdf
-The EPA report No. 417 'Assessment of the Environmental and Health Impacts Arising from Mercury-free Dental Restorative Materials' was published in 2022. This study analysed mercury free dental alternatives for effectiveness, safety and environmental impact.

Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used

-Ireland's State of the Environment Report 2024 references Mercury across multiple chapters covering different sectors of the environment as well as key economic sectors https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/state-of-the-environment/EPA-SOE-Report-2024-BOOK-LOWRES.pdf

Activities and processes that emit or release mercury or mercury compounds

Reports and information notes have been published which provide relevant information including:
-Ireland's Informative Inventory Report 2024 covers air pollutant emissions in Ireland 1990-2022 including Mercury emissions https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/climate-change/air-emissions/IIR_Ireland_2024v1.pdf
-Ireland's Seafood Development Agency (BIM) released an information note in 2023 providing guidance around Mercury in seafood, especially Albacore Tuna https://bim.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/BIM-Albacore-Tuna-Mercury-Report.pdf
-Ireland's State of the Environment Report 2024 references Mercury across multiple chapters covering different sectors of the environment as well as key economic sectors https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/state-of-the-environment/EPA-SOE-Report-2024-BOOK-LOWRES.pdf
-The EPA report No. 417 'Assessment of the Environmental and Health Impacts Arising from Mercury-free Dental Restorative Materials' was published in 2022. This study analysed mercury free dental alternatives for effectiveness, safety and environmental impact.
- As reported in Water Quality in Ireland 2019-2024 (https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/freshwater--marine/water-quality-2019-2024-summary-report.php) all surface water bodies fail to achieve good chemical status due to the presence of mercury in fish at concentrations above environmental standards. Mercury is the main causes of non-ubiquitous failures. In 45 of the 51 water bodies where fish was tested and 5 of the 25 water bodies where shellfish was tested for mercury, concentrations in excess of the EQS were found. Mercury is released into the environment from sources such as burning of fossil fuels, industrial emissions, historic mining activities, and wastewater treatment plants and enters water bodies via atmospheric deposition or discharges. Restrictions on the uses of mercury have reduced emissions. Mercury in biota EQS exceedances were widely distributed, and failures were detected in areas free from any known direct sources. This suggests the sources are many and diffuse. The results are in line with the OSPAR assessments of marine contaminants. The high exceedance rates are consistent with rates reported for the UK and in Europe, where most or all water bodies monitored have exceedances for mercury in biota. It should be noted that although most fish in Irish waters contain concentrations of mercury above the EQS, they are well below the food regulatory standard and do not represent a risk to the human consumer providing advice from the food safety authority is followed. The OSPAR assessments indicate mercury concentrations in biota are reducing over time. Given the high level of exceedances in the 2019-2024

monitoring dataset it is very likely that more widespread testing would result in all Irish surface water bodies failing to achieve good chemical status due to EQS exceedances for mercury in biota.

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

Epidemiological information concerning health impacts associated with exposure to mercury and mercury compounds, in close cooperation with the World Health Organization and other relevant organizations, as appropriate. (Art. 17.1 (a)-(d))
"Reports and information notes have been published which provide relevant information including:
-Ireland's Informative Inventory Report 2024 covers air pollutant emissions in Ireland 1990-2022 including Mercury emissions https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/climate-change/air-emissions/IIR_Ireland_2024v1.pdf
-Ireland's Seafood Development Agency (BIM) released an information note in 2023 providing guidance around Mercury in seafood, especially Albacore Tuna https://bim.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/BIM-Albacore-Tuna-Mercury-Report.pdf
-Ireland's State of the Environment Report 2024 references Mercury across multiple chapters covering different sectors of the environment as well as key economic sectors https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/state-of-the-environment/EPA-SOE-Report-2024-BOOK-LOWRES.pdf
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- As reported in Water Quality in Ireland 2019-2024 (https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/freshwater--marine/water-quality-2019-2024-summary-report.php) all surface water bodies fail to achieve good chemical status due to the presence of mercury in fish at concentrations above environmental standards. Mercury is the main causes of non-ubiquitous failures. In 45 of the 51 water bodies where fish was tested and 5 of the 25 water bodies where shellfish was tested for mercury, concentrations in excess of the EQS were found. Mercury is released into the environment from sources such as burning of fossil fuels, industrial emissions, historic mining activities, and wastewater treatment plants and enters water bodies via atmospheric deposition or discharges. Restrictions on the uses of mercury have reduced emissions. Mercury in biota EQS exceedances were widely distributed, and failures were detected in areas free from any known direct sources. This suggests the sources are many and diffuse. The results are in line with the OSPAR assessments of marine contaminants. The high exceedance rates are consistent with rates reported for the UK and in Europe, where most or all water bodies monitored have exceedances for mercury in biota. It should be noted that although most fish in Irish waters contain concentrations of mercury above the EQS, they are well below the food regulatory standard and do not represent a risk to the human consumer providing advice from the food safety authority is followed. The OSPAR assessments indicate mercury concentrations in biota are reducing over time. Given the high level of exceedances in the 2019-2024 monitoring dataset it is very likely that more widespread testing would result in all Irish surface water bodies failing to achieve good chemical status due to EQS exceedances for mercury in biota."

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 18: PUBLIC INFORMATION, AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

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

◉ Yes

○ No

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

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

The effects of mercury and mercury compounds on human health and the environment
The EPA maintains a dedicated Mercury section on it's website (last updated 2021) providing information on health impacts and environmental exposure. It also provides information on alternatives
-The FSAI provides guidance to the public on fish consumption particularly among pregnant and breastfeeding women, women of childbearing age and young children. The advice is to avoid swordfish, marlin and shark and to limit consumption of tuna.
-The EPA report No. 417 'Assessment of the Environmental and Health Impacts Arising from Mercury-free Dental Restorative Materials' was published in 2022. This study analysed mercury free dental alternatives for effectiveness, safety and environmental impact and is available on the EPA website - https://www.epa.ie/publications/research/environment--health/research-417-assessment-of-the-environmental-and-health-impacts-arising-from-mercury-free-dental-restorative-materials.php
-The Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA) collaborate with the Health Service Executive (HSE) doing post-market surveillance of cosmetic products under Cosmetics Regulation (EC) No. 1223/2009. Mercury is prohibited in cosmetic products. Products are monitored through reports from the EU rapid alert network (Safety Gate), sampling products for analytical testing and investigating undesirable effects following the use of a cosmetic product.
-'Guidance for the Transportation and Temporary Storage of Metallic Mercury Waste' was published by the EPA in 2022 on how to safely transport and temporarily store Mercury - https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/waste/guidance-for-the-transportation-and-temporary-storage-of-metallic-mercury-waste.php
-Results of ongoing monitoring activities in waterbodies in Ireland (including monitoring for Mercury) are made available to the public online at https://www.catchments.ie/

☑ Alternatives to mercury and mercury compounds

Alternatives to mercury and mercury compounds
The EPA maintains a dedicated Mercury section on it's website (last updated 2021) providing information on health impacts and environmental exposure. It also provides information on alternatives
-The FSAI provides guidance to the public on fish consumption particularly among pregnant and breastfeeding women, women of childbearing age and young children. The advice is to avoid swordfish, marlin and shark and to limit consumption of tuna.
-The EPA report No. 417 'Assessment of the Environmental and Health Impacts Arising from Mercury-free Dental Restorative Materials' was published in 2022. This study analysed mercury free dental alternatives for effectiveness, safety and environmental impact and is available on the EPA website - https://www.epa.ie/publications/research/environment--health/research-417-assessment-of-the-environmental-and-health-impacts-arising-from-mercury-free-dental-restorative-materials.php
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☑ The topics identified in paragraph 1 of article 17

The topics identified in paragraph 1 of article 17
The EPA maintains a dedicated Mercury section on it's website (last updated 2021) providing information on health impacts and environmental exposure. It also provides information on alternatives
-The FSAI provides guidance to the public on fish consumption particularly among pregnant and breastfeeding women, women of childbearing age and young children. The advice is to avoid swordfish, marlin and shark and to limit consumption of tuna.
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mercury-free-dental-restorative-materials.php
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-'Guidance for the Transportation and Temporary Storage of Metallic Mercury Waste' was published by the EPA in 2022 on how to safely transport and temporarily store Mercury - https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/waste/guidance-for-the-transportation-and-temporary-storage-of-metallic-mercury-waste.php
-Results of ongoing monitoring activities in waterbodies in Ireland (including monitoring for Mercury) are made available to the public online at https://www.catchments.ie/

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

The results of its research, development and monitoring activities under article 19
"-The EPA maintains a dedicated Mercury section on it's website (last updated 2021) providing information on health impacts and environmental exposure. It also provides information on alternatives
-The FSAI provides guidance to the public on fish consumption particularly among pregnant and breastfeeding women, women of childbearing age and young children. The advice is to avoid swordfish, marlin and shark and to limit consumption of tuna.
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-'Guidance for the Transportation and Temporary Storage of Metallic Mercury Waste' was published by the EPA in 2022 on how to safely transport and temporarily store Mercury - https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/waste/guidance-for-the-transportation-and-temporary-storage-of-metallic-mercury-waste.php
-Results of ongoing monitoring activities in waterbodies in Ireland (including monitoring for Mercury) are made available to the public online at https://www.catchments.ie/"

☑ Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention

Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention
The EPA maintains a dedicated Mercury section on it's website (last updated 2021) providing information on health impacts and environmental exposure. It also provides information on alternatives
-The FSAI provides guidance to the public on fish consumption particularly among pregnant and breastfeeding women, women of childbearing age and young children. The advice is to avoid swordfish, marlin and shark and to limit consumption of tuna.
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-Results of ongoing monitoring activities in waterbodies in Ireland (including monitoring for Mercury) are made available to the public online at https://www.catchments.ie/

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

Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention
The EPA maintains a dedicated Mercury section on it's website (last updated 2021) providing information on health impacts and environmental exposure. It also provides information on alternatives
-The FSAI provides guidance to the public on fish consumption particularly among pregnant and breastfeeding women, women of childbearing age and young children. The advice is to avoid swordfish, marlin and shark and to limit consumption of tuna.
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-Results of ongoing monitoring activities in waterbodies in Ireland (including monitoring for Mercury) are made available to the public online at https://www.catchments.ie/

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

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 19: RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING

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

◉ Yes

○ No

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

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

Inventories of use, consumption, anthropogenic emissions to air and releases to water and land of mercury and mercury compounds
Emissions data is captured through the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (EPRTR) to air and releases to water and land of mercury and mercury compounds - https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/PRTR.
The Water Quality in Ireland summary report 2019-2024 (published in 2025) highlights failures for Mercury in fish at concentrations above environmental standards almost everywhere they were monitored for (see above for details).

☑ 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

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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; - Yes, information on trends in contaminants and biological effects in biota are provided annually in the OSPAR (Oslo/Paris convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North East Atlantic) Levels and trends in marine contaminants and their biological effects - CEMP Assessment https://oap.ospar.org/en/ospar-assessments/committee-assessments/hazardous-substances-and-eutrophication/mime/cemp-levels-and-trends-marine-contaminants/. The WFD monitoring programme (shellfish (sediment and water)).
Monitoring by the Marine Institute of transitional, coastal and marine waters aimed at fulfilling the requirements of the EU Shellfish Waters and Water Framework Directives and OSPAR's Co-ordinated Environmental Monitoring Programme (CEMP).

☑ 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

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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; - Yes, ongoing Human Biomonitoring in Ireland research project (HBM4IRE) which includes biomonitoring for mercury
(https://www.ucd.ie/phpss/research/hbm4ire/#:~:text=HBM4IRE%20is%20a%20study%20funded%20by%20the%20Environment,permanent%20national%20Human%2

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

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

Harmonized methodologies for the activities undertaken under subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c); The Human Biomonitoring for Ireland project (HBM4IRE) was launched in 2022 to assess the feasibility of establishing a national Human Biomonitoring (HBM) programme in Ireland. The project provides a solid foundation for an Irish HBM programme, ensuring evidence-based policymaking, enhanced public health protections, and integration with European biomonitoring efforts.
In Ireland, a mercury monitoring programme is in place for fish landed at all major Irish fishing ports. This monitoring programme is carried out by the Marine Institute under service contract to the FSAI. The Marine Institute use methods that comply with Article 34 of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 ensuring comparability across Member states."

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

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

Inventories of use, consumption, and anthropogenic emissions - Yes Emissions data is captured through the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (EPRTR) to air and releases to water and land of mercury and mercury compounds - https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/PRTR.
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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; - Yes, information on trends in contaminants and biological effects in biota are provided annually in the OSPAR (Oslo/Paris convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North East Atlantic) Levels and trends in marine contaminants and their biological effects - CEMP Assessment https://oap.ospar.org/en/ospar-assessments/committee-assessments/hazardous-substances-and-eutrophication/mime/cemp-levels-and-trends-marine-contaminants/. The WFD monitoring programme (shellfish (sediment and water)).
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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; - Yes, ongoing Human Biomonitoring in Ireland research project (HBM4IRE) which includes biomonitoring for mercury
(https://www.ucd.ie/phpss/research/hbm4ire/#:~:text=HBM4IRE%20is%20a%20study%20funded%20by%20the%20Environment,permanent%20national%20Human%2
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In Ireland, a mercury monitoring programme is in place for fish landed at all major Irish fishing ports. This monitoring programme is carried out by the Marine Institute under service contract to the FSAI. The Marine Institute use methods that comply with Article 34 of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 ensuring comparability across Member states.

☑ 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

Inventories of use, consumption, and anthropogenic emissions - Yes Emissions data is captured through the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (EPRTR) to air and releases to water and land of mercury and mercury compounds - https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/PRTR.
The Water Quality in Ireland summary report 2019-2024 (published in 2025) highlights failures for Mercury in fish at concentrations above environmental standards almost everywhere they were monitored for (see above for details).
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; - Yes, information on trends in contaminants and biological effects in biota are provided annually in the OSPAR (Oslo/Paris convention for the protection of the Marine Environment of the North East Atlantic) Levels and trends in marine contaminants and their biological effects - CEMP Assessment https://oap.ospar.org/en/ospar-assessments/committee-assessments/hazardous-substances-and-eutrophication/mime/cemp-levels-and-trends-marine-contaminants/. The WFD monitoring programme (shellfish (sediment and water)).
Monitoring by the Marine Institute of transitional, coastal and marine waters aimed at fulfilling the requirements of the EU Shellfish Waters and Water Framework Directives and OSPAR's Co-ordinated Environmental Monitoring Programme (CEMP).
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☑ 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

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

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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

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

-No challenges reported under Article 18 in implementing Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on Dental Amalgam.
-As reported under Article 18 to the European Commission, a challenge was encountered when investigating the import of 4Kg of metallic mercury which was stopped for investigation by Ireland's Environmental Protection Agency and Customs Authority. Documentation did not accompany the import and there was difficulty in acquiring confirmation and necessary details from the exporting county.
To determine the actions required we held discussions with various organisations, including with the Minamata Convention Secretariat, European Commission, and the lead Irish Government Department. The investigation is closed. It was concluded that the metallic mercury would not be released to the intended importer, as the required paperwork was not presented for the import. The Customs Authority arranged for the environmentally sound disposal of the metallic mercury through a licensed hazardous waste service provider. This import raised questions around determining whether the use of metallic mercury is allowable for laboratory-scale research and further guidance may be required in this area.

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

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

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