2025 FULL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Report submitted on 29 December 2025

MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

REPORTING PERIOD:
1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party
Lithuania

Date on which its instrument of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance was deposited
15 January 2018

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party
15 April 2018

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution
Ministry of Environment

Title of Contact Officer
Ms.

Name of Contact Officer
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3. Information about the contact officer submitting the reporting format if different from the above

Focal Point is submitting the national report

- (●) Information is submitted by the national focal point
- ( ) Information is submitted through the national focal point by the contact officer

▼ ART. 3: MERCURY SUPPLY SOURCES AND TRADE

3.1: Does the party have any primary mercury mines that were operating within its territory at the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ( ) Yes – primary mercury mining with available data
- ( ) Yes – primary mercury mining with no available data
- (●) No

3.2: Does the party have any primary mercury mines that are now in operation that were not in operation at the time of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ( ) Yes – primary mercury mining with available data
- ( ) Yes – primary mercury mining with no available data
- (●) No

3.3: (A) Has the party endeavoured to identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons that are located within its territory?

3.3: (A) Has the party endeavoured to identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons that are located within its territory?

- ( ) Yes – with new data* (also to be selected by parties reporting for the first time)
- ( ) Yes – endeavoured and indicates same stocks as reported in the previous report
- (●) No

If the party answered no to the question, please explain.
There are no individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons 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?

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.
There are no individual sources of mercury-supply-generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year that are located within Lithuania's territory

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

○ Yes

○ No – has determined it has no excess mercury

◉ No – has not made a determination

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

☐ Yes – exports to parties

☐ Yes – exports to non-parties

☑ No – no export took place

☐ No – consent was not given

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

◉ No

○ Yes

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

Part E – Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 4: MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS

4.1. Has the party taken any appropriate measures to not allow the manufacture, import or export of mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annex A of the Convention after the phase-out date specified for those products?

◉ Yes

○ No

○ Yes (implementing paragraph 2 of article 4)

If yes, please provide information on the measures.
Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council on mercury(1) prohibits the manufacture, export and import of mercury-added products listed Annex II of this Regulation from the dates set out therein. Dates from which the export, import and manufacturing of the mercury-added products are prohibited (phase-out dates) are 31.12.2018, 31.12.2020 and 31.12.2025 (depending on the product). The list of mercury-added products that are subject to the prohibition in Lithuania (as in the whole European Union) is in line with the list in Part I of Annex A to the Convention.

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.
Regulation (EU) 2017/8521(1), Article 10, provides for the following restrictions of dental amalgam:
- Each EU Member State is obliged to develop and publish on the Internet a national plan on measures to phase down the use of dental amalgam (deadline 1 July 2019).
- From 1 July 2018, dental amalgam shall not be used for dental treatment of deciduous teeth, of children under 15 years and of pregnant or breastfeeding women, except when deemed strictly necessary by the dental practitioner based on the specific medical needs of the patient.
- All dental facilities dealing with dental amalgam (use of amalgam and/or removing dental amalgam fillings) must be equipped with amalgam separators ensuring the retention and collection of amalgam particles with a view to preventing their release into wastewater systems. Separators will have to maintain a minimum retention level of 95%; immediately in case of new separators, by 1 January 2021 in case of existing separators (applicable from 1 January 2019).
- Dental practitioners must ensure that their amalgam waste (e.g. amalgam residues, particles, fillings and teeth, or parts thereof, contaminated by dental amalgam) are handled and collected by authorised waste management establishments or undertakings (no direct or indirect release into the environment).
National legislation has been developed to implement Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2017/852:
- National plan on measures to phase down the use of dental amalgam(3);
- Description of the procedure for providing data on dental amalgam delivered to the Lithuanian market (approved by Order No V-1935 of the Minister of Health on 28.08.2020).
- Description of the procedure for using dental amalgams (approved by Order No V-149 of the Minister of Health on 25.01.2021).
Regulation (EU) 2024/1849, Article 1, amended Regulation (EU) 2017/852:
-From 1 January 2025, dental amalgam shall not be used for dental treatment, except when deemed strictly necessary by the dental practitioner based on the specific medical needs of the patient.
- From 1 January 2025, the export of dental amalgam shall be prohibited.
In 2024 the new National plan on measures to phase down the use of dental amalgam 2025-2029 was prepared to implement Regulation (EU) 2024/1849 (approved by Order No V-199 of the Minister of Health on 13.03.2025, replaces previous plan of 2019). This updated plan introduces additional measures for dental caries prevention and health promotion, improved data collection requirements, revision of medical indications for the use of dental amalgams. Main measures: monitoring and control of the use, export, import and manufacturing of dental amalgams, approved medical indications for the use of dental amalgams, training and education of dentists and students on alternatives of amalgams, public information, caries prevention.

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

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

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No
- ( ) Not applicable

If the party answered yes please select from the bellow checkboxes

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

If the party answered yes to either option above, please provide information on the measures.

Regulation (EU) 2017/8521(1), Article 10, provides for the following restrictions of dental amalgam:
-The use of dental amalgam is prohibited for dental treatment of deciduous teeth, of children under 15 years and of pregnant or breastfeeding women, unless deemed strictly necessary by the dental practitioner on the ground of specific medical needs of the patient (in force from 1 July 2018);
- Dental practitioners are no longer allowed to use dental amalgam in bulk, but only in pre-dosed encapsulated form so as to prevent exposure of the patient and practitioner (applicable from 1 January 2019).
The indications for the use of dental amalgams based on the specific medical needs of the patient were provided for in the Description of the procedure for using dental amalgams (approved by Order No V-149 of the Minister of Health on 25.01.2021).

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.

Provisions of Para. 5 of Article 5 of the Minamata Convention are implemented through restrictions on placing on the market and use of mercury-added products (articles) listed in Part I of Annex A (e.g., switches, relays, lamps, batteries, non-electronic measuring devices, etc.):
- Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH)(2) (Annex XVII, entries No 18, 18a, 62),
- Rules on the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment(4) (approved by Order No 4-459 of the Minister of Economy and innovation of the Republic of Lithuania on 8.10.2008),
- Regulations on the placing on the market of the batteries and accumulators (approved by Order No 4-117/D3-196 of the Minister of Economy and innovation of the Republic of Lithuania and the Minister of Environment the Republic of Lithuania on 19.04.2004),
- Other EU and national products specific legal acts.
E.g.: 1) Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH)(2) (Annex XVII, entries No 18, 18a) provides for restrictions for the placing on the market or the use of mercury and mercury compounds for certain specific uses and for the placing on the market several measuring devices containing mercury for the general public, industrial and professional uses. Annex XVII, entry No 62 establishes restrictions on the placing on the market of 5 specific phenylmercury compounds by providing ban for the placing on the market articles or any parts thereof containing one or more of these substances if the concentration of mercury in the articles or any part thereof is equal to or greater than 0,01 % by weight.
2) Point 7 of the Rules on the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment(4) establishes requirement that electrical and electronic equipment placed on the market, including cables and spare parts for its repair, its reuse, updating of its functionalities or upgrading of its capacity, shall not contain mercury, unless specific exemption is provided for. The limit concentration of mercury (0,1 % by weight) is set in Point 8 of these Rules.

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.

Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No. 2017/852(1) provides for the authorisation procedure for "new mercury-added products". "New mercury-added products" are defined as mercury-added products that were not being manufactured prior to 1 January 2018.
Economic operators shall not manufacture or place on the new market mercury-added products unless authorised by means of a decision taken with the established procedure in this Regulation or allowed to do so under Directive 2011/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council(5). The mentioned "authorization decision" is coordinated between the European Commission and Member State(s) in concern Where an economic operator intends to apply for a "authorisation decision" in order to manufacture or place on the market a new mercury-added product that would provide significant environmental or health benefits and pose no significant risks either to the environment or to human health, and where no technically practicable mercury-free alternatives providing such benefits are available, that economic operator shall notify the competent authorities of the Member State concerned. This notification shall include the following information:
a) a technical description of the product or process concerned;
b) an assessment of its environmental and health benefits and risks;
c) evidence demonstrating the absence of technically practicable mercury-free alternatives providing significant environmental or health benefits;
d) detailed explanation of the manner in which the product is to be manufactured, used and disposed of as waste after use, in order to ensure a high level of protection of the environment and of human health.
The European Commission shall examine the notification received and assess whether it has been demonstrated that the new mercury-added product would provide significant environmental or health benefits and pose no significant risks either to the environment or to human health, and that no technically practicable mercury-free alternatives providing such benefits are available.
The European Commission shall adopt decisions, by means of implementing acts, specifying whether the relevant new mercury-added product is authorised.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

Lithuania is a Member State of the European Union since 1 May 2004. Therefore, Lithuanian national legislation is aligned with the EU legislation, some types of EU legal acts (e.g. Regulations of the European Parliament and of the Council) are applicable directly.
Legal acts mentioned in responses on Article 4:
1. Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (Regulation (EU) 2017/852.
2. Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the registration, evaluation, authorization and restriction of chemicals, establishing a European Chemicals Agency, amending Directive 1999/45/EC and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1488/94 as well as Council Directive 76/769/EEC and Commission Directives 91/155/EEC, 93/67/EEC, 93/105/EC and 2000/21/EC (Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH).
3. National plan on measures to phase down the use of dental amalgam (approved by Order No V-915 of the Minister of Health on 22-07-2019) (National plan on measures to phase down the use of dental amalgam).
4. Rules on the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment3 (approved by Order No 4-459 of the Minister of Economy and

innovation of the Republic of Lithuania on 8.10.2008) (Rules on the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment).
5. Directive 2011/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2011 on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment.

▼ 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

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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 power plants
There are no such facilities in Lithuania

- ☑ Coal-fired industrial boilers

Coal-fired industrial boilers
There are no such facilities in Lithuania

- ☑ 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 no such facilities in Lithuania

- ☑ Waste incineration facilities

Waste incineration facilities
3 installations* are subject to the best available techniques (BAT) and monitoring of emissions as set in the issued IPPC (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control) permits by permitting Authority (Environmental Protection Agency).
IPPC permits are issued in accordance with the IPPC Rules.
*Company/Kaunas co-incineration plant (UAB Kauno kogeneracinė jėgainė), Company/Vilnius waste incineration plant (UAB Vilniaus kogeneracinė jėgainė). Company /Klaipėda co-incineration plant (UAB Gren Klaipėda)

- ☑ Cement clinker production facilities

Cement clinker production facilities
Company – AB Akmenės cementas – the installation is subject to the best available techniques (BAT) and monitoring of emissions as set in the issued IPPC by permitting Authority (Environmental Protection Agency). The IPPC permit is issued in accordance with the IPPC Rules.

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 IPPC Rules1 oblige enterprises to get an IPPC permit which contains conditions based on the application of Best Available Techniques (BAT), in particular, limit values for emissions to air, water and land. IPPC permit conditions are set in line with BAT conclusions which are adopted by the European Commission Implementing Decisions. The European Commission Implementing Decisions are available to the public at the following addresses:
- https://old.gamta.lt/cms/index?rubricId=70160852-bcfc-4e18-881e-01868bf61adb
- https://eippcb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/reference/

BAT conclusions are defined in point 7.9 of the IPPC Rules.
[The definition of BAT conclusions is provided for in point 7.9 of the IPPC Rules: BAT conclusions means a part or several parts a BAT reference document laying down the conclusions on best available techniques, their description, information to assess BAT applicability, the emission levels associated with BAT, associated monitoring, associated consumption levels (e. g. of energy, water, raw materials) and, where appropriate, relevant site remediation measures. Hence, in accordance with the definition provided for in point 7.8 of the IPPC Rules "BAT reference document means a new or updated document, resulting from the exchange of information organised by the European Commission, drawn up for defined activities and describing, in particular, applied techniques, present emissions and consumption levels (e. g. of energy, water, raw materials), techniques considered for the determination of BAT as well as BAT conclusions and any emerging techniques, giving special consideration to the criteria for determining best available techniques listed in Annex 2 to the Rules."]

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
There are no such facilities in Lithuania

Progress
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▼ 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
There are no such facilities in Lithuania

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
There are no such facilities in Lithuania

Progress
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▼ WASTE INCINERATION FACILITIES

- [ ] 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
- [ ] Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- [ ] Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
Dangerous Waste Incineration Facility in Šiauliai district (UAB Toksika) is subject to the best available techniques (BAT) and monitoring of emissions as set in the issued IPPC (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control) permits by permitting Authority (Environmental Protection Agency).
IPPC permits are issued in accordance with the IPPC Rules.

Progress
Installation complies with the best available techniques as set in the issued IPPC permits by the permitting Authority (Environmental Protection Agency).
IPPC permits are issued in accordance with the IPPC Rules.
No exceedances of the mercury limit values that are set in the issued IPPC permits were detected during the ongoing monitoring (monitoring has been prepared in accordance with the regulations on environmental monitoringo of economic entities) of emissions.

▼ 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
There are no such facilities in Lithuania

Progress
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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?
4 July 2024

Please indicate where this inventory is available
PRTR data for the period according to the requirements of the Regulation (EC) No. 166/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register are reported to European Commission and can be found on the portal https://industry.eea.europa.eu/; https://industry.eea.europa.eu/industrial-emissions/dataset. Data of the latest period will be provided in 2025.

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

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

If yes, please explain how the criteria for any category include at least 75 percent of the emissions from that category and explain how the party took into account guidance adopted by the Conference of the Parties.
The PRTR Regulation(2) and established the European PRTR (hereinafter - E-PRTR) (the national/Lithuanian PRTR as well) meets 75% rule.
For more detailed related national information see Part E.
For more information on the implementation of the EU (European Union) coordinated approach please refer to the EU report provided by the European Commission.
(2) Regulation (EC) No 166/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register PRTR Regulation

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

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

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

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

Please explain
See response to question 8.4.
For more information on the implementation of EU coordinated approach please refer to the EU report provided by the European Commission.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

According to the PRTR Regulation1, the operator of each facility that undertakes one or more of the activities specified in the PRTR Regulation1 above the applicable capacity thresholds specified therein shall report the amounts annually to its Competent Authority, along with an indication of whether the information is based on measurement, calculation or estimation, of the following:
• releases to air, water and land of any pollutant specified in the PRTR Regulation1 for which the applicable threshold value specified in the PRTR Regulation1is exceeded;
• off-site transfers of hazardous waste exceeding two tonnes per year or of non-hazardous waste exceeding 2000 tonnes per year, for any recovery or disposal operations with the exception of land treatment and deep injection referred to in the PRTR Regulation1, indicating with 'R' or 'D' whether the waste is destined for recovery or disposal respectively and, for transboundary movements of hazardous waste, the name and address of the recovered or the disposer of the waste and the actual recovery or disposal site;
• off-site transfers of any pollutant specified in the PRTR Regulation1 in waste water destined for waste-water treatment for which the threshold value specified in the PRTR Regulation1 is exceeded.
The aforementioned approach implies integrated multimedia reporting of releases and transfers.
Additional requirements, including administrative and institutional implications, are set out in national legislation. Notably, the Order on Information Submission in accordance with PRTR Regulation2 sets procedures for data collection and submission of the information in accordance with the PRTR Regulation1:
• sets out obligations for operators to submit data and information about their facility to the competent institution in accordance with the PRTR Regulation1 every year;
• designates a competent institution, namely the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), responsible for data collection from enterprises, data quality assurance, processing requests received from the public as well reporting to the EC under Article 7 of the PRTR Regulation1.
In order to eliminate duplicate reporting, the operators shall provide only the data and information that has not already been provided and/or is available from any other national database. The Lithuanian waste management and pollutant release standards are much stricter that those set out in the PRTR Regulation1 and/or the Protocol on PRTRs, thus most PRTR-related data and information will primarily come from the various databases from which all required data and information is transferred to the Lithuanian PRTR. These databases cover information on the release of pollutants as well as waste generation and treatment and is collected from annual reports submitted to environmental authorities by enterprises in accordance with the provisions of the relevant orders of the Minister of the Environment:
• collection and provision of information on wastewater discharges is regulated by the Procedure for the Accounting of Water Use and Wastewater Management3;
• collection and provision of information on air pollution is regulated by the Procedure for the Accounting and Reporting of Ambient Air Emissions4;
• collection and provision of information on waste generation and treatment is regulated by the Rules on the Accounting of and Reporting on the Generation and Management of Waste5.
The corresponding databases as well as PRTR are treated as an integral part of the national IS AIVIKS6 which also contains information about the state of air, water, landscape, waste management and climate change-related implications.
Enterprises are obliged to determine which pollutants can be released into the air and into wastewater using approved methods (e.g. monitoring, mass balance, and modelling). In Lithuania, mercury enters water bodies from municipal wastewater treatment plants and several other companies. The amounts discharged are small and do not exceed the established thresholds. Companies are required to have economic activity permits, they shall carry out an inventory of hazardous substances and, when new hazardous substances are identified, they must include them in their permits. Besides, companies shall carry out monitoring and submit annual reports on pollutants discharged with wastewater (including mercury) to the EPA national IS AIVIKS6. Each year, the EPA submits data on pollutants discharged with wastewater (except those submitted to the PRTR portal) to the European WISE information system and Eurostat.

The Lithuanian PRTR data is available to the public without request at the following addresses:
• https://aaa.lrv.lt/lt/naujienos/kvieciame-susipazinti-su-protokolo-del-isleidziamu-ir-perduodamu-tersalu-registru-igyvendinimo-ataskaita;
• • https://industry.eea.europa.eu/ (European Industrial Emissions Portal (IEP)).
The national PRTR dataset does not differ from data submitted to the European PRTR (E-PRTR). According to the PRTR Regulation1, EU Member States shall provide all the data referred to in Article 5(1) and (2) to the European Commission (EC) by electronic transfer in the format set out in Annex III each year. The information reported by the EU Member States is incorporated into the E-PRTR. The E-PRTR is a Europe-wide register which provides easily accessible significant environmental data from industrial facilities in EU Member States and in Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Serbia and Switzerland. Data exchange and publicising to other countries is carried out through the E-PRTR:
• https://industry.eea.europa.eu/industrial-emissions/dataset..
Regulation (EU) 2024/1244 (IEPR)8 (adopted on 24 April 2024) provides for reporting of environmental data from industrial installations and establishes the Industrial Emissions Portal (hereinafter - IEP). The IEP is an online database that shares key data on the environmental impact of Europe's largest industrial installations, acts as a monitoring tool to help prevent and reduce environmental damage.
The IEP will replace the E-PRTR established by Regulation (EC) No 166/20062. Industrial operators are obliged to submit their first reports under the new IEPR in 2028.
The European Union's (EU) Industrial Emissions Portal regulation (IEPR) aims to enhance public involvement in environmental decision-making processes and to track industrial pollution sources efficiently.

Legal acts and data bases mentioned above:
1. Rules on granting, updating and revocation of the integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC) permits (approved by order No D1-528 of the Minister of Environment on 15.7.2013 (IPPC Rules)
2. Regulation (EC) No 166/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 January 2006 concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and amending Council Directives 91/689/EEC and 96/61/EC (PRTR Regulation) (will be not in force from 1 January 2028 as far as is repealed by Regulation (EU) 2024/1244# with effect from 1 January 2028)
#Regulation (EU) 2024/1244 of the European Parliament and of the Council on reporting of environmental data from industrial installations, establishing an Industrial Emissions Portal and repealing Regulation (EC) No 166/2006.
3. Order No D1-631 of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania of 29 December 2006 setting Procedures for Data and Information Submission in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 166/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 January 2006 concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and amending Council Directives 91/689/EEC and 96/61/EC (as last amended on 6.3.2014) (Order on Information Submission in accordance with PRTR Regulation).
4. Procedure for the Accounting of Water Use and Wastewater Management (approved by Order No D1-1120 of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania on 28.12.2012).
5. Procedure for the Accounting and Reporting of Ambient Air Emissions (approved by Order No 408 of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania on 20.12.1999).
6. Procedure for the Accounting and Reporting of Ambient Air Emissions (approved by Order No Rules on the Accounting of and Reporting on the Generation and Management of Waste (approved by Order No D1-367 of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania on 3.5.2011).
7. Regulations on Environmental Monitoring of Economic Entities (approved by Order No D1-546 of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania on 16.09.2009).
7. Integrated Computerised Information System for Environmental Management - IS AIVIKS.
8. Regulation (EU) 2024/1244 of the European Parliament and of the Council on reporting of environmental data from industrial installations, establishing an Industrial Emissions Portal and repealing Regulation (EC) No 166/2006 (applicable from 1 January 2028) (IEPR).

▼ ART. 9: RELEASES

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

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No
- ○ Do not know (please explain)

9.2: Has the party established an inventory of releases from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the convention for it?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ Relevant sources do not exist in the territory
- ○ Have not been a party for 5 years
- ○ No (please explain)

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 10: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND INTERIM STORAGE OF MERCURY, OTHER THAN WASTE MERCURY

10.1: Has the party taken measures to ensure that the interim storage of non-waste mercury and mercury compounds intended for a use allowed to a party under the Convention is undertaken in an environmentally sound manner?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No (please explain)
- ○ Do not know (please explain)

If yes, please indicate the measures taken to ensure that such interim storage is undertaken in an environmentally sound manner, and the effectiveness of those measures.
Art. 7.3 of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 sets general provisions on the interim storage of mercury and of the mercury compounds and mixtures of mercury listed in Annex I to this Regulation by requiring it to be carried out in an environmentally sound manner, in accordance with the thresholds and requirements set out in Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council and in Directive 2010/75/EU.
The national requirements of an environmentally sound interim storage (including the Qualifying Quantities/thresholds) of mercury and of the mercury compounds and mixtures of mercury are provided for in:
1) the Regulations on Prevention of, Response to, and Investigation of Industrial Accidents (approved by Resolution No 966 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania On Regulations on Prevention of, Response to, and Investigation of Industrial Accidents and The List of Dangerous Substances and Mixtures, the Description of Established Qualifying Quantities and Criteria for Classifying Substances and Mixtures as Dangerous on 17.8.2004),
2) The Rules on granting, updating and revocation of the integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC) permits (approved by order No D1-528 of the Minister of Environment on 15.7.2013).
These national requirements are in line with Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council and in Directive 2010/75/EU.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 11: MERCURY WASTES

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

◉ Yes

○ No

☑ Yes - the party has taken measures so that mercury waste is managed in an environmentally sound manner

Please describe measure and effectiveness of measures
Requirements set out in Art. 11-14 of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 ensure that all mercury waste is safely taken out of the economic sphere, stabilised in a less toxic form and stored permanently in environmentally sound conditions. Provision not to transport mercury wastes across international boundaries, except for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal in conformity with Article 11 and the Basel Convention is implemented by implementing Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on shipments of waste(1).
In addition, the national legislation on waste management are applicable: Law on Waste Management(2), Waste Management Rules(3), Rules on IPPC Permits(4) and other related legislation. These national legal acts require to manage mercury containing waste in an environmentally sound manner.

☐ 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.
Requirements set out in Art. 11-14 of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 ensure that all mercury waste is safely taken out of the economic sphere, stabilised in a less toxic form and stored permanently in environmentally sound conditions. Provision not to transport mercury wastes across international boundaries, except for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal in conformity with Article 11 and the Basel Convention is implemented by implementing Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on shipments of waste(1).
In addition, the national legislation on waste management are applicable: Law on Waste Management(2), Waste Management Rules(3), Rules on IPPC Permits(4) and other related legislation. These national legal acts require to manage mercury containing waste in an environmentally sound manner.

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

Legal acts mentioned in question No 1:
1) Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2006 on shipments of waste;
2) Law on Waste Management (No VIII-787 adopted by the Parliament on 16.6.1998 as last amended on 14.4.2016) (Law on Waste Management);
3) Waste Management Rules (approved by Order of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania No 217 of 14.7.1999) (Waste Management Rules);
4) Rules on granting, updating and revocation of the integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC) permits (approved by order No D1-528 of the Minister of Environment on 15.7.2013) (Rules on IPPC Permits).

▼ 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
The protection of soil and groundwater against pollution and the management of contaminated sites in Lithuania are regulated by the National Environmental Protection Strategy (approved by Resolution No. XII-1626 of the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania on 16 April 2015), the Law on Environmental Protection (No. I-2223 of 21 January 1992), the Law on Underground National Resources (No. I-1034 of 5 July 1995), as well as implementing legal acts and other sector-specific legislation.
Between 1999 and 2015, the Lithuanian Geological Survey under the Ministry of Environment (LGS) carried out a nationwide inventory of Potencially contaminated sites (PCSs). During this period, more than 12,000 PCSs were identified across the country. No PCSs contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds were identified. In 2009-2015, the LGS also examined data from investigations conducted at approximately 250 PC sites where preliminary assessments had indicated potentially significant pollution. Mercury was analysed in soil and groundwater together with other hazardous substances, and no mercury contamination was detected at any of these sites.
After the completion of the national PCS inventory in 2015, the LGS no longer performed systematic field-based inventories. Instead, in accordance with applicable legislation, it registers information submitted through mandatory pollution source questionnaires, which serve as the primary mechanism for maintaining and updating the national database of potentially contaminated sites.
As a result, the LGS database currently contains information on more than 12,600 Potentially Contaminated Sites. In 2016-2024, environmental investigations at PCS sites were carried out by potential polluters in accordance with legal requirements and based on preliminary assessments indicating potentially significant pollution. The results of these investigations were submitted to the LGS. Mercury was analysed in soil and groundwater as part of broader hazardous substance screening. Mercury contamination was identified at only one site—agricultural land located on a former landfill—where the maximum mercury concentration in soil reached 30 mg/kg, while the maximum concentration in groundwater reached 0.37 µg/l.

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
General funding. No specific dedicated financing for this area

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

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

Please provide comments, if any.
{Empty}

13.3: Supplemental: Has the party provided financial resources to assist developing-country parties and/or parties with economies in transition in the implementation of the Convention through other bilateral, regional and multilateral sources or channels?

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

Please specify
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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
This area is not under the priority.

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

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

Please specify
{Empty}

Please provide comments, if any.
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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
There are no up-to-date environmentally sound alternative technologies in Lithuania that could be promoted and facilitated the development, transfer to other parties

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.
The National plan on measures to phase down the use of dental amalgam provides for annual public information measures in 2020-2023 on the need to reduce the release of mercury into the environment, information concerning health impacts associated with exposure to mercury and mercury compounds, on mercury-free dental fillings.
An evaluation of health risks related to the exposure to mercury and mercury compounds in possibly exposed and unexposed population (urban and rural areas, n=226) as well as in occupationally expose settings (firemen, n=118) took place in 2020-2021. The report to the public and recommendations to the relevant institution is under preparation.

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.
Analysis of mercury concentration in human biomedia and evaluation of health effects monitoring (if necessary) due to environmental exposure and accidents, and occupational exposure since 1998. Recommendations (if applicable) to approach clinicians and toxicologists for health care service or treatment. Recommendation for employers to adapt occupational settings or change technologies aiming to reduce mercury exposure and ensure safe working/living environment.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 17: INFORMATION EXCHANGE

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

◉ Yes

○ No

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

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

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

☐ Information on technically and economically viable alternatives to:

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

Part E - Additional comments on this article

Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 21 March 2018 No 265 On Implementation of the Minamata Convention and Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on Mercury provides for the administrative system for implementation of the Minamata Convention and Regulation (EU) 2017/852 inter alia the mechanism for exchange of information on mercury related issues.
Actual information concerning mercury and mercury compounds properties and safety, legal requirements, mercury added products, environmentally sound management of mercury though whole life cycle, monitoring, etc. is regularly published (and updated) on the websites of responsible state institutions (e.g.. Ministry of Environment and Environmental Protection Agency:
https://am.lrv.lt/lt/veiklos-sritys-1/tarsos-prevencija/cheminiu-medziagu-valdymas/gyvsidabris-1/;
https://aaa.lrv.lt/lt/veiklos-sritys/chemines-medziagos-irmisiniai/gyvsidabrio-reglamentas), in different publications, other media channels.
The National Plan on Measures to Phase down the Use of Dental Amalgam provides measures on educational and training activities of dentists and dental students on the use of mercury-free dental alternatives and on the negative effects of mercury on the environment and public health.

▼ 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

☐ Alternatives to mercury and mercury compounds

☐ The topics identified in paragraph 1 of article 17

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

☐ Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention

(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
Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 21 March 2018 No 265 on Implementation of the Minamata Convention and Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on Mercury provides for the administrative system for implementation of the Minamata Convention and Regulation (EU) 2017/852 inter alia the mechanism for exchange of information on mercury related issues.
Actual information concerning mercury and mercury compounds properties and safety, legal requirements, mercury added products, environmentally sound management of mercury though whole life cycle, monitoring, etc. is regularly published (and updated) on the websites of responsible state institutions (e.g., Ministry of Environment and Environmental Protection Agency:
https://am.lrv.lt/lt/veiklos-sritys-1/cheminiu-medziagu-valdymas/gyvsidabris/gyvsidabris-1, https://aaa.lrv.lt/lt/veiklos-sritys/chemines-medziagos-irmisiniai/gyvsidabrio-reglamentas), in different publications, other media channels.
In August 2021 the National Public Health Centre under the Ministry of Health prepared and published on its website a notice "Experts are alerting: Mercury used for dental fillings to be replaced with healthier alternatives" (https://nvsc.lrv.lt/lt/naujienos/specialistai-atkreipia-demesi-dantu-plombavimui-visdar-naudojama-gyvsidabri-butina-keisti-sveikesnemis-alternatyvomis), the notice was published in media (https://www.15min.lt/gyvenimas/naujiena/sveikata/dantu-plombavimui-naudojama-gyvsidabri-specialistai-siulo-keisti-sveikesnemis-alternatyvomis-1028-1554132?). The information campaign will be repeated and the effectiveness of the measure is anticipated to be reflected in the decreased use of amalgam.
In 2022, the press release*, prepared by the National Public Health Centre was distributed by three information platforms/channels:
*Experts on mercury: the greatest danger is not related to thermometers (on dental fillings with dental amalgam, impact of mercury, etc.)
- https://www.lrt.lt/naujienos/sveikata/682/1794010/specialistai-apie-gyvsidabri-didziausias-pavojus-susijes-ne-su-termometrais;
- https://www.15min.lt/naujiena/aktualu/lietuva/specialistai-apie-gyvsidabri-didziausias-pavojus-susijes-ne-su-termometrais-56-1941562?copied gamintojų pažadai? https://www.delfi.lt/uzsakomasis-turinys/mano-reikalas-pasaulio-reikalas/tvarus-grozis-ir-higiena-aplinka-ir-pinigine-tausojantys-pasirinkimai-ar-tik-zalieji-gamintoju-pazadai.d?id=91308449;
- https://ve.lt/gyvenimas/sveikata/gyvsidabris-didziausias-pavojus-susijes-ne-su-termometrais.

(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

☐ 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 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

(Art. 19 (1) (a)-(g)) Monitoring of mercury in surface water bodies (rivers, lakes, transitional and coastal waters), sediments, and biota is carried out in accordance with the Lithuanian State Environmental Monitoring Programme for 2018-2023 and 2024-2029 (hereinafter - Environmental Monitoring Programme).
Rivers and Lakes
Under the Environmental Monitoring Programme, mercury in rivers, lakes and reservoir is monitored annually, every two or three years or once every six years over the six-year Environmental Monitoring Programme period. Monitoring stations for mercury measurements in rivers are located in transboundary river water bodies, in river water bodies downstream of major cities, at the mouth of large rivers, in rivers flowing into transitional and coastal waters, and in transboundary lake water bodies.
Mercury measurements were carried out at the river and lake monitoring stations and at one station in the largest reservoir (located in the middle-stream of the largest river), during the period 2021-2024. Water samples were taken 12 times per year in rivers and 7 or 4 times per year in lakes and in the largest reservoir, biota (fish) and sediment samples were taken once per year. The number of monitoring stations where mercury was measured is referred in the table below.
Year Number of monitoring stations
Water Biota Sediment
2021 n=15; n=1; n=15
2022 n=12; n=12; -
2023 n=26; n=12; -
2024 n=25; n=18; n=15
The annual monitoring data of mercury are available on the website of the Lithuanian Environmental Protection Agency at the following links:
Upių monitoringo rezultatai
Ežerų ir tvenkinių monitoringo rezultatai

Transitional and coastal waters
Under the State Environmental Monitoring Programme mercury in the Curonian Lagoon (transitional waters) and the Baltic Sea is monitored annually: up to 4 times a year in water, up to 3 times a year in sediments, once a year in biota (molluscs and fish). Monitoring stations for mercury measurements are located to cover all possible pressures to the Curonian Lagoon and the Baltic Sea and a general pollution level: at the mouth of the largest River Nemunas, in the Klaipeda Strait (State port is located), at the plume of the Curonian Lagoon waters into the Baltic Sea area, in the coastal and the open waters. The number of monitoring stations where mercury was measured referred in the table below.
Year Number of monitoring stations
Water Sediment; Biota
2021 (n=17) (up to 2 water layers* in station) n=14; n=6;
2022 (n=17) (up to 2 water layers* in station) n=16; n=6;
2023 (n=17) (up to 2 water layers* in station) n=17; n=6;
2024 (n=17) (up to 2 water layers* in station) n=13; n=6.
*surface layer, bottom layer
The monitoring data of mercury of the Curonian Lagoon and the Baltic Sea are available on the websites and databases of ICES, WISE.
The analysis of long-term mercury monitoring data (in Lithuanian 2018-2023 period) is also available on the website of the Lithuanian Environmental Protection Agency: JSPD būklės vertinimas 2018-2023 m. (file:///C:/Users/37068/Downloads/JSPD%20b%C5%ABkl%C4%97s%20vertinimas%202018-2023.pdf)

Air
Monitoring of mercury concentration in ambient air and mercury deposition is carried out in accordance with the Lithuanian State Environmental Monitoring Programme. Monitoring of mercury at the rural background station "Aukštaitija" started in 2009, in accordance with the requirements of Directive 2004/107/EC. Data are reported annually to the EEA and are available on the European Ambient Air Quality Portal.
Anthropogenic emissions of mercury (Hg) are evaluated annually as a part of the reporting of national air pollutant emission data under the NEC Directive (EU) 2016/2284. Data on mercury emissions to air are available on the Lithuanian Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) website https://aaa.lrv.lt/public/canonical/1740728922/3238/2023_sunkieji_metalai_v1.xlsx and on the EIONET portal A. National emission inventories.
Monitoring of mercury in surface water bodies (rivers, lakes, transitional and coastal waters), sediments and biota is carried out in accordance with the Lithuanian State Environmental Monitoring Programme 2018-2023 (hereinafter - Environmental Monitoring Programme).
Rivers and Lakes Under the Environmental Monitoring Programme mercury in rivers and lakes (reservoir) is monitored annually or every two or three years throughout the six year Programme period. Monitoring stations for mercury measurements in rivers are located at the transboundary river water bodies, in river water bodies below of the major cities, at the mouth of large rivers, in rivers that flow into transitional and coastal waters.
Mercury measurements were carried out in the river monitoring stations and one station in the largest reservoir (which is in the middle-stream of the largest river) in 2017-2020. Samples were taken 12 times per year in rivers and 7 times per year in the largest reservoir. The number of monitoring stations where mercury was measured referred in the table below.
Year Number of monitoring stations
Water Sediment
2017 16 13
2018 12 19
2019 9 -
2020 13 -
The annual monitoring data of mercury are available on the website of the Lithuanian Environmental Protection Agency at the following links:

https://aaa.lrv.lt/lt/veiklos-sritys/vanduo/upes-ezerai-ir-tvenkiniai/valstybinis-upiu-ezeru-ir-tvenkiniu-monitoringas/upiu-monitoringo-rezultatai; https://aaa.lrv.lt/lt/veiklos-sritys/vanduo/upes-ezerai-ir-tvenkiniai/valstybinis-upiu-ezeru-ir-tvenkiniu-monitoringas/ezeru-ir-tvenkiniu-monitoringorezultatai.
Transitional and coastal waters
Under the Environmental Monitoring Programme mercury in the Curonian Lagoon (transitional waters) and the Baltic Sea is monitored annually: up to 4 times a year in water, up to 3 times a year in sediments, once a year in biota (molluscs and fish). Monitoring stations for mercury measurements are located to cover all possible pressures to the Curonian Lagoon and the Baltic Sea and a general pollution level: at the mouth of the largest River Nemunas, in the Klaipeda Strait (State port is located), at the plume of the Curonian Lagoon waters into the Baltic Sea area, in the coastal and the open waters. The number of monitoring stations where mercury was measured referred in the table below.
Year Number of monitoring stations
Water Sediment Biota
2017 12 (up to 2 water layers* in station) 13 6
2018 17 (up to 2 water layers* in station) 13 6
2019 17 (up to 2 water layers* in station) 13 6
2020 18 (up to 2 water layers* in station) 19 6
*surface layer, bottom layer
The monitoring data of mercury of the Curonian Lagoon and the Baltic Sea are available on the websites and databases of ICES, WISE.
The analysis of long-term mercury monitoring data (in Lithuanian) is also available on the website of the Lithuanian Environmental Protection Agency: https://aaa.lrv.lt/uploads/aaa/documents/files/Gyvsidabris.pdf.
The assessment of the chemical status of the transitional and coastal waters in 2020 is available on the website: https://aaa.lrv.lt/uploads/aaa/documents/files/Kur%C5%A1i%C5%B3%20mari%C5%B3%20ir%20Baltijos%20j%C5%ABros%20vanden%C5%B3%20chemin%C4%97%20b%C

In 2020-2021 an assessment of health risks related to the exposure to mercury and mercury compounds in possibly exposed and unexposed population (urban and rural areas, n=226) as well as in occupationally exposed settings (firemen, n=118) was carried out using science-based methodology and appropriate measures. Research was implemented in cooperation with the National Public Health Surveillance Laboratory and the Medical Centre of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania. The report to the public and recommendations to the relevant institutions is under preparation.
Since 1998 - analysis of mercury concentration in human biomedia and evaluation of health effects monitoring (if necessary) due to environmental exposure and accidents, and occupational exposure. Recommendations (if applicable) to approach clinicians and toxicologists for health care service or treatment. Recommendation for employers to adapt occupational settings or change technologies aiming to reduce mercury exposure and ensure safe working/living environment.

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

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

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

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

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