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

UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION
Attachments can be found on the website

DISCLAIMER

This is a secretariat version translation of the submitted report by the Party. The text has not been officially translated and edited, and is provided for information purposes. In case of any error or omission in the translation, the original submission prevails.

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party
Mauritania

Date on which its instrument of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance was deposited
18 August 2015

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

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution
Director of Environmental Assessment and Control (DECE), Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD) / Focal Point for the Minimum Convention

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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

a3_subsection

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▼ 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.
The inventory of mercury in Mauritania did not take into account the country's mercury stocks because the quantities mentioned in this Article are not relevant to the country, implying that this Article is not a priority in Mauritania. However, given the presence of artisanal gold mining in the country, it would be necessary to identify and quantify mercury stocks for this sector, as well as to further investigate the entry of mercury into the national territory, while considering the legal framework governing these imports and exports.

It will also be necessary to ensure that all imports and exports of mercury comply with the provisions relating to prior informed consent set forth in the Convention.

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.

The inventory of mercury in Mauritania identifies mercury stocks in the country because the quantities mentioned in this Article are not relevant to the country, implying that this Article is not a priority in Mauritania. However, since artisanal gold mining is present in the country, it would be necessary to identify and quantify mercury stocks for this sector, as well as to further investigate the entry of mercury into the national territory, while considering the legal framework governing these imports and exports. If necessary, mining regulations should be amended to prohibit and prevent any future possible extraction of mercury.
It will also be necessary to ensure that all imports and exports of mercury are carried out in accordance with the provisions relating to prior informed consent set forth in the Convention.

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 no, 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 the party answered no to question 4.3(A) above, please explain

Mauritania has listed a number of products in its inventory; the legal framework must be amended and strengthened to ensure compliance with the obligation set forth in paragraph 1 of Article 1 regarding the manufacture, import, and export of products containing added mercury listed in Annex A, Part I, as well as for dental amalgams as stated in Part II, Annex A of the Convention. Emphasis should be placed on regulating hygiene and cosmetic products. The Ministry of Health has an important role to play in developing and strengthening legislation in this area.

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

Mauritania has listed a number of products in its inventory; the legal framework must be amended and strengthened to ensure compliance with the obligation set forth in paragraph 1 of Article 1 regarding the manufacture, import, and export of products containing added mercury listed in Annex A, Part I, as well as for dental amalgams as stated in Part II, Annex A of the Convention. Emphasis should be placed on regulating hygiene and cosmetic products. The Ministry of Health has an important role to play in developing and strengthening legislation in this area.

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)

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 the party answered no – no action taken, please explain.
The Ministry of Health has banned the use of skin-lightening products containing hazardous chemicals, including mercury. A list of affected products has been published by the Ministry of Health.
Following the ban on importing mercury-containing skin-lightening products, customs officials are seizing these products at points of entry. However, support and training in this area are needed to strengthen the capacity of those involved to carry out this work effectively.

Part E – Additional comments on this article

No comments

▼ 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
- [x] Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

SODIUM OR POTASSIUM METHYLATE OR ETHYLATE

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

PRODUCTION OF POLYURETHANE USING MERCURY-CONTAINING CATALYSTS

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [x] 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
- [x] 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
- [x] 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

No comment

▼ 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
- [x] 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

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

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No
- (●) In progress

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

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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
A GEF funding proposal has been prepared to support the development of the Minamata NAP. It has been submitted through UNEP. The country is awaiting formal GEF approval, which will trigger the funding to begin the development of the Minamata NAP.

Please provide information
{Empty}

Part E - Additional comments on this article

An action plan is being developed specifically for this sector.

▼ ART. 8: EMISSIONS

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

For each of those source categories describe the measures in place, including the effectiveness of such measures, to implement the requirements of paragraph 4 of article 8.

- [ ] Coal-fired power plants
- [ ] Coal-fired industrial boilers
- [x] Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals

Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals
It exists in Mauritania, but there is no information on this type of industry.

- [x] Waste incineration facilities

Waste incineration facilities
Incineration and open-air burning of medical waste with an estimated mercury input, kg Hg/a 29 (source: MIA 2019).
Open-air burning of waste (at landfill sites or informally) with an estimated mercury input, kg Hg/a 203 (source: MIA 2019).

☐ Cement clinker production facilities

Has the party required the use of best available techniques or best environmental practices (BAT/BEP) to control and where feasible reduce emissions for new sources no later than 5 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

○ Yes

◉ No (please explain)

No (please explain)
No measures have been taken at this time.

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
This type of industry no longer exists in Mauritania.

Progress
This type of industry no longer exists in Mauritania.

▼ 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
This type of industry no longer exists in Mauritania.

Progress
This type of industry no longer exists in Mauritania.

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

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

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

▼ WASTE INCINERATION FACILITIES

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

Measures
Require monitoring/reporting and inventory of mercury emissions
from the sources listed in Annex D

Progress
No concerted measures have been taken at this time.

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

Measures
Mauritania imports clinker; cement plants use it as a final product for cement manufacturing.

Progress

Mauritania imports clinker; cement plants use it as a final product for cement manufacturing.

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

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

Please explain
No measures have been taken at this time.

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

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No
- ○ Have not been a party for 5 years

If no such inventory exists, please explain
The inventory was carried out between 2017 and 2018; there have been no updates since then.

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

Open burning of waste generates a large amount of mercury emissions into the atmosphere. Article 8 of the Convention is relevant to Mauritania, which must therefore take appropriate measures to "control and, as far as possible, reduce atmospheric emissions of mercury and mercury compounds." The country must therefore legislate in this area, focusing particularly on the incineration of waste, especially biomedical waste. The Ministry of the Interior and Decentralization can develop and strengthen the legal framework in this matter.

▼ 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)

When was the inventory last updated?
30 April 2019

Please indicate where this inventory is available.
MRT_9.2.pdf

Please explain
{Empty}

Part E - Additional comments on this article

updating the inventory to further investigate the sources of mercury releases

▼ 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 no, please explain
Not yet

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

If no, please explain
Not yet

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

Currently in Mauritania, there are no facilities for the final disposal of waste made up of mercury or mercury compounds on the territory.

▼ 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
To date, Mauritania has not studied its contaminated sites. Therefore, collaborative work between the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development and the Ministry of Petroleum, Energy and Mines is needed to develop an appropriate strategy for identifying, characterizing, and assessing contaminated sites in order to conduct investigations and promote their environmentally sound management.

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
Insufficient financial resources to implement activities; difficulty accessing international funding; lack of specific regulations on mercury and mercury-containing products; insufficient capacity building for stakeholders involved in implementing the Convention; lack of equipment to detect mercury content in cosmetic products and to analyze products containing added mercury; porous borders; and a lack of awareness among stakeholders of the health and environmental issues related to the effects of mercury.

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
{Empty}

Please provide comments, if any.

The inventory highlights the potential exposure to mercury of several population groups. Mauritania will need to consider strategies and programs to identify and protect these and other at-risk populations in accordance with paragraph 1. The Ministry of Health is empowered to formulate, implement, and evaluate health-related policies.

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
The country is committed to working closely with the Minamata Convention Secretariat, as well as with implementing agencies such as the GEF, UNEP and UNIDO, to ensure the full implementation of this convention.

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

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

Please specify
There is a need to strengthen the capacities of key actors involved in the implementation of the Minamata Convention

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
not information

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 16: HEALTH ASPECTS

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

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

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

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

Part E - Additional comments on this article

Awareness campaigns were launched as part of the MIA preparatory activities.
In particular, a number of technical workshops were organized at both the national and regional levels on, among other things, public awareness, the risks of mercury-containing cosmetic products to human health and the environment, and the impacts of burning any type of waste.
These are specific, ad hoc measures implemented within the framework of the MIA project.

▼ ART. 17: INFORMATION EXCHANGE

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

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 18: PUBLIC INFORMATION, AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

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

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

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

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 19: RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING

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

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

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

Part E - Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

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

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

The implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury requires technical and financial resources to fully comply with its provisions, for all Parties and particularly for developing countries like ours. In this regard, the difficulties encountered can be summarized as follows: - insufficient resources dedicated to the implementation of the convention,
- the inadequacy or even complete lack of appropriate and specific legal texts,
- the difficulty in collecting certain required data,
- the lack of data for certain sectors.

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

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

At the moment, Mauritania has no proposals for improvements to the format of the report.