2025 FULL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Report submitted on 28 May 2025

REPORTING PERIOD:
1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024

Attachments can be found on the website

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party
Mongolia

Date on which its instrument of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance was deposited
28 September 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
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change

Title of Contact Officer
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Focal Point is submitting the national report

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

▼ ART. 3: MERCURY SUPPLY SOURCES AND TRADE

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

- ○ Yes – primary mercury mining with available data
- ○ Yes – primary mercury mining with no available data
- ◉ No

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

- ○ Yes – primary mercury mining with available data
- ○ Yes – primary mercury mining with no available data
- ◉ No

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

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

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

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

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

The Government of Mongolia approved the resolution №95 in 2007 to restrict the usage of mercury and its organic and inorganic compounds in Mongolia. The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (previously Ministry of Environment and Tourism) of Mongolia is responsible for authorizing the import of toxic and hazardous chemicals and no permission had been issued by the Ministry for importing mercury since the Minamata Convention entered into force.

▼ 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.

On the subject of appropriate measures to restrict the manufacture, import and export, the
The Government of Mongolia has taken several actions, as follows:
The Government of Mongolia controls and monitors the import and export of mercury-added products by approving resolutions and regulations. For instance, as for pesticides, fertilizers, and disinfectants, the Minister of Environment & Tourism, the Minister of Food, Agriculture & Light Industry and the Minister of Health issue a joint order to regulate the allowed usage of such products varieties and quantity in Mongolia.
The Minister of Health and the Chief of the National Emergency Management Authority of Mongolia issued a joint order of 07/27 to ban the purchase and usage of mercury-containing thermometers, blood pressure sphygmomanometers, and dental amalgam among health organizations in 2011. No products highlighted above have been imported since the joint order came into effect.
According to the report released by the Customs General Administration of Mongolia, no related products have been imported. Accordingly, relevant specialised agencies have registered no other evidence within the respective period.

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.

Purchase and usage of mercury-added dental amalgam were banned by the joint order 07/27 of 2011 by the Minister and Health and the Chief of National Emergency Management Authority.

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
- [ ] 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.
Purchase and usage of mercury-added dental amalgam were banned by the joint order 07/27 of 2011 by the Minister and Health and the Chief of the National Emergency Management Authority.

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 - an assessment of the risks and benefits of the product demonstrates benefits to human health or the environment, has the party provided to the secretariat, as appropriate, information on any such products?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

Part E - Additional comments on this article

none

▼ 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

none

▼ ART. 7: ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE GOLD MINING

7.1: Have steps been taken to reduce, and where feasible eliminate, the use of mercury and mercury compounds in, and the emissions and releases to the environment of mercury from, artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing subject to article 7 within your territory?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No
- ○ There is no artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing subject to article 7 in which mercury amalgamation is used in the territory

If yes, please provide information on the steps.
The Government of Mongolia has taken significant steps to reduce—and where feasible, eliminate—the use of mercury in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), in accordance with Article 7 of the Minamata Convention.

Key actions include:
National Action Plan (NAP) on ASGM (Approved in August 2019):
The Government approved the NAP for reducing mercury pollution from ASGM under Government Resolution No. 317. The NAP outlines a phased approach to reducing mercury use in the sector through regulation, education, alternative technology promotion, and institutional strengthening.

Implementation of the PlanetGOLD Mongolia-Philippines Project (2018–2025):
In collaboration with UNEP, UNIDO, and GEF, the project supports the reduction and eventual elimination of mercury in ASGM. Activities include:
- Introducing and testing mercury-free gold processing technologies;
- Training miners in cleaner and safer practices;
- Conducting health and environmental risk assessments;
- Supporting formalization of ASGM operations.

Legal and policy measures:
Mercury use in ASGM is regulated under the Law on Toxic and Hazardous Chemicals, and licensing requirements are enforced to prevent illegal mercury trade and usage. The Customs Authority also monitors import controls on mercury and related substances.

Public awareness and capacity building (2019–2025):

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, in partnership with civil society and local governments, has conducted awareness campaigns and on-site demonstrations in key ASGM regions, including Selenge, Tuv, Bayankhongor, and Darkhan-Uul provinces.

Monitoring and data collection:
Environmental sampling and baseline assessments of mercury levels in soil, water, and air have been conducted in previously contaminated or active ASGM areas, with ongoing monitoring supported by international partners.

These efforts reflect Mongolia's ongoing commitment to the objectives of Article 7. However, challenges remain due to the informal nature of some ASGM operations, limited financial and technical capacity, and the need for broader adoption of mercury-free technologies. The Government continues to work toward full implementation with the support of international cooperation.

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

MNG_7.4.pdf

Part E - Additional comments on this article

The PlanetGOLD Mongolia-Philippines project has served as a cornerstone for these efforts by piloting best practices and facilitating local engagement.

However, several challenges remain:

- Wider formalization of ASGM operations is still needed to ensure compliance and access to financial and technical resources.
- Many mercury-free alternatives remain unaffordable or technically unfamiliar to small-scale miners.
- Continued illegal trade and informal use of mercury pose barriers to elimination.

The Government emphasizes the importance of long-term financial support, cross-sector collaboration, and community-based approaches to ensure the sustainability of progress made. Mongolia is committed to reducing mercury use and releases from ASGM and calls for enhanced regional cooperation and knowledge-sharing platforms to scale up proven solutions across similar contexts.

▼ 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
1 Darkhan Darkhan 0.4
2 Erdenet Factory Erdenet 0.4
3 Erdenet Erdenet 0.3
4 Dalanzadgad Dalanzadgad 0.07
5 Dornod Choibalsan 0.5
6 Sukhbaatar Baruun-Urt 0.02
7 Khuvsgul Murun 0.02
8 Bayan-Ulgii Ulgii 0.03
9 Bulgan Bulgan 0.01
10 Khentii Chingiss 0.04
11 Khovd Khovd 0.05
12 Selenge Sukhbaatar 0.1
13 Uvs Ulaangom 0.04
14 Dornogobi Saishand 0.04
15 CTPP-2 Ulaanbaatar 0.3
16 CTPP-3 Ulaanbaatar 1.3
17 CTPP-4 Ulaanbaatar 3.4
18 Amgalan Ulaanbaatar 0.2
19. Booroljuut Tuv

☑ Coal-fired industrial boilers

Coal-fired industrial boilers
In Mongolia, a total of 1219 medium-sized heat-only-boilers were registered, including industrial boilers. Those heat-only-boilers use about 1,0 million tons of raw coal per year.

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

Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals
1 “Erdenet Mining” Corporation Orkhon, Erdenet Copper
2 “Oyu tolgoi” Corporation Umnugobi, Khanbogd Copper
3 "Tsairt mineral" LLC Sukhbaatar, Baruun-Urt Zinc
4 "Achit Ikht" LLC Orkhon, Erdnenet Copper cathode plant
5 "Erdmin" LLC Orkhon, Erdnenet Copper

☐ Waste incineration facilities

☑ Cement clinker production facilities

Cement clinker production facilities
1 "MAK Cement" LLC Dornogobi, Dalanjargalan
2 “Moncement” LLC Dornogobi, Urgun
3 "Teeliin shonhor" LLC Dornogobi, Sainshand
4 "Khutul" LLC Selenge, Saikhan
5 "Erel" LLC Selenge, Saikhan
6 "Nalgartushig" LLC Ulaanbaatar, Nalaikh
7 "Khovd Cement" LLC Khovd

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
Due to the air pollution the Ministry of Environment is requesting to use of BAT/BEP from the owners with an annual environmental management plan.

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

- [x] A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- [x] Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- [ ] 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
Some laws, decrees, regulations, and national standards are applied to control and reduce mercury emissions from the sources. Per the Law on Air, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism approved a list of toxic air pollutants, including mercury.
Emission standards for the permissible level of air pollutants from point sources are set to reduce
emissions from heat-only boilers and coal-fired power plants.
The national emission inventory guideline was approved in 2019. The guideline includes the calculation method of mercury emission from household stoves, small & medium-sized size heat only-boilers, and coal-fired power plants.
In 2019, the national mercury emission inventory was conducted under the Minamata Initial Assessment Mongolia framework, using the UNEP Toolkit, which is the primary database for controlling and reducing mercury emissions from sources.

Progress
none

▼ COAL-FIRED INDUSTRIAL BOILERS

- [x] A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- [x] Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- [ ] 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
Several laws, decrees, regulations, and national standards are applied to control and reduce mercury emissions from these sources. Under the Law on Air, the Ministry of Environment approved the list of toxic air pollutants, including mercury.
Emission standards for the permissible level of air pollutants from point sources are set to reduce emissions from heat-only boilers and coal-fired power plants.
The national emission inventory guideline was approved in 2019. It includes the calculation method for mercury emissions from household stoves, small and medium-sized heat-only boilers, and coal-fired power plants.
In 2019, a national mercury emission inventory was conducted under the framework of the

Minamata Initial Assessment of Mongolia, using the UNEP Toolkit, which is the primary database for controlling and reducing mercury emissions from sources.

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

- [x] A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- [x] Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- [ ] 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
Several laws, decrees, regulations, and national standards are applied to control and reduce mercury emissions from the sources. By the Law on Air, the list of toxic air pollutants, including mercury, was approved by the Ministry of Environment.
Emission standards for permissible levels of air pollutants from point sources are set to reduce emissions from heat-only boilers and coal-fired power plants.

Progress
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▼ WASTE INCINERATION FACILITIES

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

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
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▼ CEMENT CLINKER PRODUCTION FACILITIES

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

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

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

☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
{Empty}

Progress
{Empty}

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

◉ Yes

○ No

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

◉ Yes

○ No

○ Have not been a party for 5 years

If yes, when was the inventory last updated?
31 December 2018

Please indicate where this inventory is available
National mercury emission inventory was conducted under the framework of the Minamata Initial Assessment of Mongolia, using UNEP Toolkit in 2019. The activity data, base year of 2018, were obtained from relevant ministries, government organisations and private sectors, as well as the National Statistical Yearbook and other official sources, such as UN Comtrade, due to a lack of measurement and monitoring data. The Initial Assessment report is done.

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

◉ Yes

○ No

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.
{Empty}

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

none

▼ ART. 9: RELEASES

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

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No
- ( ) Do not know (please explain)

Please indicate the measures taken to address releases from relevant sources and the effectiveness of those measures.
MIA also NAP for ASGM are done.
National Action Plan (NAP) for ASGM: Mongolia has developed and is implementing a National Action Plan to reduce and, where feasible, eliminate the use of mercury in artisanal and small-scale gold mining, which is a known source of mercury release to the environment.

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

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

When was the inventory last updated?
31 December 2018

Please indicate where this inventory is available.
{Empty}

Please explain
National mercury release inventory was conducted under the framework of the Minamata Initial Assessment Mongolia, using UNEP Toolkit in 2019. The activity data, base year of 2018, were obtained from relevant ministries, government organisations and privat

Part E - Additional comments on this article

none

▼ 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.
Between 2022 and 2024, the Government of Mongolia, with technical support from international partners such as UNEP, UNIDO, and the Swiss government, has taken steps to:

Conduct feasibility studies for a centralized long-term mercury storage facility,

Train provincial emergency management personnel and environmental inspectors on mercury waste identification, storage, and transportation,

Update national inventory data for mercury-added products and waste,

Strengthen coordination between local governments and national agencies for improved hazardous waste collection and interim storage.

Furthermore, discussions are ongoing to integrate mercury waste management into the national strategy on chemicals and hazardous waste, and to ensure that regional facilities meet Minamata Convention standards for environmentally sound storage.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

none

▼ 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
Between 2020 and 2024, the following further steps were taken to strengthen the implementation of Article 11 paragraph 3:

Interim and regional hazardous waste storage facilities were established or upgraded in multiple aimags to improve the environmentally sound management of mercury waste and other hazardous substances.

Capacity-building and technical training were conducted for local authorities and emergency management officers on the safe management of mercury waste, in cooperation with international partners such as UNIDO, UNEP, and the Swiss government.

Updated national mercury waste inventory efforts were undertaken, especially under the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) and National Action Plan (NAP) development processes.

A draft proposal for a centralized long-term mercury waste storage facility was prepared with technical input from international experts and is currently under consideration.

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

none

▼ 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
In 2019, the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) Report concluded that no additional major mercury contamination hotspots had been identified since the earlier remediation activities.

In August 2019, the Government approved the National Action Plan (NAP) for reducing mercury pollution from ASGM. The NAP outlines strategies for:

Monitoring and preventing mercury emissions and releases from ASGM,

Conducting risk and exposure assessments,

Rehabilitating and neutralizing mercury-contaminated areas.

From 2019 to 2023, seven targeted activities were carried out under the NAP. This included Activity 1.9: Environmental monitoring in previously neutralized and rehabilitated mercury-contaminated areas to assess levels of mercury in soil, water, and air. Monitoring was conducted in several provinces, revealing generally stable conditions, though localized residual contamination was noted in some sites, prompting follow-up assessments.

From 2023 to 2024, additional measures and developments include:
- Integration of mercury site assessment and risk mapping into the national environmental database, in collaboration with the Information and Research Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment (IRIMHE) and provincial environmental departments.
- Capacity-building workshops and field training for local inspectors and researchers on mercury sampling and site characterization, supported by UNEP and international experts.
- Development of guidelines for long-term monitoring and remediation prioritization of legacy mercury-contaminated sites.
- Proposal drafting for a pilot remediation project targeting one previously identified contaminated site, to serve as a national model for environmentally sound cleanup under Minamata Convention principles.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

none

▼ 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
One of the major initiatives supporting the NAP is the PlanetGOLD Mongolia-Philippines Project, which was approved on 8 August 2018 and remains active through 2025. The project is jointly implemented by UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) under the global PlanetGOLD programme.

The Government of Mongolia is co-financing the project with an in-kind contribution of USD 2,000,000. The project applies a value chain approach to eliminate mercury use in ASGM—from mining operations to gold processing and refining.

Key developments through 2023–2025 include:
- The construction of mercury-free gold processing facilities in cooperation with local governments and miners' associations in selected pilot areas;
- Delivery of technical assistance, training, and equipment to transition ASGM communities toward mercury-free methods;
- Launch of a financial mechanism strategy to support small-scale miners in accessing credit for mercury-free technologies;
- Continued environmental monitoring and health risk assessments in ASGM communities;
- Development of a policy brief and regulatory recommendations to further align Mongolia's legal framework with Minamata Convention goals.

These initiatives are part of the country's broader strategy to implement the Convention through practical, targeted, and sustainable actions. Mongolia remains committed to securing both national and international resources to maintain momentum in reducing and eliminating mercury use in line with its national development and environmental protection goals.

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.
Considering Mongolia's current economic context and national development priorities, the Government of Mongolia has not yet been in a position to provide financial contributions to the specific financial mechanism referred to in paragraph 5 of Article 13 of the Minamata Convention.

While direct financial support to the mechanism or to other developing countries or countries with economies in transition has not been feasible, Mongolia remains committed to the goals of the Convention. The Government continues to focus its available resources on capacity-building, awareness-raising, and national implementation efforts, particularly in priority areas such as artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), mercury waste management, and public health protection.

Mongolia acknowledges the importance of regional and international cooperation and expresses its intention to explore opportunities for future engagement and support

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
Considering the current economic situation and financial capacity of Mongolia, the Government has not been in a position to provide financial resources, capacity-building, or technical assistance to other developing-country parties or countries with economies in transition through bilateral, regional, or multilateral channels.

As a developing country party itself, Mongolia continues to focus its limited resources on the implementation of the Convention at the national level, including activities under the National Action Plan for reducing mercury use in ASGM, mercury waste management, and monitoring efforts.

Please provide comments, if any.
While Mongolia has not yet contributed financial resources to other parties, it actively engages in regional cooperation, international knowledge exchange, and participation in Minamata-related events and platforms. The Government remains committed to the goals of the Convention and expresses its willingness to share experiences and good practices with other parties, especially in ASGM-related risk reduction, once national implementation is more advanced.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

Mongolia acknowledges the importance of regional and international cooperation and expresses its intention to explore opportunities for future engagement and support

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

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

○ Yes

◉ No

Please specify

Considering the current economic situation and financial capacity, the Government of Mongolia has not yet prioritized the provision of capacity-building or technical assistance to other least developed countries or parties with economies in transition under Article 14 of the Minamata Convention.

As a developing country party itself, Mongolia continues to focus its resources on strengthening national capacity and implementation of the Convention—particularly in priority areas such as:
- Reduction of mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM);
- Safe management of mercury waste;
- Environmental monitoring and public awareness;
- Legal and institutional strengthening.

While Mongolia has not directly supported other parties, the country remains actively engaged in regional networks and international platforms under the Minamata Convention. Mongolia is open to sharing its experience in areas such as ASGM formalization, mercury phase-out strategies, and environmental remediation when national implementation has progressed further.

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

○ Yes

◉ No

Please specify

Mongolia has received capacity-building and technical assistance from various international partners and organizations in support of its implementation of the Minamata Convention, especially in areas related to mercury phase-out, artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), environmental monitoring, and institutional strengthening.

Key initiatives include:

PlanetGOLD Mongolia-Philippines Project (2018–2025): Implemented by UNEP and UNIDO, this project has provided extensive technical assistance, training, and support for transitioning to mercury-free technologies in the ASGM sector. It also supports policy development, value chain integration, and stakeholder engagement.

Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) project (2017–2019): Supported by the GEF and executed with assistance from UNDP, the MIA provided technical guidance to establish a national mercury inventory, identify key sources of emissions and releases, and develop recommendations for regulatory improvements.

National Action Plan (NAP) development support: Mongolia received technical assistance from UNEP, UNIDO, and other Minamata Convention stakeholders to prepare and implement its NAP on ASGM, which was approved by the Government in 2019.

Workshops and training: Government agencies and stakeholders have benefited from regional and

global workshops organized by the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention, Basel and Stockholm Convention Regional Centre in China, and development partners.

Please provide comments, if any.

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

The Government of Mongolia has actively promoted and facilitated the introduction and diffusion of environmentally sound alternative technologies, particularly in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector, in alignment with the objectives of the Minamata Convention.

Key actions include:
- Under the PlanetGOLD Mongolia-Philippines Project (2018-2025), the Government has partnered with UNEP, UNIDO, and other stakeholders to identify, test, and promote mercury-free gold processing technologies. These include gravity concentration, flotation, and other non-mercury extraction methods suitable for small-scale miners.
- Technical guidance and pilot testing of alternative technologies have been conducted in cooperation with local miners' organizations and provincial governments, particularly in Tuv, Selenge, Bayankhongor, and Darkhan-Uul provinces.
- The Government, through the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, has supported awareness campaigns, field demonstrations, and training programs on the use of cleaner technologies, aiming to increase adoption and improve environmental and occupational health outcomes.
- Efforts are also being made to develop financial access mechanisms and introduce incentive programs to help ASGM communities transition to alternative technologies.
- In partnership with international organizations, Mongolia has contributed to the documentation and sharing of best practices in mercury-free mining and environmental remediation for dissemination across the region.

These actions demonstrate Mongolia’s commitment to facilitating technology transfer, supporting the uptake of environmentally sound alternatives, and aligning national efforts with the broader goals of the Convention.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

Mongolia expresses its appreciation to international partners and implementing agencies, including UNEP, UNIDO, GEF, the Swiss Government, and others, for their continued support through regional and country-level projects.

Moving forward, Mongolia emphasizes the need for:
Sustained technical and financial assistance to strengthen local-level implementation capacity;
Support to conduct national mercury inventories;
Support for long-term storage and disposal solutions for mercury waste;
Increased South-South and regional knowledge exchange opportunities, particularly in the ASGM and environmental remediation sectors;
Continued engagement with the financial mechanism of the Convention to ensure adequate support for developing countries.

Mongolia remains committed to fulfilling its obligations under the Convention and stands ready to cooperate with other Parties to promote sound mercury management globally.

▼ 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 Government of Mongolia has taken a range of measures since 2016 to inform the public about the risks of mercury exposure, particularly from artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) and mercury-containing products.

Key actions by year include:

2016–2017: As part of the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA), public awareness activities were initiated in collaboration with UNIDO and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET). These included information campaigns and stakeholder consultations on mercury sources and health risks.

2018–2019: The PlanetGOLD Mongolia–Philippines Project was launched, with public outreach components targeting ASGM communities. Educational sessions, posters, and videos were developed and disseminated in Tuv, Bayankhongor, Darkhan-Uul, and Selenge provinces.

2019: The Government of Mongolia approved the National Action Plan (NAP) for ASGM (Government Resolution No. 317), which included a strategy to raise public awareness and educate communities on mercury exposure, environmental impacts, and health risks.

2020–2022: Community-level training, on-site demonstrations, and radio/social media campaigns were implemented. Special attention was given to educating miners, women, and children about mercury toxicity and prevention methods.

2023–2024: The Ministry of Environment and Tourism and local governments continued public engagement through provincial environmental days, public lectures, and open data sharing about mercury levels in soil, water, and air.

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.
Health Impact Monitoring and Screening (2018–2024):
In cooperation with UNIDO, WHO, and the Ministry of Health, targeted health screening activities were conducted in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) communities to assess levels of mercury exposure among vulnerable populations, particularly women of childbearing age and children.

Medical Guidelines and Training (2020–2024):
The Ministry of Health developed and distributed medical guidance materials for local healthcare providers on how to identify, monitor, and manage mercury-related health effects. Health professionals in high-risk areas received training to recognize symptoms of chronic mercury exposure.

Restrictions on Mercury-containing Products (2018–2023):
Mongolia has enforced regulatory measures to phase out mercury-added products, including thermometers, sphygmomanometers, and certain batteries, in the health and education sectors. Public hospitals and clinics have been directed to replace mercury-based equipment with mercury-free alternatives.

Improved Waste Handling at Healthcare Facilities (2021–2024):
With support from development partners, several healthcare facilities have improved hazardous waste management practices, especially for mercury-containing waste, to reduce occupational

exposure among medical personnel and patients.

Inclusion in National Chemicals Safety Strategy (2023):
Mercury has been identified as a priority chemical in the draft revision of Mongolia's national chemical safety and health protection strategy, ensuring it will be addressed in future policy and budget planning processes.

Part E - Additional comments on this article

The Government of Mongolia recognizes the critical importance of protecting human health from the adverse effects of mercury exposure, particularly in communities affected by artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) and in the management of mercury-containing products and waste.

While significant steps have been taken to inform the public and health professionals, Mongolia continues to face challenges related to:

Limited laboratory capacity for biological monitoring of mercury exposure in vulnerable populations;

The need for expanded health surveillance in rural and mining-intensive areas;

Insufficient long-term funding for health-related monitoring and intervention programs.

Integrate mercury health risks into national occupational health and public health policies;

Expand health monitoring and biomonitoring activities, especially among women and children in affected areas;

Strengthen multi-sectoral cooperation between the environment, health, labor, and education sectors to deliver integrated responses to mercury exposure risks.

▼ 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 the reduction or elimination of the production, use, trade, emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds
The Government of Mongolia has facilitated the exchange of information related to mercury and mercury compounds in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 1 of the Minamata Convention. These efforts have focused on the scientific, technical, legal, environmental, and economic aspects of mercury management.

Key activities include:

Participation in regional and international meetings and workshops, including those organized by the Minamata Convention Secretariat, UNEP, and other partners, where Mongolia has shared experiences on mercury inventory development, ASGM regulation, and mercury-free technology promotion.

Submission of national reports and data to international platforms, including the Minamata Convention Secretariat, Global Environment Facility (GEF), and UNEP Chemicals and Waste Portal, contributing to global knowledge-sharing and transparency.

Active engagement in the PlanetGOLD Mongolia-Philippines project, which includes a strong information exchange component, allowing Mongolia to share best practices and lessons learned with other countries implementing similar mercury reduction programs.

Public dissemination of mercury-related data and policy updates through the websites and official publications of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, as well as through community-level outreach.

Collaboration with academic and research institutions in conducting and publishing scientific studies related to mercury contamination, exposure, and environmental monitoring, which are shared in both national and regional forums.

These actions have helped Mongolia both contribute to and benefit from the global exchange of knowledge and experiences in the sound management of mercury and in the implementation of the Minamata Convention.

☐ 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

In the future, Mongolia intends to:

Strengthen interagency coordination mechanisms at the national level to ensure better sharing of mercury-related data and actions among health, environment, mining, and customs authorities;

Develop a centralized mercury information portal under the Ministry of Environment and Tourism to improve accessibility and transparency of data;

Continue engaging in regional knowledge platforms to exchange lessons learned with other countries facing similar challenges in ASGM, mercury waste, and product phase-out.

▼ 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
The Government of Mongolia has taken measures to promote and facilitate public access to information listed in Article 18, paragraph 1 of the Minamata Convention. These efforts have focused on raising public awareness and ensuring transparency regarding:
The health and environmental effects of mercury;
Alternatives to mercury-added products and processes;
Activities carried out under the Convention, including legal and policy measures;
National actions to reduce mercury emissions and releases.

Key actions include:
- The Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) regularly updates the public via its official website and press releases regarding mercury-related policies, monitoring results, and international cooperation projects.
- As part of the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) (2016–2019) and the National Action Plan (NAP) for ASGM (2019–present), various communication materials were developed and distributed, including brochures, posters, infographics, and video content targeting miners, women, youth, and vulnerable groups.
- The PlanetGOLD Mongolia–Philippines Project has supported the dissemination of information on health risks, alternatives to mercury, and best practices through local media, public events, and school programs in ASGM-affected areas.
- Local governments in provinces such as Selenge, Bayankhongor, Tuv, and Darkhan-Uul have held community-level awareness campaigns to explain safe mining practices, environmental protection, and the dangers of mercury exposure.

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

Part E - Additional comments on this article

Mongolia intends to further enhance public access to mercury-related information by:
- Developing a dedicated mercury information portal under the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change;
- Expanding the use of digital tools and mobile platforms to reach rural communities more effectively;
- Translating key technical materials into Mongolian and minority languages to improve accessibility;
- Encouraging public participation in the monitoring and evaluation of mercury-related projects.

▼ ART. 19: RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING

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

◉ Yes

○ No

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

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

Inventories of use, consumption, anthropogenic emissions to air and releases to water and land of mercury and mercury compounds
National Mercury Inventory (2016–2019):
Under the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA), Mongolia completed a comprehensive national mercury inventory, identifying key sources of mercury emissions and releases, particularly from artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), industrial activities, and waste streams.

☐ 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

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

The Government of Mongolia, through the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, has undertaken a range of research, development, and monitoring activities in alignment with paragraph 1 of Article 19 of the Minamata Convention.

Key actions include:
Environmental Monitoring (2019–2024):
With support from UNIDO and national research institutions, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change has carried out monitoring of mercury levels in air, water, soil, and sediments in contaminated and ASGM-affected areas such as Tuv, Selenge, Darkhan-Uul, and Bayankhongor provinces.

Human Health Exposure Studies (2020–2024):
In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, pilot health impact assessments were conducted in ASGM communities, focusing on biomonitoring of mercury exposure (hair and urine samples), especially among women of reproductive age and children.

Research and Testing of Mercury-Free Technologies (2019–2025):
Through the PlanetGOLD Mongolia-Philippines Project, field research and demonstration activities have been conducted to introduce and test mercury-free gold processing technologies, including gravity separation and flotation methods.

Laboratory Capacity-Building (2021–2024):
With support from international partners, several national laboratories, including those under the Institute of Chemistry and Chemical Technology and the Information and Research Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment (IRIMHE), have received equipment and training to enhance their analytical capabilities for mercury detection.

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

Part E - Additional comments on this article

The Government of Mongolia, through the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, recognizes that research, development, and monitoring are essential to achieving the objectives of the Minamata Convention, particularly in understanding the sources, impacts, and trends related to mercury pollution.

Challenges remain in areas such as:
- Limited financial resources for long-term environmental and health monitoring;

- The need for expanded laboratory infrastructure and standardized methodologies;
- Limited integration of mercury-related research into national science and innovation programs.

To address these gaps, Mongolia aims to:
- Establish sustainable research partnerships with universities, research institutes, and international organizations;
- Expand monitoring to cover more remote and vulnerable areas;
- Promote the inclusion of mercury-related studies in climate, chemicals, and environmental health research agendas.

▼ 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 Government of Mongolia remains fully committed to the effective implementation of the Minamata Convention and has taken important steps toward fulfilling its obligations. However, several challenges persist that may affect the timely and comprehensive achievement of the Convention's objectives:

Financial constraints:
As a developing country, Mongolia faces limitations in mobilizing sufficient domestic financial resources to implement long-term mercury monitoring, site remediation, and mercury-free technology deployment, especially in remote artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) areas.

Limited technical and laboratory capacity:
Although national laboratories have received some support, further investment in equipment, accredited methods, and skilled personnel is needed to improve environmental and human health mercury monitoring and enforcement.

Data gaps and lack of continuous monitoring:
Periodic mercury inventories and assessments have been carried out, but there are still gaps in data availability, especially in relation to informal mercury use, waste flows, and biomonitoring among vulnerable populations.

Informal ASGM activities:
A significant portion of ASGM in Mongolia remains informal or partially formalized, making it difficult to ensure compliance with mercury-related regulations and to promote the adoption of alternative technologies.

Limited public awareness in rural areas:
While awareness has improved, rural and remote communities still lack access to timely and understandable information on mercury risks, safe handling, and alternatives.

Need for stronger inter-sectoral coordination:
More effective coordination is needed between the environment, health, mining, labor, education, and customs sectors to implement integrated mercury reduction strategies.

Despite these challenges, Mongolia is committed to continued progress and welcomes technical assistance, financial support, and knowledge exchange from the international community to help meet the Convention's objectives.

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

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

The Government of Mongolia appreciates the structured and comprehensive format of the Minamata Convention reporting framework. It provides a useful basis for tracking national implementation progress and identifying areas where additional support or coordination is needed.