

2025 FULL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Report submitted on 29 December 2025



REPORTING PERIOD:

1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party

Montenegro

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

10 June 2019

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

8 September 2019

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution

Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable development and Norther Region Development

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Focal Point is submitting the national report

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

▼ ART. 3: MERCURY SUPPLY SOURCES AND TRADE

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

- Yes - primary mercury mining with available data
- Yes - primary mercury mining with no available data
- No

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

- Yes - primary mercury mining with available data
- Yes - primary mercury mining with no available data
- No

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

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

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

If the party answered no to the question, please explain.

The Party has undertaken efforts to identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons within its territory during the preparation of the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA). No such stocks were found.

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.

Montenegro has conducted a Mercury Initial Assessment (MIA) in accordance with the requirements of the Minamata Convention. Through this assessment, potential sources of mercury-supply-generating stocks were analysed. No individual sources or stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year were identified within the territory of Montenegro.

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

In accordance with the Law on Environmental Protection, the export of metallic mercury, cinnabar, mercurous chloride (Hg₂Cl₂), mercuric oxide (HgO), and mixtures of metallic mercury with other substances, including mercury alloys, with a mercury content of at least 95% by mass, is prohibited. The prohibition does not apply to exports for scientific research, medical, or analytical purposes. It is prohibited to mix metallic mercury with other substances solely for the purpose of exporting metallic mercury. Metallic mercury used in the chlor-alkali industry, metallic mercury obtained from the purification of natural gas, metallic mercury obtained from the extraction and smelting of non-ferrous metal ores, and metallic mercury derived from cinnabar shall be considered waste. Waste shall be disposed of in a manner that is safe for human health and the environment, in accordance with the law regulating waste management.

▼ 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.

Yes. Montenegro has enacted comprehensive legislation and regulations prohibiting the manufacture, import, and export of mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annex A of the Minamata Convention. Relevant regulations include the Rulebook on the List of Hazardous Chemicals and Products whose Export is Prohibited, and the Regulation on Prohibited or Allowed Uses, Production, and Marketing of Chemicals Posing Unacceptable Risks to Human Health and the Environment. All mercury-added products such as thermometers, manometers, sphygmomanometers, barometers, and other measuring devices intended for general sale are prohibited. Additionally, no such products are currently manufactured domestically, and all remaining products in use are imported, with safer alternatives available.

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.

Prohibition of the manufacture, import, and export of mercury-added products.

Inventory and gradual phase-out programs for remaining mercury-containing measuring devices in health institutions (thermometers, sphygmomanometers).

Public awareness campaigns and guidance on safe alternatives and proper disposal of mercury-containing waste.

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

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

- Yes
 No
 Not applicable

If the party answered yes please select from the bellow checkboxes

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

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

Montenegro has initiated relevant measures in accordance with the amendment. This includes: Updating national regulations to align with the extended list of mercury-added products. Promoting safer alternatives and implementing awareness campaigns targeting both professional users (e.g., healthcare sector) and the general public. Beginning the gradual removal of mercury-containing measuring devices in health institutions, in collaboration with WHO and GEF.

4.4: Has the party taken measures to prevent the incorporation into assembled products of mercury-added products whose manufacture, import and export are not allowed for it under article 4?

- Yes
 No
 No – not applicable (do not have facilities assembling products using mercury-added products)

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

Measures include strict enforcement of prohibitions on import, export, and domestic use of mercury-added products, implementation of guidance for customs and inspection services to identify and block prohibited mercury-containing products and continuous public and sectoral awareness campaigns to prevent the use of mercury in assembled 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 yes, please provide information on the measures.

Montenegro actively discourages the manufacture, import, and distribution of all mercury-added products, including those not covered by known uses, by: prohibiting their manufacture, import, and export under national legislation, promoting safer alternatives in sectors healthcare, and finally conducting training for relevant stakeholders (customs, inspection, healthcare professionals) on identification and safe handling.

Part E – Additional comments on this article

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

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

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

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

CHLOR-ALKALI PRODUCTION

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

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

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

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

with the provisions set out therein?

VINYL CHLORIDE MONOMER PRODUCTION

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

SODIUM OR POTASSIUM METHYLATE OR ETHYLATE

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

PRODUCTION OF POLYURETHANE USING MERCURY-CONTAINING CATALYSTS

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

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

- Yes
- No

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

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

Part E – Additional comments on this article

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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

Since artisanal and small-scale gold mining does not occur in Montenegro, cooperation under Article 7 with other countries or organizations for this sector is not required.

▼ 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

The Pljevlja coal-fired thermal power plant is undergoing ecological reconstruction worth over EUR 80 million. Implementation of Best Available Techniques (BAT) is a key component of the reconstruction.

Coal-fired industrial boilers

Coal-fired industrial boilers

Medium-sized coal boilers are in operation in Montenegro. BAT principles are applied where feasible to modernize combustion processes. Ongoing modernization reduces mercury emissions, but specific quantitative reductions are not provided.

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

Waste incineration facilities

Cement clinker production facilities

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

Yes

No (please explain)

If Yes, please explain

Ecological reconstruction of TE "Pljevlja" and modernization measures at the Nikšić Steel Plant demonstrate Montenegro's application of BAT principles for new or upgraded sources.

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

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

▼ COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS

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

Measures

BAT/BEP implementation, emission limit values, monitoring through Polluters' Register, multi-pollutant strategies.

Progress

TE "Pljevlja" modernization project ongoing, expected to significantly reduce mercury emissions.

▼ 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

Modernization of combustion processes using BAT principles, emission limit values establishing

Progress

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

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

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

Measures

{Empty}

Progress

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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

{Empty}

▼ CEMENT CLINKER PRODUCTION FACILITIES

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

Measures

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

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

Yes

No

Please explain

Montenegro has implemented several measures for existing sources of mercury emissions, including modernization and ecological reconstruction of coal-fired power plants (TE "Pljevlja") and industrial facilities (Nikšić Steel Plant), applying BAT/BEP principles. These measures have already contributed to reducing emissions. However, the Polluters' Register, which is essential for systematic monitoring and reporting, is still in a testing phase and not fully functional. Therefore, while significant progress has been made, full implementation of all measures under paragraph 5 of Article 8 is not yet complete.

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 Polluters' Register for mercury emissions is in a testing phase; data are collected from relevant sources but full online functionality and integration are not yet achieved.

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.

Relevant sources such as coal-fired power plants, industrial boilers, and former industrial sites (e.g., Brskovo mine) have been identified based on national legislation (Law on Industrial Emissions, Law on Environmental Protection) and international guidance (BREF, BAT/BEP).

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

Part E – Additional comments on this article

Mercury emissions in Montenegro primarily originate from coal combustion in power plants and industrial boilers. Modernization projects (TE "Pljevlja", Nikšić Steel Plant) are key to reducing emissions. Monitoring through the Polluters' Register is ongoing, but full functionality and online data access are pending. Historical contamination from the Brskovo mine requires further assessment and potential remediation. Continuous implementation of BAT/BEP and regulatory compliance is necessary to achieve long-term emission reductions.

▼ 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.

Relevant sources of mercury releases in Montenegro include:

Coal-fired power plants and industrial boilers, which emit mercury into air, water, and soil.

Dental clinics and facilities using dental amalgam, which can release mercury into wastewater during removal of old amalgam fillings.

Historical contaminated sites, such as the Brskovo mine, where mercury may persist in soil and tailings.

Monitoring of these releases is regulated through the Law on Air Protection, Law on Waters, Law on Environmental Protection, and related regulations, with mercury listed as a monitored pollutant.

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

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

Please explain

Montenegro has initiated the development of a Polluters' Register that collects data on mercury emissions and releases from relevant sources. However, the register is still in a testing phase and is not yet fully functional. Online data submission and integration with relevant institutions are ongoing, so while an inventory exists in progress, it is not yet complete.

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.

Montenegro has established a comprehensive legislative and institutional framework to ensure environmentally sound management of mercury, including its storage. Although no stocks of non-waste mercury intended for allowed uses have been identified through the Initial Minamata Assessment and subsequent analyses, measures are in place to regulate mercury management. These include the Law on Waste Management and the Rulebook on the Content of Reports on

Mercury Sources and the Manner of Keeping Records on Mercury Storage, which prescribe obligations for record-keeping, control, and safe storage conditions. In addition, strict prohibitions on production, export and placing on the market of mercury and mercury compounds further minimise the likelihood of interim storage outside environmentally sound conditions.

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

Montenegro has established a legislative framework for the environmentally sound management of mercury waste, including the Law on Waste Management (2024) and related by-laws. In particular, the Rulebook on the Content of Reports on Mercury Sources and the Manner of Keeping Records on Mercury Storage, applicable from 1 January 2025, defines obligations related to collection, temporary storage, record-keeping and control of mercury-containing waste. These measures are aligned with the requirements of the Basel Convention and Article 11 of the Minamata Convention.

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.

Environmentally sound management of mercury waste is ensured through the possibility of exporting such waste to authorised facilities outside Montenegro, in accordance with the Basel Convention, relevant EU legislation and national regulations on transboundary movement of waste.

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

Montenegro does not have facilities for the final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds within its territory. However, a comprehensive legislative and institutional framework is in place to ensure environmentally sound management of mercury-containing waste, including record-keeping, reporting and temporary storage, as well as the possibility of export to authorised facilities abroad where necessary.

▼ 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

During the performance of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Minamata Convention for the period 2022–2023, and contrary to the findings of the Initial Minamata Assessment—which had not identified any mercury/mercury compound-contaminated sites in Montenegro—new evidence has emerged regarding former mining sites with elevated mercury presence. Specifically, sampling conducted at the site of the former exploitation and flotation of the Brskovo mine in Mojkovac, where lead and zinc were mined between 1976 and 1991, confirmed elevated levels of mercury. No other sites with increased mercury presence have yet been confirmed by relevant laboratory analyses. The mentioned investigations were carried out within the framework of the project “Strengthening the Synergies between the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions,” with the aim of gathering preliminary data on sites with elevated mercury concentrations. In accordance with the Minamata Convention, Parties have committed themselves, among other obligations, to endeavour to develop appropriate strategies for the identification and assessment of sites contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds. At the Convention level, Guidance on Managing Contaminated Sites has been published, which Parties are expected to follow when developing strategies for the identification, assessment, prioritisation, and, where appropriate, remediation of mercury-contaminated sites. Risk management options for such sites, including site-specific remediation measures, may also be considered with support from the Minamata Convention’s Specific International Programme (SIP). In this context, based on the data collected from the aforementioned investigations, Montenegro applied for support from the Minamata Convention SIP programme for the implementation of the project proposal “Development Options for Remediation of the Contaminated Site of Former Brskovo Metal Mining in Montenegro.” The project proposal was approved in March 2025. The main activities planned under the project are including: analysis of contamination levels and assessment of ecological parameters at the mining site; the proposal of methods to reduce risks to human health and the environment; the implementation of biomonitoring among the local population to assess health impacts; and the harmonisation of national legislation with EU directives on soil monitoring and resilience to pollution.

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

Montenegro plans to allocate human, technical, and financial resources within its capabilities to implement Minamata Convention activities according to its national policies, priorities, and programmes. This includes regulatory measures, monitoring, and public awareness campaigns related to 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.

Montenegro intends to contribute to the coordination and information-sharing mechanisms among Parties, as outlined in Article 13.5, to the extent possible within its capacities. This includes participation in relevant meetings, workshops, and reporting exchanges.

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

Currently, Montenegro has not allocated financial resources to assist other countries. The focus of the 2025–2026 plan is on national implementation. Future consideration of bilateral or multilateral support may be possible depending on resources and priorities.

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

The 2025–2026 plan focuses on Montenegro's domestic capacity-building and implementation of the Minamata Convention. There are no activities planned to provide capacity-building or technical assistance to other Parties during this period.

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

Yes

No

Please specify

Montenegro continues to benefit from regional and international support, including training, workshops, and guidance from the Minamata Convention Secretariat and other international partners to strengthen national implementation capacities.

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

Montenegro has actively promoted and facilitated adoption of environmentally sound alternative technologies through participation in the GEF-supported global project “phasing out of mercury-containing medical devices from use in health institutions.” Under this initiative, Montenegro, with support from WHO and UNEP, has implemented capacity-building activities, training health sector personnel on safe handling and disposal, and advanced strategies to phase out mercury-containing medical devices (such as mercury thermometers and sphygmomanometers). These activities support access to and adoption of mercury-free alternative technologies in the health sector within the framework of the Minamata Convention

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 Ministry of Health, through the Public Health Institute, has obligation to inform and educates the public on mercury exposure and its potential health effects. Guidelines and educational materials have been issued through project Straightening synergies between BRS and Manamata on safe handling of dental amalgam, mercury-containing devices. Specific campaigns by NGO address vulnerable groups such as children, pregnant women, and women of reproductive age, highlighting risks from mercury bioaccumulation in fish and other sources. Projects such as the gradual phase-out of mercury-containing measuring devices in healthcare institutions include public awareness components.

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.

Replacement of mercury-containing thermometers and sphygmomanometers in healthcare institutions is ongoing, reducing direct occupational and patient exposure.

Dental amalgam use is being gradually phased out; alternatives such as composite, glass-ionomer, and ceramic fillings are now predominant. Only a small fraction of dental facilities still occasionally use amalgam. Guidelines ensure safe removal and disposal of old amalgam to prevent environmental contamination.

Maximum allowable levels of mercury in food (especially fish and seafood) are enforced under national regulations aligned with WHO and EU standards.

Part E – Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 17: INFORMATION EXCHANGE

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

Yes

No

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

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

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

Issued guidance and reports on the use, handling, and disposal of mercury, including information for healthcare regarding mercury-containing devices and dental amalgam.

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

Shared information on national measures to phase out dental amalgam, remove mercury-containing medical devices, and implement Best Available Techniques (BAT) in energy and industrial sectors to reduce emissions.

Information on technically and economically viable alternatives to:

Mercury-added products

Provided information on alternatives to mercury in dentistry (composite, glass-ionomer, ceramic fillings) and safer laboratory equipment alternatives.

Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used

{Empty}

Activities and processes that emit or release mercury or mercury compounds

{Empty}

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

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

Cooperated with the Institute for Public Health and the World Health Organization to assess and communicate health risks related to mercury exposure in food (fish and seafood) and occupational settings.

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

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

Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention

through the project we provide information on the health and environmental impacts of mercury, focusing on exposure from mercury-containing measuring devices (thermometers and sphygmomanometers).

Information on technically and economically viable alternatives has been disseminated through WHO-supported projects, specifically regarding safer medical devices, including mercury-free thermometers.

Public awareness campaigns via NGO and guidance materials were implemented as part of projects under the synergy of the BRS Conventions and the Minamata Convention, informing about mercury reduction and safe handling practices.

Results of monitoring and research activities related to mercury emissions and human exposure, including data collected on mercury-containing measuring devices in healthcare facilities, have been made available to the public.

(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

Targeted education and training activities for healthcare professionals, including staff in public health institutions, were carried out in collaboration with WHO to raise awareness on the risks of mercury and the safe use and disposal of mercury-containing devices.

Public awareness initiatives were implemented in partnership with selected NGOs to inform the general population about mercury exposure risks and safe handling practices.

(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

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Inventories of mercury-containing measuring devices (thermometers and sphygmomanometers) and dental amalgam have been prepared as part of the “Gradual phase-out of mercury-containing devices in healthcare institutions” project, supported by WHO and GEF.

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

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

Monitoring of mercury levels is conducted in environmental media such as air, water, seashells and soil, in line with national regulations and the EMEP program.

Full geographically representative monitoring and modelling for biotic media (fish, marine mammals, sea turtles, birds) has not yet been implemented, but is planned.

- 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

Research and information activities have been conducted on mercury-free alternatives in healthcare, such as replacement of mercury-containing thermometers and sphygmomanometers with safer devices.

Dental amalgam use has been largely replaced by alternative materials (composite, glass-ionomer, ceramic fillings), and guidance has been provided to dental practitioners on safer practices.

Best Available Techniques (BAT) and Best Environmental Practices (BEP) are applied in coal-fired power plants and industrial facilities to reduce mercury emissions.

Public information and training initiatives, in collaboration with WHO and other relevant organizations, support awareness and adoption of mercury-free products and BAT/BEP in Montenegro.

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

Part E – Additional comments on this article

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

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

While laws exist for emissions, wastewater, and mercury-containing products, enforcement and harmonization with international guidelines need strengthening. Implementation relies heavily on international projects (WHO, GEF, BRS/Minamata synergy), which may affect continuity and sustainability of actions. Development of national research and monitoring programs to address long-range transport, environmental fate, and impacts of mercury is still needed. The Environmental Pollutant Register (katastar zagađivača) is still not fully functional. Comprehensive monitoring of mercury in air, water, soil, and biotic media (fish, birds, etc.) is limited, which makes tracking environmental and health impacts challenging. Public awareness about mercury risks is growing but

remains limited. Training and awareness programs for healthcare professionals, inspectors, and the general population need to be expanded.

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

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

It would be beneficial if previous responses remain visible while entering new answers in the online reporting format. This would allow users to refer to earlier inputs in real-time, ensuring consistency and accuracy without the need to switch back and forth between screens.