

2025 FULL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Report submitted on 10 December 2025



REPORTING PERIOD:

1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party

Netherlands (Kingdom of the)

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

18 May 2017

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 Infrastructure and Water Management

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

a3_subsection

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▼ ART. 3: MERCURY SUPPLY SOURCES AND TRADE**3.1: Does the party have any primary mercury mines that were operating within its territory at the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Additional comments on Question 3.3 A and B. In The Netherlands, there are no sources supplying mercury or mercury compounds. Storage with an intention to use is limited to small amounts, for very few remaining uses such as dental amalgam (in exceptional cases) and laboratory measurements and research.

▼ 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.

In the Netherlands Regulation EU 2017/852 is applicable, as well as national legislation for enforcement of compliance.

If yes, has the party registered for an exemption pursuant to article 6?

- Yes
- No

4.3: (A) Has the party taken two or more measures listed in subparagraphs (i) to (ix) of part II of annex A for the mercury-added products listed in part II of annex A in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

4.3:(A) Has the party taken two or more measures listed in subparagraphs (i) to (ix) of part II of annex A for the mercury-added products listed in part II of annex A in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

Regulation EU 2017/852

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.

Regulation EU 2017/852

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.

Regulation EU 2017/852

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.

Regulation EU 2017/852

Regulation EU 1272/2008 (REACH)

National legislation implementing Directive 2011/65/EU on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment (RoHS)

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.

If yes, please provide information on the measures taken.

Regulation (EU)2017/852 discourages 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

Part E – Additional comments on this article

In accordance with Article 8, paragraphs 2 to 4 of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 (Mercury Regulation) the Netherlands assessed a notification by an economic operator requesting authorisation for a new manufacturing process involving the use of mercury, and forwarded the notification to the European Commission with a view to a Commission decision on authorisation (which was established in 2025). Regulation (EU) 2017/852 allows authorisation if the new manufacturing process provides significant environmental and health benefits, while there are no technically and economically feasible mercury-free alternatives available providing such benefits. The assessed new manufacturing process concerns the production of radio-isotope lutetium-177, used in treatment of cancer. The envisaged production facility makes use of 4 kg of mercury, for the separation of lutetium from ytterbium, through selective amalgamation.

▼ 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

The answer "No" to Question 7.2 and 7.5 should be read as "No, not applicable".

▼ ART. 8: EMISSIONS

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

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

Coal-fired power plants

Coal-fired industrial boilers

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)

No (please explain)

Not applicable; in The Netherlands there are no new sources of emissions of mercury or mercury compounds as defined in paragraph 2 (c) of article 8.

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

Implementation of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions, including compliance with relevant BAT Reference document (BREF)

Progress

All coal fired power plants in The Netherlands are in compliance.

▼ COAL-FIRED INDUSTRIAL BOILERS

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

Measures

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

▼ 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

Implementation of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions, including compliance with relevant BAT Reference document (BREF)

Progress

The (single) smelter in The Netherlands is in compliance.

▼ 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

Implementation of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions, including compliance with relevant BAT Reference document (BREF)

Progress

All waste incineration facilities are in compliance.

▼ 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

Implementation of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions, including compliance with relevant BAT Reference document (BREF)

Progress

The (single) cement clinker production facility was in compliance. It shut down August 2020.

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?

10 October 2025

Please indicate where this inventory is available

1. European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR)
2. www.emissieregistratie.nl

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.

The inclusion of at least 75 percent of the emissions from the respective sources is ensured through implementation of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions, and Regulation (EC) No 166/2006 concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register. This EU legislation is in accordance with guidance adopted by the COP.

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

{Empty}

▼ **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.

Implementation of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions, including compliance with relevant BAT Reference document (BREF)

Regulation (EC) No 166/2006 concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register

These measures include mandatory monitoring and reporting, which allows for evaluating effectiveness.

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?

10 October 2025

Please indicate where this inventory is available.

{Empty}

Please explain

European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR) and www.emissieregistratie.nl

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.

Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury (Article 7, paragraph 3).

Part E – Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ 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

{Empty}

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

Please describe measure and effectiveness of measures

{Empty}

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.

Regulation (EU) 2017/852

Measures following from this regulation are effective. Major mercury contaminated waste streams are materials (mainly water-oil sludges and steel scrap) from natural gas production and cleaning. Mercury recovered from these waste streams is considered as waste, and transported to Germany, where it is permanently stored.

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

{Empty}

▼ 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

Contamination by mercury was assessed in the framework of a broad contaminated soil remediation policy developed from the 1970s onward.

In the course of time, additional policies were developed, such as a national strategy on chemicals, including mercury in water and soil in 1994.

Part E – Additional comments on this article

Mercury contaminated sites in The Netherlands have been remediated many years ago.

▼ 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

Main resources provided in respect of national activities to implement the Convention are:

* Staff for national legislative implementation and reporting

* Staff and financial resources for enforcement competent authorities: Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate, regional inspectorates, Customs

* Staff and financial resources for monitoring and inventories of emissions and releases of pollutants.

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.

The Netherlands contributed in the reporting period for a total of EURO 160.000 to the Specific International Programme (SIP), the mechanism referred to in article 13, para 5, of the Convention. (2021: EURO 30.000, 2022: EURO 30.000, 2023: EURO 50.000, 2024: EURO 50.000, respectively).

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

Multilateral sources or channels: As a regular donor country of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (GEF), the Netherlands pledged EURO 124 million for the 8th Replenishment period (GEF8 runs from 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2026). From the total amount of GEF8 (USD 5.33 billion) the Convention benefits from projects and programmes of the Chemicals and Waste Focal Area, as well as from the Integrated Programs. The Netherlands contributed EURO 83.6 million to GEF7.

Please provide comments, if any.

{Empty}

Part E – Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

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

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

Yes

No

Please specify

No substantial government funded activities, besides participation in de EU Common Forum on Contaminated Land.

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

Yes

No

Please specify

No capacity-building or technical assistance pursuant to article 14 has been received.

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

The Netherlands has not promoted or facilitated the development, transfer and diffusion of and access to, up-to-date environmentally sound alternative technologies during the reporting period.

Part E – Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ **ART. 16: HEALTH ASPECTS**

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

Yes

No

Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.

Information on health risk (prevention) for the general public is available a.o. on the RIVM website and on websites of regional health services (GGD):

* <https://www.rivm.nl/kwik>

* <https://ggdleefomgeving.nl/schadelijke-stoffen/kwik/kwik-en-gezondheid/>

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

Yes

No

Part E – Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ **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

• Through its EU membership, the Netherlands contributes to exchange of scientific, technical, economic and legal information on mercury and mercury compounds, as well as information on the reduction and elimination of emissions of mercury, and on viable alternatives for products, processes and activities that lead to emissions of mercury, as facilitated by ECHA and other EU institutions.

• Under the EU REACH Regulation, for the limited uses of mercury that are still allowed, suppliers have the obligation to provide the recipient with sufficient information to allow safe use, including a safety data sheet, as appropriate.

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

• Under mandatory provisions in national and EU law, industries report on releases and emissions of mercury and mercury compounds.

• Trade in mercury is inventoried by the national statistical office of the Netherlands (Statistics Netherlands, CBS).

Information on technically and economically viable alternatives to:

Mercury-added products

Information on the reduction and phase out of application of dental amalgam is provided through dental care education: new dentists (only) get educated in the alternatives for amalgam; foreign dentists who start working in the Netherlands get the information in the package they receive when entering the registry for authorized health care professionals (the BIG-registry).

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))

Part E – Additional comments on this article

Because of the very limited use in the Netherlands of dental amalgam (less than 1% of newly applied fillings), there is no activity on exchanging epidemiological information related to health effects of dental amalgam.

▼ ART. 18: PUBLIC INFORMATION, AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

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

Yes

No

If yes, the party may wish to indicate in the space provided below, the measures it has taken to promote and facilitate information to the public, such as:

(a) Provision to the public of available information on:

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

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

See Question 16.1

Alternatives to mercury and mercury compounds

Alternatives to mercury and mercury compounds

Information on the reduction and phase out (pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2017/852) of application of dental amalgam is provided through dental care education, cf. response to Question 17.1

The topics identified in paragraph 1 of article 17

The topics identified in paragraph 1 of article 17

Information for public and private organisation professionals on mercury related risks and policies is provided by the government through (a.o.): <https://iplo.nl/thema/zeer-zorgwekkende-stoffen-zzs/aanpak-kwik/>

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

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

{Empty}

Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention

Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention

{Empty}

(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

{Empty}

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

Part E – Additional comments on this article

The marketing of chemicals is regulated by European legislation (REACH). Article 57 of the REACH regulation contains criteria that determine whether a substance is of very high concern for human health and the environment. These Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) may no longer be marketed in the long term. The same REACH criteria are used in Dutch laws and regulations to determine which emissions of chemical substances have adverse effects. Substances that meet these criteria (national Substances of Very High Concern, nSVHC) are of very high concern to humans or the environment. They are subject to strict rules, including an obligation to minimise the emissions as far as possible, beyond limit values. Mercury and mercury compounds are identified as nSVHC.

See also: <https://iplo.nl/thema/zeer-zorgwekkende-stoffen-zzs/aanpak-kwik/>

▼ 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

- Mandatory monitoring and registration of mercury and other polluting substances is provided by EU law for industrial installations that are major sources of mercury emissions to air, as well as for waste consisting of mercury, containing mercury or contaminated with mercury.
- The database and internet platform Emissieregistratie (www.emissieregistratie.nl) provides public access to monitored and estimated (model based) emissions to air and releases and atmospheric deposition into surface water of a large range of pollutants, including mercury, from point and diffuse sources in the Netherlands.

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

The Netherlands has, in accordance with EU law and international conventions (e.g. OSPAR and international river basin commissions such as the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine), monitoring programmes in place for relevant polluting substances, a.o. mercury, in surface water and surface water sediment and biota.

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 on commerce and trade in mercury and mercury compounds and mercury-added products

Data on trade in mercury is collected and made available by the national statistical office of the Netherlands (Statistics Netherlands, CBS: www.cbs.nl/en-gb).

- Information and research on the technical and economic availability of mercury-free products and processes and on best available techniques and best environmental practices to reduce and monitor emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds

(Art. 19 (1) (a)–(g))

Part E – Additional comments on this article

Mercury use in products and production processes has almost completely been phased out in the Netherlands. Within the dentistry sector the application of dental amalgam is by 1–1–2025, pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2017/852, restricted to (exceptional) cases where the dentist identifies a specific medical need for the patient. Sales of mercury containing lamps have been decreasing in the past years in favor of led lighting and are will further decrease under the prohibitions in the forementioned EU regulation. In this light, in the Netherlands there is no need any more for comprehensive inventories of mercury use, monitoring of mercury levels in vulnerable populations and biota, assessments of impacts of mercury on society, human health and the environment, and other research and monitoring activities mentioned in Article 19.

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

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

{Empty}

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

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

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