

2025 FULL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Report submitted on 31 December 2025



REPORTING PERIOD:

1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party

Republic of Moldova

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

20 June 2017

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

18 September 2017

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution

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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

Full name of the institution

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Republic of Moldova has reviewed the available information on the use, storage and management of mercury and its compounds. Taking into account the absence of large-scale industrial activities involving mercury, as well as the data available at the national level, no individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons have been identified within the national territory.

3.3: (B) Has the party endeavoured to identify individual sources of mercury-supply-generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year

that are located within its territory?

3.3:(B) Has the party endeavoured to identify individual sources of mercury-supply-generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year that are located within its territory?

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

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

No individual sources generating mercury stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year have been identified within the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

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

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No – has determined it has no excess mercury
- ☐ No – has not made a determination

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

- ☐ Yes – exports to parties
- ☐ Yes – exports to non-parties
- ☒ No – no export took place
- ☐ No – consent was not given

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

- ☒ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ The importing party has relied on paragraph 7 of article 3

Part E – Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 4: MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS

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

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ Yes (implementing paragraph 2 of article 4)

4.2: If yes (implementing paragraph 2 of article 4):

Has the party reported to the Conference of the Parties at the first opportunity a description of the measures or strategies implemented, including a quantification of the reductions achieved?

- ☒ Yes

☐ No

Has the party implemented measures or strategies to reduce the use of mercury in any products listed in Part I of Annex A for which a de minimis value has not yet been obtained?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Has the party considered additional measures to achieve further reductions?

☐ Yes

☒ No

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

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

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

The Republic of Moldova does not produce, import, or use any mercury-added products listed in Part II of Annex A. Therefore, taking two or more measures listed in subparagraphs (i) to (ix) was not applicable.

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

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.

The Republic of Moldova has taken appropriate legislative and administrative measures to prevent the incorporation into assembled products of mercury-added products whose manufacture, import and export are not allowed under Article 4 of the Minamata Convention.

The Republic of Moldova has implemented national measures under Law No. 277/2018 on chemical substances and related regulations to prevent the placing on the market, including incorporation into assembled products, of mercury-added products whose manufacture, import, or export is prohibited under Article 4 of the Minamata Convention. These measures include the prohibition of mercury-added products since 1 January 2021, strengthened controls on import/export of hazardous chemicals, and ongoing development of a list of prohibited chemical substances and articles under the chemical law framework.

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.

The Republic of Moldova discourages the manufacture and distribution in commerce of mercury-added products not covered by any known use through national legal and regulatory measures, including restrictions on placing mercury-added products on the market, controls under the chemical substances legislation, import/export controls, and the absence of domestic manufacturing of such products.

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)

If yes, please provide information on these measures.

The Republic of Moldova does not have any facilities for mercury-based chlor-alkali production. However, measures are in place through the national legal framework for chemicals management, including Law No. 277/2018 on Chemicals and Government Decision No. 505/2020 on the export and import of hazardous chemicals, to prevent the use of mercury or mercury compounds in chlor-alkali production after the applicable phase-out date. A national list of restricted and prohibited chemical substances is currently in draft and under public consultation. No exemptions have been registered under Article 6 of the Minamata Convention.

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

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

☐ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

If yes, please provide information on these measures.

The same response applies as provided for Chlor-alkali production.

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)

If yes, please provide information on these measures.

No facilities exist in the Republic of Moldova for any of the processes listed in Annex B of the Minamata Convention. Measures are in place through the national legal framework for chemicals management (Law No. 277/2018 on Chemicals and Government Decision No. 505/2020 on the export and import of hazardous chemicals) to prevent or restrict the use of mercury or mercury compounds in all these processes. A national list of restricted and prohibited chemical substances is currently in draft and under public consultation. No exemptions have been registered under Article 6 of the Minamata Convention.

SODIUM OR POTASSIUM METHYLATE OR ETHYLATE

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

If yes, please provide information on these measures.

The same response applies as provided for Vinyl chloride monomer production.

PRODUCTION OF POLYURETHANE USING MERCURY-CONTAINING CATALYSTS

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

If yes, please provide information on these measures.

The same response applies as provided for Vinyl chloride monomer production.

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.

The Republic of Moldova has discouraged the development of any new facility using manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are intentionally used, which did not exist prior to the entry into force of the Minamata Convention. No such facilities have been established. Measures are in place through the national legal framework for chemicals management (Law No. 277/2018 on Chemicals and Government Decision No. 505/2020 on the export and import of hazardous chemicals) to prevent the introduction of such processes. No exemptions have been registered under Article 6.

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

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Part E – Additional comments on this article

There are no artisanal and small-scale gold mining or processing operations using mercury or mercury compounds in the Republic of Moldova.

▼ 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)

There are no new sources of mercury emissions in Annex D categories in the Republic of Moldova. Therefore, the requirement to implement BAT/BEP for new sources within five years after the entry into force of the Convention is not applicable.

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

Not applicable; no such facilities exist.

Progress

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▼ COAL-FIRED INDUSTRIAL BOILERS

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

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

Measures

Not applicable; no such facilities exist.

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

Not applicable; no such facilities exist.

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

Not applicable; no such facilities exist.

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

Lafarge Ciment (Moldova) S.A. operates under national environmental legislation, including air emission standards, permitting, and monitoring. Measures under paragraph 5 of Article 8 are applied through general emission controls. Progress: emissions are regulated through permitting and compliance monitoring, although no specific BAT/BEP measures for mercury are required, as this facility is not classified as a new source under the Convention.

Progress

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Have not been a party for 5 years

If no such inventory exists, please explain

The Republic of Moldova has not prepared a specific inventory of mercury emissions from relevant sources within five years of the entry into force of the Minamata Convention. Existing sources, such as cement clinker production at Lafarge Ciment (Moldova) S.A., are regulated under national environmental legislation, and emissions are monitored through environmental permits and compliance requirements.

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

Part E – Additional comments on this article

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▼ ART. 9: RELEASES

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

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Do not know (please explain)

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

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

Part E – Additional comments on this article

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

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

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No (please explain)
- ☐ Do not know (please explain)

If no, please explain

The Republic of Moldova does not have any mercury or mercury compounds intended for a use allowed under the Minamata Convention. Therefore, interim storage of non-waste mercury is not applicable. Existing legal frameworks, including Law No. 277/2018 on Chemicals and related regulations, ensure that if mercury were to be used, it would have to be managed and stored in an environmentally sound manner.

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

Please see below for a description of the measures implemented and their effectiveness.

☒ 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)

Please describe measure and effectiveness of measures

Please see below for a description of the measures implemented and their effectiveness.

☒ 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

Please see below for a description of the measures implemented and their effectiveness.

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.

The Republic of Moldova manages mercury waste in accordance with Law No. 209/2016 on Waste and related secondary legislation, specifically Government Decision No. 144/2024 approving the Regulation on the environmentally sound management of mercury waste.

Mercury waste is collected, stored, and handled by authorized operators under regulatory supervision by the Ministry of Environment.

These measures ensure that mercury waste is managed in a manner that reduces the risk of releases to the environment. While there are currently no national facilities for recycling or recovery of mercury, any export for environmentally sound disposal is regulated and monitored in accordance with the Basel Convention.

The effectiveness of these measures is reflected in the legal controls and oversight mechanisms that prevent uncontrolled releases of mercury. Ongoing efforts focus on improving data collection on mercury waste streams, strengthening institutional capacity, and exploring potential infrastructure development to further align with Article 11(3) of the Minamata Convention.

The effectiveness of these measures is reflected in the legal controls, regulatory oversight, traceability, and staff training that prevent uncontrolled releases of mercury. Ongoing efforts focus on improving data collection, strengthening institutional capacity, and exploring potential infrastructure for recycling or recovery.

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

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▼ ART. 12: CONTAMINATED SITES

12.1: Has the party endeavoured to develop strategies for identifying and assessing sites contaminated by mercury or mercury compounds in its territory?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Please elaborate

The Republic of Moldova has initiated efforts to develop strategies for identifying and assessing sites contaminated with mercury and mercury compounds. Although there is currently no finalized national strategy specifically for mercury-contaminated sites, relevant provisions are integrated within the national waste management and environmental protection frameworks.

Ongoing efforts include:

Collecting data and assessing potential sources of contamination, including industrial activities, waste management practices, and other human activities;

Considering sites that pose significant risks to human health or the environment in accordance with national definitions;

Planning the development of a comprehensive strategy for prioritizing, assessing, and remediating contaminated sites in the future.

The Ministry of Environment continues to strengthen institutional capacity and data collection mechanisms to support the future implementation of a national strategy in line with the Minamata Convention guidance.

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

The Republic of Moldova has undertaken, within its capabilities, to provide resources for national activities aimed at implementing the Minamata Convention. These resources include financial, technical, and capacity-building support allocated through the Ministry of Environment and other relevant authorities. The support is provided in accordance with national policies, priorities, plans, and programmes, covering activities such as mercury waste management, monitoring, and institutional capacity development.

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 Republic of Moldova has not contributed to the mechanism referred to in paragraph 5 of article 13 (Global Environment Facility and the Specific International Programme) during the reporting period. This is due to limited national financial capacities and other budgetary priorities. The country continues to monitor opportunities and may consider contributing to these mechanisms in the future, particularly in the context of capacity-building and technical assistance initiatives.

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

The Republic of Moldova has not provided financial resources to assist developing-country parties or parties with economies in transition through bilateral, regional, or multilateral sources or channels other than the mechanism referred to in paragraph 5 of article 13. This is due to limited national financial capacities and other domestic budgetary priorities. Opportunities for future contributions will be considered as circumstances allow.

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 Republic of Moldova has not provided capacity-building or technical assistance to other parties to the Minamata Convention during the reporting period. This is due to limited national capacities and other domestic priorities. Opportunities for providing such assistance may be considered in the future, depending on available resources and requests from other parties.

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please specify

During the reporting period, the Republic of Moldova did not formally receive capacity-building or technical assistance from other Parties to the Minamata Convention under article 14. While Moldova has benefitted from international technical support projects related to implementation of the Minamata Convention (e.g., SIP UNEP project for building phase-down capacities and reducing risks associated with mercury), there are no records indicating direct assistance from another Party to the Convention.

Please provide comments, if any.

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14.3: Has the party promoted and facilitated the development, transfer and diffusion of and access to, up-to-date environmentally sound alternative technologies?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Other

Please provide information

The Republic of Moldova has not yet directly promoted or facilitated the development, transfer, or diffusion of environmentally sound alternative technologies to other parties during the reporting period. However, Moldova has plans to explore and implement such activities in the future, including collaboration with international organizations, regional centres, and private sector stakeholders to strengthen national capacities and support implementation 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 Republic of Moldova has taken measures during the period 2021–2024 to inform the public about exposure to mercury. Key actions include:

Development and dissemination of the “Communication and Awareness Strategy on Reducing Mercury Exposure Risks” (2021–2023), prepared under the SIP UNEP project, aimed at increasing awareness among institutions, civil society, academia, and the public about mercury risks.

Public events and workshops, including a final conference in 2023 under the SIP UNEP project, presenting project outcomes, mercury risks, and national efforts to reduce exposure.

Training and awareness activities conducted in collaboration with the NGO E-CIRCULAR and the Ministry of Environment, educating over 60 public and private sector representatives on mercury-related issues and safe waste management practices.

Dissemination of information through official Ministry of Environment channels, including guidance on hazardous substances and mercury-containing products, to raise general public awareness.

These measures have increased public awareness of mercury risks, particularly among vulnerable populations. A comprehensive national strategy for systematic public education on mercury exposure is planned for future implementation.

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

The Republic of Moldova has not implemented specific human health protection measures beyond public information activities regarding mercury exposure during the reporting period (2021–2024). While the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Environment have communicated about the risks of mercury and supported the phasing out of mercury-containing products (such as thermometers) to reduce exposure risks, no dedicated national health programmes, screening initiatives, or treatment protocols specifically targeting mercury exposure have been published on the Ministry of Health’s official platforms for this period.

▼ 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

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☒ 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

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☐ 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))

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))

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Part E – Additional comments on this article

During the reporting period 2021–2024, the Republic of Moldova has facilitated the exchange of information referred to in article 17, paragraph 1. This includes:

Submission of the national report and relevant data to the Minamata Convention Secretariat;

Dissemination of information on mercury risks, reduction measures, and technically and economically viable alternatives to mercury-added products and processes through the Ministry of Environment's website and public consultations;

Participation in multilateral information-sharing platforms and activities organized under the Minamata Convention framework, including collaboration with relevant international organizations.

While bilateral or direct exchanges with other Parties were limited, Moldova's contributions through the Secretariat, public dissemination, and multilateral platforms constitute active facilitation of information exchange under article 17, paragraph 1.

▼ 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

Education, training, and public awareness activities have been promoted through:

Awareness campaigns in the field of environmental protection and public health;

Dissemination of educational and informational materials;

Collaboration with intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, and other stakeholders, as appropriate, including within broader initiatives related to chemicals and waste management.

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

Part E – Additional comments on this article

During the reporting period, the Republic of Moldova has taken measures, within its capabilities, to promote and facilitate public access to information on mercury and mercury compounds. Relevant information has been made publicly available through official government channels, including the websites of the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Health, ensuring that the public is informed about mercury-related health, environmental, and regulatory matters. Some of the information has been provided under article 16.1 of this report.

▼ 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

{Empty}

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

{Empty}

☒ 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

{Empty}

(Art. 19 (1) (a)–(g))

Part E – Additional comments on this article

During the reporting period, the Republic of Moldova has undertaken research, development and monitoring activities related to mercury and mercury compounds, within its capabilities. As part of implementing its obligations under the Minamata Convention, national authorities have adopted regulatory and policy measures to manage mercury risks, including the prohibition of the import of devices and products containing mercury starting in 2022.

National environmental monitoring activities are carried out by the State Hydrometeorological Service (SHS), through its Environmental Quality Monitoring Department, which systematically monitors air, surface water and soil across the country, contributing to data collection and evaluation on pollution levels and environmental parameters. The Environmental Agency also collects and analyzes environmental data, including emissions and releases of pollutants, and is actively involved in the management and monitoring of mercury-containing waste, supporting research and evaluation of mercury-related risks.

This integrated monitoring framework informs policy development, regulatory efforts, and national strategies aimed at reducing mercury risks and ensuring compliance with the Minamata Convention obligations.

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

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

During the reporting period, the Republic of Moldova has made significant efforts to implement the obligations under the Minamata Convention. However, some challenges remain:

Data gaps and limited research – comprehensive and up-to-date information on mercury levels in specific environmental compartments (e.g., in biota or vulnerable populations) is still limited, affecting the ability to fully assess risks and trends.

Capacity for waste management – while regulatory frameworks exist, full operationalization of mercury-containing waste collection, storage, and disposal systems requires additional technical and logistical support.

Awareness and training – further public awareness, education, and training for stakeholders are needed to ensure proper handling of mercury-containing products and compliance with regulations.

These challenges are recognized by the authorities, and ongoing efforts include strengthening monitoring systems, developing inventories, and promoting mercury-free alternatives. Sharing experiences and technical guidance with other Parties would support further improvement of implementation.

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

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

Some questions request similar or overlapping information. It would be helpful to reduce or merge such questions, or allow referencing a single response across sections, to streamline reporting and reduce workload.