

2025 FULL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Report submitted on 25 December 2025



REPORTING PERIOD:

1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party

Sierra Leone

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

1 November 2016

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

Environment Protection Agency Sierra Leone

Title of Contact Officer

Mr.

Name of Contact Officer

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3. Information about the contact officer submitting the reporting format if different from the above

Focal Point is submitting the national report

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

▼ 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.

As a party this amount never exists.

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

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

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

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

The identified stock is way below this amount

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

{Empty}

▼ ART. 4: MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS

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

Yes

No

Yes (implementing paragraph 2 of article 4)

If no, has the party registered for an exemption pursuant to article 6?

Yes

No

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

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

Yes

No

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

Engaged CSOs on health and formally launched the Mercury-free Dentistry Sierra Leone Chapter to serve as a pressure group. Next is to official engage the Ministry of Health and the Dentist Association on the amendment

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

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

Yes

No

Not applicable

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

To take effect in 2026

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.

Using the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process, such activities are not issued EIA licenses or permits. The new EPA Act, 2022, also provide strong sanctions on banned or restricted hazardous chemicals including Mercury

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.

Avoid the issuance of EIA license to such activity. Conduct awareness raising through radio and TV.

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

{Empty}

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

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

Yes

No

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

If yes, please provide information on the steps.

The new Environment Protection Agency Act, 2022 and the Mines and Minerals Resources Act both accommodated or addressed ASGM and SSGM issues accordingly. Two projects on the formalization of ASGM sector as recommended in the NAP have been implemented by GIZ. Additionally, the Sierra Leone planet Gold+ project implementation is in progress.

7.2: Has the party determined, and notified the secretariat, that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing within its territory is more than insignificant?

Yes

No

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

Yes

No

In progress

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

{Empty}

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

Sierra Leone is part of the project under development by UNEP on the review of NAPs. Once this is done, the updated review will be submitted

▼ 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

Waste incineration facilities

Large-scale mining companies operated waste incineration. There is also indiscriminate burning of waste all over the country. There is also a company in the pipeline to convert waste to energy using biological methods. One company has also been granted an Environmental Impact Assessment License to convert waste into energy (electricity) by incineration, but it's yet to start operations. In another development, most hospitals and clinics do have incinerators, but as a matter of fact, most of them do not meet the temperature requirement, which means these hospitals and clinics that do have incinerators are practicing basic burning. Some do not even function. There is one new incinerator that is meant for medical waste and obsolete pharmaceutical products.

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

Ideally, practical incineration has not yet started in Sierra Leone for the general public. It's merely controlled and indiscriminate burning. The large-scale companies that operate incinerators always adhere to internal best practices.

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

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

▼ 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

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

▼ WASTE INCINERATION FACILITIES

- A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- 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

Nothing has been done yet

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

Constraint with funding for implementation. Looking forward to partners

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

{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)

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 do not know, please explain

This exercise is yet to be started. No such facility available

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

If no, please explain

Waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds are yet to be identified and classified

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

Sierra Leone currently has no engineered landfill site. However, two projects are in the pipeline. One to construct an engineered landfill site and the AFLDC II project

▼ ART. 12: CONTAMINATED SITES

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

Yes

No

Please elaborate

In progress for ASGM under the planetGold+ project.

A detailed assessment needs to be conducted with the required equipment. Currently, this equipment is lacking, especially those handhelds.

Part E – Additional comments on this article

A metallizer has been procured. The XRF is in progress.

▼ 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

member of the SLPs project, reviewing of the ASGM NAP project, and the AFLDC II project. A metallizer for the analysis of Mercury has also been acquired. An XRF procurement is in progress.

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 Party is an LDC

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

By providing co-financing funds for the stated projects above.

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

An MoU has been signed between Sierra Leone and Liberia for cordial implementation and exchange programmes for all conventions.

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

Yes

No

Please specify

Capacity building on analyzing mercury for all matrices is highly needed

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

Two projects has been successfully implemented with support from GIZ, one in the South and one in the North regions, respectively, to provide mercury-free technologies in the ASGM sector

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.

Community meetings/engagements were conducted, and radio and television programs were aired nationwide. MDAs, CSOs and CBOs were also engaged extensively

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.

The Public Health Strategy specified in the NAP for the ASGM sector has been initiated as a project with

Ministry of Health, with support from WHO. To strengthen this, the government has established the National Public Health Agency as the lead institution on such matters

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

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

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

{Empty}

Alternatives to mercury and mercury compounds

Alternatives to mercury and mercury compounds

ASGM sector

The topics identified in paragraph 1 of article 17

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

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

An assessment on LFLs will be undertaken in 2026.

Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention

Activities to meet its obligations under the Convention

To conduct engagement with MoH/dentists/dentistries on dental amalgam

(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

1. Awareness-raising has helped communities to accept the usage of Mercury in ASGM
2. The Ministry of Basic and Higher Education has included environmental studies in the curriculum right from the kindergarten level.

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

Part E – Additional comments on this article

{Empty}

▼ ART. 19: RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING

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

Yes

No

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

Part E – Additional comments on this article

However, we currently developing a National Pollutant Inventory in which mercury will be captured

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

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

1. Availability of funding to implement certain programmes
2. Capacity building
3. Government failure to fully prioritize chemical issues

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

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

Format satisfactory