

2025 FULL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Report submitted on 19 October 2025

*Question 8.2 amended by Uganda on 19 February 2026



REPORTING PERIOD:

1 January 2021 to 31 December 2024

Attachments can be found on the website

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party

Uganda

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

1 March 2019

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

30 May 2019

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution

National Environment Management Authority

Title of Contact Officer

Ms.

Name of Contact Officer

Anne Nakafeero

Mailing address

ann.nakafeero@nema.go.ug

Telephone number

+256 41 4425068

Fax number

{Empty}

E-mail

uganda@localhost

Second E-mail

nakafeero@yahoo.com

Web page

<https://www.nema.go.ug>

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

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

If the party answered no – consent was not given, please provide information on the trade which was not in compliance with the Convention, the challenges met by the party and/or its needs in meeting the requirements of paragraphs 6 and 7 of article 3.

Response to request for written consent for the import of mercury from Mexico to UGANDA under the Minamata Convention. Application Number: 09/AM-0083/06/20.

A request for consent to export 12,00kg of Mercury from Mexico to Uganda was made to the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) dated 13 July 2020.

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

On 27 July 2024, A whistle blower (yobsonugandaltd@gmail.com;) reported the illegal trade quantity of Mercury mentioned the contract 3000, 9000 & 25972.5 Kgs is illegal trade as per the Uganda Government.

Below is the response about the export of specified mercury quantities in Uganda that the National Environment Management Authority made:

Uganda did not have primary mercury mining activities within its territory at the date of entry into force of the Minamata Convention on Mercury (16 August 2017) and hence is not a primary source of mercury supply/primary exporter of mercury.

Uganda ratified the Minamata Convention on Mercury on 1 March 2019 and became bound to implement the provisions of the Minamata Convention in Mercury.

Since the ratification, Uganda has put in place measures to reduce mercury supply and trade within its territory.

Such measures have included prohibition of use of mercury in mining.

Since 1st March 2019 to date, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) on behalf of Government of Uganda has not received written consent from any importing Party of mercury for a use allowed to the importing Party under the Minamata Convention on Mercury including for Environmentally sound interim storage as set out in Article 10 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

In addition, NEMA on behalf of Government of Uganda has not received any written consent from any importing non-Party of mercury for use in accordance with Article 3 of the Minamata Convention in Mercury.

Therefore, the export of mercury (Hg) of 3000 Kgs on 03rd November 2022; 9000 Hg Kgs on 28th November 2022 and 13972.5 Hg Kgs on 31st December 2022 (Total 25972.5 Hg Kgs) from Uganda as specified in your email/notice to us was not authorized by the National Environment Management Authority on behalf of Government of Uganda.

▼ 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.

Uganda has strengthened the legal framework to cover management of Mercury Added Products as follows:

a) Part 74 of the National Environment Act, CAP 181, covers the Management of products containing mercury

b) The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 covers measures that do 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

c) In October 2025, the National Environment Management Authority notified Government Sectors including Customs, Ministry of Health, National Drug Authority, Ministry of Education and Sports, Uganda National Bureau of Standards, Private Sector Foundation, Ministry of Trade Industry and Cooperatives, Private Sector Foundation, the Public Procurement and Disposal Authority of the need to take 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

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.

The National Drug Authority is in the process of classifying dental amalgam as a drug hence it will have restricted importation and use.

Part 74 of the National Environment Act, CAP 181, covers the Management of products containing mercury

Section 46 (Dental amalgam and vaccines containing thiomersal as preservatives) of the National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 covers many 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: (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.

Section 46 (Dental amalgam and vaccines containing thiomersal as preservatives) of the National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 covers cessation to use mercury in bulk form for dental restoration among others

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.

Section 44. (Prohibition and restrictions on use of mercury or mercury compounds) of the National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 covers 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.

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 National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 covers measures to discourage the manufacture and the distribution in commerce of mercury-added products not covered by any known use in accordance with article 4, paragraph 6

Part E – Additional comments on this article

None

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

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Do not know

If yes, please provide information on measures taken to address emissions and releases of mercury or mercury compounds from such facilities.

i. The National Environment Act CAP 181 gave special attention to the management of mercury and mercury compounds. In particular, Part 74. that relates to Management of products containing mercury and Part 179. that relates to Regulations

ii. The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 provides for phase out of processes listed under Annex B of the Minamata Convention after phase out date

iii. The National Environment (Air Quality Standards) Regulations, 2024
Provides for ambient air quality standards; occupational air quality emission limits; fugitive emission reduction measures; hazardous ambient air pollutants cover mercury (Time-weighted Average – annual – 1 µg/m³)

If available, please provide information on the number and type of facilities and the estimated annual amount of mercury or mercury compounds used in those facilities.

At the time of undertaking the national inventory on mercury sources and emissions from 2017 to 2018, no Chlor-alkali production; Acetaldehyde production and Vinyl chloride monomer production using mercury or mercury compounds was revealed.

The National Minamata Initial Assessments report of 2018, revealed annual total mercury emissions of 197.64 kg from Production of polyurethane using mercury containing catalysts.

On 22nd October 2021, during a national stakeholder preparatory meeting for COP4.1, it was reported that polyurethane using mercury as a catalyst may be used in a wide range of products in Uganda including production of adhesives and mattresses. When products get exposed to Ultra Violet light, abrasions etc. mercury is released.

The UNEP toolkit did not provide for the assessment of Mercury using processes like production of Sodium or Potassium Methylete or Ethylete.

However, continued national stakeholder engagement on mercury pollution in 2021, revealed that in Uganda, polyurethane using mercury as a catalyst is used in a wide range of products like adhesives, mattress production.

In 2025, NEMA's consultation with manufacturers revealed that VCM is used but not using mercury as a catalyst. Itsm

It would require an updated inventory of mercury sources to be able to confirm which facilities could be producing polyurethane using mercury as a catalyst and possibly using other processes highlighted in Annex B of the Minamata Convention.

Please provide information on how much mercury (in metric tons) is used in the processes listed in the two first entries of Part II of Annex B in the last year of the reporting period.
The facilities have not been mapped

Please provide information on how much mercury (in metric tons) is used in the processes listed in the two first entries of Part II of Annex B in the last year of the reporting period.

The National Minamata Initial Assessments report of 2018, revealed annual total mercury emissions of 197.64 kg from Production of polyurethane using mercury containing catalysts.

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.

i. The National Environment Act CAP 181 gave special attention to the management of mercury and mercury compounds. In particular, Part 74. that relates to Management of products containing mercury and Part 179. that relates to Regulations

ii. The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 provides for phase out of processes listed under Annex B of the Minamata Convention after phase out date

iii. Government sectors and private sector have been communicated to (October 2025) in writing by the National Environment Management Authority to put in place measures to 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

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.

i. The National Environment Act CAP 181 gave special attention to the management of mercury and mercury compounds. In particular, Part 74. that relates to Management of products containing mercury and Part 179. that relates to Regulations

ii. The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 provides for phase out of processes listed under Annex B of the Minamata Convention after phase out date

iii. Government sectors and private sector have been communicated to (October 2025) in writing by the National Environment Management Authority to put in place measures to 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

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.

i. The National Environment Act CAP 181 gave special attention to the management of mercury and mercury compounds. In particular, Part 74. that relates to Management of products containing mercury and Part 179. that relates to Regulations

- ii. The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 provides for phase out of processes listed under Annex B of the Minamata Convention after phase out date
- iii. Government sectors and private sector have been communicated to (October 2025) in writing by the National Environment Management Authority to put in place measures 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

SODIUM OR POTASSIUM METHYLATE OR ETHYLATE

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

If yes, please provide information on these measures.

i. The National Environment Act CAP 181 gave special attention to the management of mercury and mercury compounds. In particular, Part 74. that relates to Management of products containing mercury and Part 179. that relates to Regulations

ii. The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 provides for phase out of processes listed under Annex B of the Minamata Convention after phase out date

iii. Government sectors and private sector have been communicated to (October 2025) in writing by the National Environment Management Authority to put in place measures 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

PRODUCTION OF POLYURETHANE USING MERCURY-CONTAINING CATALYSTS

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

If yes, please provide information on these measures.

i. The National Environment Act CAP 181 gave special attention to the management of mercury and mercury compounds. In particular, Part 74. that relates to Management of products containing mercury and Part 179. that relates to Regulations

ii. The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024 provides for phase out of processes listed under Annex B of the Minamata Convention after phase out date

iii. Government sectors and private sector have been communicated to (October 2025) in writing by the National Environment Management Authority to put in place measures 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

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.

ii. The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024

Part E – Additional comments on this article

None

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

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

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

If yes, please provide information on the steps.

The Mining and Minerals Act, 2022 indicates that, miners are prohibited from using mercury; all artisans prohibited from using cyanide

The National Environment Act, CAP 181 covers restrictions on mercury use in ASGM

The National Environment (Air Quality Standards) Regulations, 2024, provides for ambient air quality standards; occupational air quality emission limits; fugitive emission reduction measures; hazardous ambient air pollutants cover mercury (Time-weighted Average – annual – 1 µg/m³)

The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024, prohibits use mercury and mercury compounds or release emissions of mercury from gold and other mining and processing activities

The Occupational Safety & Health (OSH) Act Cap 231 (as amended 2025). Part 2 requires employers to ensure chemical safety including eliminating hazardous chemicals from their production process. Mercury is one such chemicals

Draft guidelines for the management of mercury alternative hazardous chemicals in artisanal and small scale gold mining developed and ready for presentation to top management.

The Mining and Minerals (Artisanal Mining) Regulations 2025
The Toxic Chemicals Prohibition and Control Regulations (2024)

Creation of ASM zones in areas of known artisanal gold. Zoning is now provided for in ASM regulations 2025

Facilitating formation of Miner organisations

Undertaking of miner trainings and facilitating miner school field trainings

Undertaking Miner Benchmarking the demonstration of the VAT (Micro) Leaching technology, Mine Laboratory Assessments

Procuring of Equipment to support gold processing at AGM demonstration sites under planetGOLD project

(E.g., Centrifugal, Concentrators, Upgraders, gold cubes, and smelting furnace)–underway

Uganda is participating in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and harmonizing licensing processes to ensure sustainability and environmental protection.

Financial institutions demand evidence of environmental compliance to country regulations and or international audit schemes such as ISO 14000–2015 as a condition for issuance of loans or grants

Uganda has commenced the Domestic Gold Purchase Program (DGPP) under the Central Bank of Uganda.

Gold purchases exclusively in Uganda (more than 80% of gold mined by ASM). Giving price incentives for mercury free gold. Many ASM groups have committed to eliminate mercury use from gold recovery so as to benefit

Relevant Government Ministries are undertaking inspection, training, public dialogues, and sensitization of artisanal miners in regards to environmental management, health and safety.

Since 2021, artisanal miners are being registered by the government so as to keep track of all the mining activities

Government is in the process of licensing all mining activities within the country. Over 15000 artisan miners that have been entered in the biometric registration system for gold

Ministry of Health in collaboration with sectors including NEMA have developed the National Environmental Health Strategy, 2025–2030, covering among others the management of mercury added products in the health care sector

Ministry of health in collaboration with sectors including NEMA are developing the National Health Care Waste Management Operational Guidelines 2025–2030 covering among others the management of waste containing hazardous chemicals including mercury in the health care sector

Government of Uganda developed a Mining and Mineral Policy for Uganda 2018. The goal of the policy is to develop the mining industry through increased investment, value addition, national participation and revenue generation to contribute significantly to socioeconomic transformation and poverty eradication. One of the Policy Objectives is to organize and legislate artisanal and small scale mining in Uganda and to promote and protect Health, Safety and Environment in the mineral industry.

The National Environment Management Authority developed an Ordinance against mercury use in Buhweju District. The Ordinance is called “The Local Governments (Buhweju District) (Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Management) Ordinance, 2017”.

The National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining, 2019

Uganda is a member of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in August 2020

The Directorate of Geological Survey and mines launched the Biometric Registration of ASM in March 2019. A Ledger of known ASM is being developed. Implementation challenges include financial resources, skills and technology gap (collection of biometric markers and social information of ASM stakeholders). The activity is funded by government of Uganda.

In August 2017 the Government of Uganda instituted the Police Mineral Protection Unit (PMPU) to facilitate the Formalization of ASM communities and enforce the use of standard OSHE practices. PMPU is deployed at Licensed ASM sites. This is facilitated by GoU. Implementation challenges include human resources, financial resources, skills and technology gap, Equipment gap.

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

The RIA process is yet to commence

▼ 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)

Uganda has no new sources of emissions of mercury or mercury compounds falling under Annex D.

At the time of Uganda's Ratification of the Minamata Convention on mercury, Uganda had confirmed existence of point sources of emissions of mercury and mercury compounds to the atmosphere from waste incineration facilities (incineration of hazardous waste–67kg/Hg/y; incineration of medical waste–70 kg/Hg/y; informal waste burning–5,185kg/Hg/Yr); cement production (236kg/Hg/y). This was revealed in the National MIAs study of 2018. Whereas no new source categories may be in existence, the number of waste incineration facilities have increases and yet it is not certain that they have good pollution abatement for mercury emissions. The level of industrialization is increasing gradually, there might be unknown sources of mercury emissions from categories under Annex D. There is need for a baseline study.

However, more emphasis has been put on management of hazardous waste including medical waste as opposed to management of emissions from waste incineration facilities and cement clinker production facilities.

The National Environment (Air Quality Standards) Regulations, 2024

Provides for ambient air quality standards; occupational air quality emission limits; fugitive emission reduction measures; hazardous ambient air pollutants cover mercury (Time-weighted Average – annual – 1 µg/m³)

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

The National Environment (Air Quality Standards) Regulations, 2024 , Provides for ambient air quality standards; occupationnel air quality émission limits; fugitive emission reduction measures; hazardous ambient air pollutants cover mercury (Time-weighted Average – annual – 1 µg/m3)

The Occupational Safety & Health (OSH) Act Cap 231(as amended 2025). Part 2 requires employers to ensure chemical safety including eliminating hazardous chemicals from their production process. Mercury is one such chemicals

The Toxic Chemicals Prohibition and Control Regulations (2024)

Progress

With regard to the progress of measures on waste incineration facilities and cement clinker production no targeted baseline studies have been undertaken to map waste incineration

facilities and cement clinker production. The progress being reported on is regulatory.

▼ 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

The National Environment (Air Quality Standards) Regulations, 2024 , Provides for ambient air quality standards; occupational air quality emission limits; fugitive emission reduction measures; hazardous ambient air pollutants cover mercury (Time-weighted Average – annual – 1 µg/m3)

The Occupational Safety & Health (OSH) Act Cap 231(as amended 2025). Part 2 requires employers to ensure chemical safety including eliminating hazardous chemicals from their production process. Mercury is one such chemicals

The Toxic Chemicals Prohibition and Control Regulations (2024)

Progress

With regard to the progress of measures on waste incineration facilities and cement clinker production no targeted baseline studies have been undertaken to map waste incineration facilities and cement clinker production. The progress being reported on is regulatory.

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?

1 March 2018

Please indicate where this inventory is available

Uganda prepared a National Minamata Initial Assessments in 2018. Uploaded on Minamata Website

Attach

- [UGA_8.3.pdf](#)

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.

Uganda carried out level 1 and level 2 inventory using the UNEP Tool Kit.

Cement clinker production facilities

Cement production accounts for 100% under this source category

Waste incineration facilities

Informal waste burning accounts for 97.4% under this source category

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

Funds are limited to prepare a national plan setting out the measures to be taken to control emissions from relevant sources.

Art. 9: Releases

▼ 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)

Please explain

Uganda has no relevant sources of mercury emissions. All source categories of mercury emissions are covered by the Convention.

Uganda has taken various measures to control mercury releases as follows:

A. Mercury and mercury compounds given special attention in the "Guidelines for the Management of Landfills in Uganda (NEMA, December 2020)", for example

i. Environmental Monitoring of a Landfill

Mercury is regarded as one of the Leachate components

ii. Groundwater monitoring

Parameters for analysis for Groundwater monitoring includes mercury in mg/l with no levels

indicated but monitored on a quarterly basis.

iii. Surface water monitoring

Mercury (Hg) levels of 0.01 mg/l as an indicator parameters for surface water monitoring on a Quarterly (4 times a year)

iv. Leachate and leachate sediment monitoring

Mercury (Hg) in µg/l and 0.02 mg/kg TS leachate detection limit whereas Leachate Sediment detection limit is 0.2 and is monitored 2 Or 4 times a year

B. The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024

C. Mercury and mercury compounds given special attention in The National Environment (Standards for Discharge of Effluent into Water or Land) Regulations, 2020".

–Total metal includes: arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, gold, lead, mercury nickel, selenium, silver and vanadium.

–Schedule 3—Standards for Inorganic Substances Effluent Discharge

–Mercury has Maximum permissible Limit of 0.01 mg/L

–Schedule 5 — Permit to Discharge Effluent into Water or Land

Part E – Additional comments on this article

All sources of releases are covered by the Convention. However a baseline study on mercury releases is required to supplement on the National Minamata Initial Assessment study of 2018 so as to rule out any new sources.

▼ 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.

Uganda has integrated the guidelines on the environmentally sound interim storage of mercury, other than waste mercury that were adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on mercury, into its environmental legal framework.

The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024

Part E – Additional comments on this article

None

▼ ART. 11: MERCURY WASTES

11.1: Have measures outlined in article 11, paragraph 3, been implemented for the party's mercury waste?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☒ Yes – the party has taken measures so that mercury waste is managed in an environmentally sound manner

Please describe measure and effectiveness of measures

Industries and private sector periodically report on their compliance to environment standards set out in the laws/regulations below:

The National Environment Act, CAP 181 covers the management of mercury in products & processes

The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024

THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT (WASTE MANAGEMENT) REGULATIONS, 2020

The Petroleum (Waste Management) Regulations, 2019

THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT (STANDARDS FOR DISCHARGE OF EFFLUENT INTO WATER OR LAND) REGULATIONS, 2020.

☐ Yes – the party has taken measures so that mercury waste is recovered, recycled, reclaimed or directly re-used for a use allowed to a party under the Convention or for environmentally sound disposal pursuant to paragraph 3 (a)

☐ Yes – the party has taken measures so that mercury waste is not transported across international boundaries except for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal

If the party answered yes to any measures above, please describe the measures implemented pursuant to paragraph 3, and please also describe the effectiveness of those measures.

Measures are covered under the following laws & regulations:

The National Environment Act, CAP 181 covers the management of mercury in products & processes

The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024

THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT (WASTE MANAGEMENT) REGULATIONS, 2020

The Petroleum (Waste Management) Regulations, 2019

THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT (STANDARDS FOR DISCHARGE OF EFFLUENT INTO WATER OR LAND) REGULATIONS, 2020.

Ministry of Health in collaboration with sectors including NEMA are developing the National Health Care Waste Management Operational Guidelines 2025–2030 covering among others the management of waste containing hazardous chemicals including mercury in the health care sector

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)

If the party answered yes to any measures above, please select from the following

☒ Yes – there are facilities in the party's territory

☐ Yes – there are facilities outside the party's territory accessible to the party (in accordance with paragraph 5 of article 11)

If there are facilities in the party's territory and if the information is available, how much waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds has been subject to final disposal under the reporting period? Please specify the method of the final disposal operation/operations. If the party does not have specific data on waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds, the party may report on the data including other mercury waste, with an explanatory note.

There are no standalone facilities for final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds in the party's territory. Existing facilities handle hazardous waste with all sorts of chemicals. Given that no segregation of hazardous waste is carried out at the point of generation, it is difficult to confirm the chemical content of/waste stream and hence no information is available on quantities of waste containing mercury. The method of final disposal of hazardous waste including waste containing mercury is incineration in most cases where flue gas is not condensed and sludge stabilized.

Kindly attach any additional relevant information

{Empty}

Part E – Additional comments on this article

None

▼ ART. 12: CONTAMINATED SITES

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please elaborate

The National Environment Act, CAP 181 covers the management of mercury in products & processes

The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024. Provides for chemical contaminated sites: remediation of sites contaminated by hazardous chemicals, including persistent organic pollutants, mercury or mercury compounds, lead, cyanide, arsenic and polonium

Part E – Additional comments on this article

None

▼ ART. 13: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISM

13.1: Has the party undertaken to provide, within its capabilities, resources in respect of those national activities that are intended to implement the Convention in accordance with its national policies, priorities, plans and programmes?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please specify

Government of Uganda has fully funded the following interventions:

i. The Occupational Safety & Health (OSH) Act Cap 231(as amended 2025). Part 12 requires employers to ensure chemical safety including eliminating hazardous chemicals from their production. Mercury is one such chemicals

iii. The Toxic Chemicals Prohibition and Control Regulations 2021

iv. The Mining and Minerals Act,2022

v. Biometric Registration of Artisanal and Small–scale Miners Project.

vii. Creation of ASM zones in areas of known artisanal gold. Mining activities

viii. Payment of Minamata subscription fees

Government of Uganda has co–financed the following interventions

i. The Toxic Chemicals Prohibition and Control (TCPC) Act 2016 for the management of chemicals listed under Chemicals Weapons Convention (CWC)– supported by the Organisation for the prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

ii. Draft guidelines for the management of mercury alternative hazardous chemicals in artisanal and small scale gold mining developed and ready for presentation to top management. Stakeholder consultations supported by planetGOLD project – 2024

iii. Occupational Safety and Health training of ASGM supported by plametGOLD project

iv.The National Environment (Air Quality Standards) Regulations, 2024 supported by plametGOLD project

vi.The National Environment Act, CAP 181

vii.The National Environment (Management of Hazardous Chemicals and Products Containing Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations, 2024

viii.National Activities under the WHO mercury containing medical devices project

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.

Through annual subscriptions

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

Uganda is a developing country.

Please provide comments, if any.

None

Part E – Additional comments on this article

None

▼ 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

Uganda is a developing country

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please specify

A. Support to Government:

Uganda received support from GEF through UNEP to undertake the following projects:

- i. Development of Minamata Initial Assessments project in Africa
- ii. Regional project on development of National Action Plans for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining
- iii. planetGOLD project
- iv. WHO medical devices project

B. Support to NGOs:

Non-Governmental Organizations in Uganda have been supported by developed countries to undertake the following:

- i. The National Association of Practicing Environmentalists (NAPE) has promoted mercury free methodologies among artisanal small-scale gold miners through establishing demonstration sites in Kassanda District from 2019 to April 2021. Also other miners from Buhweju, Namayingo and Mubende have been involved in these trainings. A Mercury free (gravity concentration) demonstration site was established at Kayonza, Kassanda district and miners continue to learn on the safer alternatives installed at the demonstration site. Kayonza mining site has about 2000 miners. Mining communities have appreciated the dangers associated with mercury use. This was evidenced from their demand for mercury free alternatives during our different engagements. This was under the Small grants program of GEF-UNDP. Mindset change towards acceptability of alternatives to mercury use is still so low among the miners and this somehow affects the efforts of the mercury free campaign activities.
- ii. NAPE developed and disseminated awareness raising materials on the impacts of mercury use on the environment and information on the alternatives being promoted in Kassanda, Mubende, Buhweju, Namayingo, Busia Districts from 2018-June 2021. This increased appreciation of the

dangers of mercury use and the need to shift to safer alternatives. This was observed after many miners called for more materials and requesting NAPE to organize trainings in this regard as well introducing them to many alternatives. Because of limited funds NAPE was not able to print more materials and translate them into many local languages. This activity was funded by UNEP through Ministry of Water and Environment and NEMA under the project titled "Strengthening National Institutional Capacity in Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste in Uganda". The overall project objective is to strengthen national institutional capacity to monitor and coordinate the implementation of the regulatory framework for sound management of chemicals in Uganda.

iii. In 2021, the Uganda National Association of Community and Occupational Health (UNACOH) formed mercury free/mercury phase out committees in Buhweju and Busia Districts. Two committees of 15 people each were formed. This was funded by the Government of Denmark through DIALOGOS.

iv. From December 2020 to April 2021 and in October 2021, UNACOH trained ASGMs on mercury free technique of gold extraction in districts of Busia and Buhweju Districts. Two hundred forty eight (248) ASGMs were trained. The challenge is availability of rich ore. The activity was funded by Government of Denmark through DIALOGOS.

v. Biovision-Africa (BiVA) is working to create awareness raising on mercury pollution in ASGM sector including promoting mercury-free gold processing methodology using borax in ASGM communities in three districts in Uganda namely; Buhweju, Busia and Amdati. It is doing this in collaboration with the Uganda National Association of Community and Occupational Health (UNACOH), with support from Dialogos. Dialogos is a Danish organization that promotes mercury-free gold mining technologies worldwide; demonstration facilities to train artisanal gold miners on mercury-free gold processing practices.

Please provide comments, if any.

None

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

a) January 2024–December 2024: Assessment and Sensitization of ASGM on the best practices on Mercury reduction in ASGM sites of Kitumbi, Kayonza, Lugongwe, Tiira, Bulamba, Buhere, Kagaba, Muti, Katenga, Sigulu, Cheptakol, Caphyosha, Syanyonga, Amonikakinei, Nakabaat, Rushaga, & Nyabilamula: Male: 344
Female: 228 benefited,

Objectives:

To educate miners on the best practices for reducing and eliminating mercury in gold extraction processes

To demonstrate to miners on how to use technologies like retorts to reduce on mercury exposure to miners

To demonstrate to miners on how to reactivate mercury that has lost its capacity to amalgamate

To demonstrate to miners on the use of concentrate amalgamation

To collect data in ore production capacities, gold processing methods and level mercury usage

b) January 2025 to July 2025: Benchmarking the demonstration of the VAT (Micro) Leaching technology at Kitumbi Kayonza to assess the functionality of the micro-leaching technology : Male: 31, Female:4 benefited

Mine Laboratory Assessment to determine the laboratory status and suggest areas of intervention.
Male 15
Female 4 benefited

UNACOH, NAPE, constructed demonstration sites where use of gravitational methods and borax is applied in Districts of Busia, Namayingo, Buhweju and Kassanda. Donation of centrifuges to miner groups in Busia District.

Part E – Additional comments on this article

None

▼ 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.

Through media like television talk shows in 2022, news papers, news letters, documentaries:

Mercury use and practices in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining; in NEMA News Letter, Vol 22. No.1, June 2019.

Anne Nakafeero (2016); National Environment Management Authority calls for management and control of mercury; The National Environment Management Authority News Letter, Vol 16. No.2, December 2016.

Mercury use in ASGM; in the National State of Environment, 2018–19:
National Minamata Initial Assessments report 2018

The National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Uganda 2019 Anne Nakafeero (2019); Mercury use and practices in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining;

February 2022: Television live & radio broad cast discussions, print newspaper (2 articles in 2022 & in 2018) on mercury management in Uganda

2019: Developed a documentary on mercury use and practices in the ASGM sector

(<https://web.unep.org/globalmercurypartnership/artisanal-and-small-scale-goldmining-uganda>)

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.

A) Development of strategies and guidelines:

Ministry of Health in collaboration with sectors including NEMA have developed the National Environmental Health Strategy, 2025– 2030, covering among others the management of mercury added products in the health care sector

- ministry of health in collaboration with sectors including NEMA are developing the National Health

Care Waste Management Operational Guidelines 2025–2030 covering among others the management of waste containing hazardous chemicals including mercury in the health care sector

B) May 2025: Inventory of use of mercury containing medical devices in Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital, Nsamya Hospital and interim storage facility of retrieved mercury containing devices at Luwero Industry Limited is leading to development of measures to protect human health in accordance with article 16 beyond the provision of information to the public on exposure to mercury

C) Promoting the development and implementation of strategies and programmes to identify and protect populations at risk, particularly vulnerable populations

i. The NAP on ASGM, 2019 contains a Public Health Strategy centering around reviewing and implementing a Public Health Strategy on exposure, diagnosis and treatment of mercury related complications in ASGM by 2024 through conducting a situational analysis of public health concerns in the ASGM sector which will facilitate building the capacity of health care workers and village health teams on the health effects of mercury, diagnosis and treatment of the same and equipping health facilities with diagnostic tools.

ii. The NAP on ASGM, 2019 contains a strategy for preventing exposure of vulnerable populations, particularly children, women of child-bearing age and nursing mothers from mercury used in ASGM sector by 2024 through undertaking community outreach programmes to emphasise the risks vulnerable populations face in and around mine sites; introducing alternative income generating activities to vulnerable groups to reduce their exposure to mercury; facilitating the formulation of policies that protect vulnerable populations from exposure to mercury emissions and releases and implementing labour and mining regulations prohibiting child labour in ASGM.

iii. Development of technical conditions following reviews of Environmental Impact Assessments reports covers retraction of mercury and mercury compound use especially for mining projects.

d) Adopting science-based health guidelines relating to the exposure to mercury and mercury compounds

i. No. Measure not yet undertaken

ii. Proposed measure 3: Setting targets for mercury exposure reduction, where appropriate

iii. In ASGM sector. For example, the NAP on ASGM 2019–To reduce the emissions, releases and risks of exposure to mercury by the ASGM sector by 70% by 2024 through the elimination of worst practices in ASGM (these include whole ore amalgamation, open burning of amalgam, burning of amalgam in residential areas and cyanide leaching of mercury contaminated tailings), the promotion of mercury capture technologies, and the adoption of mercury-free gold processing techniques.

e) Public education, with the participation of public health and other involved sectors

i. The Directorate of Geological Survey and Mines under Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, carries out quarterly Sensitization and training on Occupational Safety Health and Environment (OSHE) best practices at Licensed mine sites by ASM communities and stakeholders trained in best practices for OSHE at the mine site including management of mercury. Implementation challenges center on Human resources, financial resources, Skills (Training skills and use of mercury-free methods in gold extraction) and technology (new and innovative mercury-free gold extraction methods as well as training and skilling equipment like demonstration sites, projectors, portable laptops) gaps, Equipment gap. Activity funded by government of Uganda.

ii. In July, 2020, UNACOH carried out awareness raising about harmful effects of mercury among local leaders in Busia District and Buhweju District. Over 100 Leaders attended. It was funded by Government of Denmark through DIALOGOS.

iii. UNACOH raised awareness raising about harmful effects of mercury among ASGMs; a 1030 ASGMs attended. It was funded by Government of Denmark through DIALOGOS.

f) Promote the development and implementation of science-based educational and preventive programmes on occupational exposure to mercury and mercury compounds

No. Measure not yet undertaken

g) Promote appropriate health-care services for prevention, treatment and care for populations affected by the exposure to mercury or mercury compounds

No. Measure not yet undertaken

h) Establish and strengthen, as appropriate, the institutional and health professional capacities for the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and monitoring of health risks related to the exposure to mercury and mercury compounds

No. Measure not yet undertaken

i) Assessment studies

An assessment of Occupational, Environment and other Impacts from use of Mercury in Artisanal Small – Scale Gold Mining in Uganda was undertaken under the National Baseline Overview study of 2019.

In order to build synergies with the health assessment studies in the ASGM sector, a collaborative partnership between NEMA and UNACOH was formed under the NBO study of 2019 to carry out a Human biomonitoring using blood and to study the total mercury concentration levels for ASG miners.

The study was conducted in six districts with active ASGM in the four regions where gold deposits are found for example Kicuzi and Rukiri mining sites in Ibanda and Katenga I and II in Buhweju (Western Region), at Lubaali and Kitumbi mining sites in Mubende (Central Region), at Chepkararat and Cheptakol mining sites in Amudat (Karamoja Region), at Tiira, Syanyonja mining sites in Busia and Buheere and Nakudi in Namayingo (Eastern Region). Study participants were selected from ASGMs found working at two mining sites in the four and additional two making it six mining districts in Uganda.

Although the results indicated that most miners in all districts had been exposed to mercury, the results for Amudat District indicated insignificant results for mercury in blood and urine. This could be due to the fact that mercury has only been recently introduced to Amudat (about two years before this assessment was made) and mercury use has not spread in all the mining sites. Another explanation could be that the samples were affected by the extremely hot temperatures in Karamoja Region combined with the long distance to and from Karamoja to DGAL in Kampala.

Part E – Additional comments on this article

None

▼ ART. 17: INFORMATION EXCHANGE

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

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

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

- ☒ Information on the reduction or elimination of the production, use, trade, emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds

Information on the reduction or elimination of the production, use, trade, emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds

Uganda is hosting the planetGOLD website to support knowledge exchange on the reduction or elimination of the production, use, trade, emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds

- ☐ Information on technically and economically viable alternatives to:
- ☐ Epidemiological information concerning health impacts associated with exposure to mercury and mercury compounds, in close cooperation with the World Health Organization and other relevant organizations, as appropriate. (Art. 17.1 (a)–(d))

Part E – Additional comments on this article

None

▼ 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

NAPE conducted workshops on the impacts of mercury use on human health and the environment. March to June 2021. This activity was funded by UNEP through MWE and NEMA under the project titled "Strengthening National Institutional Capacity in Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste in Uganda". The overall project objective is to strengthen national institutional capacity to monitor and coordinate the implementation of the regulatory framework for sound management of chemicals in Uganda.

Biovision–Africa (BiVA's): Led campaigns on illegal trade in mercury–laden cosmetics and cosmetic products: Since 2017 BiVA has been collaborating with EEB/ZMWG on Skin lightening creams campaign. Has been engaging with e–commerce platforms in Uganda on trade in illegal skin–lightening cosmetics, and online engagement with enforcement agencies to establish apparent enforcement gaps with a view to influence relevant policy.

Biovision–Africa (BiVA's): Led campaigns against toxic lighting system: BiVA has been collaborating with the Clean Lighting Coalition (CLiC), a global partnership to capture the health and environmental benefits of eliminating mercury–based lighting described under the Minamata Convention on Mercury. BiVA has been collecting and compiling data on the types of lighting compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) available for sale on the market in Uganda. The information will contribute to CLiC's Advocacy pledge to support the accelerated phase–out of toxic mercury–based fluorescent lighting by 2024 and 2025 respectively, in line with the proposed Amendment to Minamata Convention during CoP4.

In August 2020, Kampala City Traders Association, held a meeting at JBK plaza on Luwum Street with people trading in cosmetics and other products with mercury components; held media campaigns

through radio talk shows (Eddoboozi ly'omusuubuzi on smart 24 television & Radio sapentia); use of Leaflets and flyers. Similar awareness sessions are being held on Eddoboozi ly'omusuubuzi.

In April 2020, Kampala City Traders Association, held sensitization meetings about dangers posed by mercury through Smart 24 TV, Metro FM. The exercise is ongoing.

In September 2020, Kampala City Traders Association carried out public information, awareness and education through Media campaigns, leaflets and flyers. Exercise is ongoing.

NEMA carried out public awareness (through media, documentary on ASGM and face to face meetings) on dangers of mercury use on health and 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

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

Uganda is hosting the planetGOLD website to support knowledge exchange on the reduction or elimination of the production, use, trade, emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds

From 2018 to 2021, the National Association of Practicing Environmentalists developed Information Education and Communication materials on the dangers of using mercury added products and arguing the public to be conscious of the content of the products they use on daily basis including creams especially whitening creams and pesticides used in agriculture. It was a national campaign on raising awareness on sound management of chemicals and wastes in Uganda. Funding was from GEF through UNEP. Ministry of water and Environment and NEMA were the Executing Agencies. Further awareness is carried out on NAPE's community green radio and their social media pages.

☐ 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

NAPE Facilitated media engagement. Journalists from the Community Green Radio and print media were facilitated to have interactions with the gold miners in Kassanda-Mubende on the challenges associated the mining activity and mercury use and this was covered on the radio and print media. Increased coverage of the dangers associated with the use of mercury in gold mining on the NAPE Community Green Radio. There is low interest among the journalists to cover issues related to mercury use. This was funded under the Small grants program GEF-UNDP. Radio talk shows on mercury pollution were also organized on the community green radio based in Kiboga District.

NEMA carried out public awareness (through media, documentary on ASGM and face to face meetings) on dangers of mercury use on health and environment.

Public outreach strategy covered under the NAP on ASGM of 2019, contains an Outreach Plan

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

Part E – Additional comments on this article

None

▼ 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

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

Undertaken during the national minamata initial assessments study.

☐ Modelling and geographically representative monitoring of levels of mercury and mercury compounds in vulnerable populations and in environmental media, including biotic media such as fish, marine mammals, sea turtles and birds, as well as collaboration in the collection and exchange of relevant and appropriate samples

☐ Assessments of the impact of mercury and mercury compounds on human health and the environment, in addition to social, economic and cultural impacts, particularly in respect of vulnerable populations

☐ Harmonized methodologies for the activities undertaken under subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) of paragraph 1 of article 19

☐ Information on the environmental cycle, transport (including long-range transport and deposition), transformation and fate of mercury and mercury compounds in a range of ecosystems, taking appropriate account of the distinction between anthropogenic and natural emissions and releases of mercury and of remobilization of mercury from historic deposition

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

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

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

A) Alternatives to vinyl-chloride-monomer production with mercury-dichloride (HgCl₂) as catalyst, that are currently under use in Uganda undertaken on 2nd April 2025

The Minamata Initial Assessment studies carried out in Uganda between 2016 and 2016 revealed that, there was no VCM (vinyl-chloride-monomer) production with mercury-dichloride (HgCl₂) as catalyst.

Follow up sectoral consultations carried out in April 2025 on the application of alternative mercury free catalysts for the production of Vinyl-Chloride-Monomer (VCM), revealed that: VCM production is typically a large-scale chemical industrial process, requiring high technological capacity, which may still be limited in Uganda.

Whereas there are small-scale uses of VCM or its derivatives in Uganda for instance in the production of PVC, as well as export of polymers of vinyl chloride (finished products) from Uganda to Kenya and other countries within the region, there's no domestic production of VCM.

Based on the above, there is no profiling of mercury free catalysts for the production of Vinyl-Chloride-Monomer in use within Uganda.

Alternatives to HgCl₂ as catalyst for Vinyl Chloride Monomer production in other countries

- i. Gold-Based Catalysts in VCM Manufacture
- ii. Copper based catalyst as vinyl chloride monomer (VCM) manufacture
- iii. Palladium 10IL/AC Catalyst
- iv. Metal-based catalysts including Ruthenium (Ru), palladium (Pd), and platinum (Pt) are all platinum group metals (PGMs)
- v. Alternative Production Methods including Direct Chlorination of Ethylene
- vi. PVC Alternatives

B) Busitema University in Uganda has carried out research of use of cassava leaf extract to extract gold.

(Art. 19 (1) (a)–(g))

Part E – Additional comments on this article

None

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

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

Limited funding to enable various national stakeholders along the mercury product supply/ value chain to implement their mandates/obligations.

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

Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

The reporting format is okay