



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

REF: DEP 1/11/8 I (4)

20th December 2024

The Coordinator
Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
Chemical Branch
Division of Technology, Industry and Economics
United Nations Environment Programme
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Dear Sir/ Madam

**NOTIFICATION LETTER ON ARTISANAL GOLD MINING IN
BOTSWANA PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 7, PARA 3 OF THE
MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY**

The above subject matter refers.

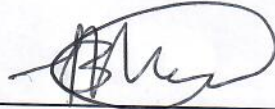
The Government of Botswana on June 03, 2016, signed the Minamata Convention on Mercury. The use of mercury is a common practise in the activities of Artisanal Small Gold Mining (ASGM). In September 2024, Botswana conducted an assessment on ASGM in Botswana. The assessment reviewed that ASGM in Botswana is more than insignificant.

As part of the process, upon ratification, Botswana along with other countries, received funding to undertake a Minamata Initial Assessment. The project undertook to acquire baseline data, on the use and production of mercury in Botswana. The project was completed in June 2021. To that end, a mercury inventory was conducted in April 2019.

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In the foregoing, pursuant to Article 7, para 3 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, Botswana notifies the Secretariat that there is more than "insignificant ASGM" within her territory.

Accept, your Excellency, assurance of my highest consideration.



Boatametse Modukanele
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Environment and Tourism

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