

**2022 Submission from the United States of America in Response to
Decision MC-4/5, Paragraph 1**

**Consideration on the list of potentially relevant point sources
July 2022**

Background

Article 9 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury concerns controlling and, where feasible, reducing releases of mercury and mercury compounds, often expressed as “total mercury”, to land and water from the relevant point sources not addressed in other provisions of this Convention.

Decision MC-4/5, paragraph 1, adopted at the fourth Conference of the Parties invited parties to:

“consider the list of potentially relevant point source categories of releases as set out in the appendix to annex III to the note by the secretariat on the report on the intersessional work on mercury releases when identifying relevant point source categories pursuant to paragraph 3 of article 9 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury;”

As stated in its [submission](#), hereinafter attached, the United States has not identified any relevant source releases. We will identify any relevant point source categories on a regular basis, as required by the Convention.

Decision MC-1/17 encouraged Parties to identify relevant point sources at the national level pursuant to paragraphs 2(b) and 3 of Article 9, and to submit information to the Secretariat on the identified relevant sources.

Article 9 of the Minamata Convention defines a “relevant source” as any significant anthropogenic point source of release as identified by a Party that is not addressed in other provisions of the Convention. The United States therefore notes that the following types of releases are outside the scope of Article 9:

- Releases from facilities where mercury-added products addressed in Article 4 are produced;
- Releases from facilities that employ mercury processes addressed in Article 5;
- Releases related to artisanal and small-scale mining and processing activities under Article 7;
- Releases from facilities that store mercury for use under Article 10;
- Releases subject to waste management regimes consistent with Article 11 (including the Basel Convention Technical Guidance for the Environmentally Sound Management of Mercury Waste); and
- Releases from mercury contaminated sites under Article 12

At this time, the United States has not identified any relevant source releases. We will identify any relevant point source categories on a regular basis, as required by the Convention.