



**Conference of the Parties to the
Minamata Convention on Mercury
Fifth meeting**
Geneva, 30 October–3 November 2023
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

International cooperation and coordination

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Note by the secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The present note includes information on activities undertaken by the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury to cooperate and coordinate with other entities, particularly in the chemicals and waste cluster. The report has been prepared by the secretariat and covers the period from February 2022 to June 2023.
2. The annex to the present note contains a proposal for a decision by the Conference of the Parties on enhanced international cooperation and coordination.
3. Additional information on cooperative activities undertaken by the secretariat is set out in the report on enhanced cooperation and coordination between the secretariat of the Minamata Convention and of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (UNEP/MC/COP.5/22) and the joint report on cooperation and coordination between the secretariat of the Minamata Convention and secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/28, annex I). Reports by other relevant international organizations and initiatives are set out in documents UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/29, UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/30, UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/31, UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/32 and UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/33.

II. Implementation

A. United Nations Environment Programme

4. During the reporting period, the secretariat continued to engage with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) at the programmatic level with a view to contributing to the implementation of certain aspects of the UNEP medium-term strategy 2022–2025, the UNEP programme of work for the biennium 2022–2023 and resolutions of the United Nations Environment Assembly of relevance to the Minamata Convention. UNEP also provided programmatic support to the Minamata Convention for the implementation of its programme of work for the biennium 2022–2023.

* UNEP/MC/COP.5/1.

5. Pursuant to decision MC-4/12, on international cooperation and coordination, the secretariat contributed to the implementation of Environment Assembly resolutions 5/7, on the sound management of chemicals and waste, and 5/8, on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution. The Executive Secretary attended the first and second parts of the first session of the ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution, held in October 2022 and February 2023, respectively. The secretariat also participated in the fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020, held in September 2022, in preparation for the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management in September 2023.

6. The secretariat cooperated with UNEP Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (hereinafter “the Special Programme”). The secretariat participated in the task team that supported the review and appraisal of the projects submitted during each round of applications for funding from the Special Programme; provided information and updates on the provisions of the Minamata Convention and on parties’ needs during meetings of the Executive Board of the Special Programme and webinars for prospective applicants; and provided input into the application guidance. Further information on the Special Programme is set out in UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/18.

7. The secretariat provided input, on the management of tailings from artisanal and small-scale gold mining, for the Global Intergovernmental Meeting on Minerals and Metals, held in Geneva in September 2023, as part of its contribution to the implementation of Environment Assembly resolutions 4/19, on mineral resource governance, and 5/12, on environmental aspects of minerals and metals management.

8. The secretariat shared information and good practices, including in relation to the functioning of the financial mechanism of the Convention, with the secretariat of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, which was established pursuant to Environment Assembly resolution 5/14.

9. Pursuant to decision MC-4/12, the secretariat kept under review the contribution made by the implementation of the Minamata Convention to the implementation of relevant Environment Assembly resolutions and decisions. The secretariat prepared a mapping document that identified the parts of such resolutions and decisions relevant to the implementation of the Convention and provided an update on the status of the contributions made so far. The mapping document reviews resolutions and decisions adopted by the Environmental Assembly since its first session in 2014 and is available on the Convention website.¹ The secretariat will continue updating the mapping document during future intersessional periods and report to the Conference of the Parties on the progress made.

10. Furthermore, the secretariat contributed to and benefited from the ongoing efforts of UNEP to enhance cooperation and coordination with, and among, the secretariats of multilateral environmental agreements. This included contributions to several projects run by the UNEP Law Division on the synergetic implementation of multilateral environmental agreements. The secretariat also contributed to meetings organized by UNEP to enhance such cooperation and coordination. Along with the secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements, it contributed to the fifth session of the Environment Assembly and the preparations for the sixth session. On 4 March 2022, during the Environment Assembly Special Session to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of UNEP, which followed the resumed fifth session, the Executive Secretary participated in a side event entitled “35 years of compliance mechanisms under multilateral environmental agreements”, co-organized by the secretariats of several such agreements. In preparation for the sixth session of the Environment Assembly, due to be held from 26 February to 1 March 2024, the secretariat contributed to preparations for a potential supplementary agenda item on cooperation with multilateral environmental agreements. Along with secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements, it provided input into a concept note prepared by the UNEP Law Division to facilitate the secretariats’ participation in, and ability to contribute to, the sixth session.

¹ Available at <https://mercuryconvention.org/en/intersessional-work-and-submissions-cop-5#sec1883>.

11. The Executive Secretary attended relevant meetings of the UNEP Senior Management Team in 2022 and 2023 that were extended to include the heads of secretariats of UNEP-administered multilateral environmental agreements. This initiative by the Executive Director of UNEP enabled the regular, high-level exchange of information and dialogue on issues of common interest. The exchange of information at the programmatic level was further facilitated by the involvement of the secretariat in the networks coordinated by UNEP. Through the network of focal points of multilateral environmental agreements, the secretariat was able to keep abreast of relevant activities and processes under way, particularly within the biodiversity and the chemicals and waste clusters. Through the network of focal points to the Legal Unit of the UNEP Corporate Services Division, the secretariat received guidance from UNEP on the use of standard legal agreements and on the implementation of the UNEP Partnership Policy and Procedures.
12. The secretariat continued to participate in the network of gender officers and focal points of multilateral environmental agreements, established by UNEP in 2020, and shared information for preparation of the Gender Action Plan for the Minamata Convention, which is set out in documents UNEP/MC/COP.5/18 and UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/10.
13. At the end of 2022, the secretariat participated in person in the Comms Academy organized by the UNEP Communication Division. This was an opportunity to strengthen the relationship and collaboration with UNEP, to streamline and seek greater consistency in communication practices and be updated on the communication strategies and workflows of UNEP. The secretariat periodically shared its main communication assets with the UNEP Communication Division to extend the two entities' reach on various platforms and via various channels.
14. The secretariat participated in the second segment of the first global meeting of national focal points under the Fifth Montevideo Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law, which was held from 6 to 9 June 2022 in Nairobi.
15. The secretariat contributed to the international meeting entitled “Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity” held in June 2022. As part of the conversation on accelerating integrated action, the Executive Secretary delivered a statement in plenary and participated in a dialogue organized by the United Nations Environmental Management Group, with leaders from United Nations agencies and multilateral environmental agreements, among others.
16. The secretariat participated in the partner meetings of the Green Customs Initiative² held in January 2023 to exchange information on the implementation of trade control measures under multilateral environmental agreements. In 2022, the *Green Customs Guide to Multilateral Environmental Agreements*³ was updated with an additional chapter on the Minamata Convention.
17. In close collaboration with UNEP, the secretariat expanded its collaboration with the InforMEA Initiative, the UNEP-hosted United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements, and, through it, with other multilateral environmental agreements, by establishing communities of practice, sharing experiences and best practices in knowledge management and developing tools and interfaces for automated data and information exchange. Furthermore, at the thirteenth meeting of the InforMEA Steering Committee, held in a hybrid format in October 2022 in Montreux, Switzerland, the secretariat showcased its new national reporting tool and a pilot tool for the visualization of data relating to Global Environment Facility (GEF) projects.
18. In November 2022, the secretariat cooperated with the UNEP regional offices through a meeting of regional subprogramme coordinators, convened by the Global Coordinator of the UNEP Chemicals and Pollution Action Subprogramme, on assisting with the implementation of the Minamata Convention and supporting countries in becoming parties thereto. The secretariat also contributed, as a member of the steering group, to a project entitled “Project for promoting the Minamata Convention on Mercury by making the most of Japan’s knowledge and experiences”, implemented by the UNEP regional office for Asia and the Pacific.
19. The secretariat also continued cooperation at the programmatic level with other UNEP-administered initiatives, most notably the Global Mercury Partnership and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, as described in the sections below.

² The Green Customs Initiative was launched in 2004 by UNEP, partnering with secretariats of multilateral environmental agreements, the International Criminal Police Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Customs Organization. It works on training and awareness-raising among customs and border control officers for the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements.

³ Available at www.greencustoms.org/resource.

20. The report by the Executive Director of UNEP to the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury at its fifth meeting (UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/29) sets out further details of the activities undertaken by UNEP in relation to work on mercury and to the decisions taken at the meetings of the Conference of the Parties.

B. UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

21. The secretariat coordinated, in several ways, with the multi-stakeholder UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and its secretariat housed in the UNEP Chemicals and Health Branch. The Partnership provided support to intersessional work in preparation for the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention, including in relation to guidance on mercury releases, mercury waste thresholds, the Gender Action Plan, participation in the Open-ended Scientific Group established in decision MC-4/11, on the first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and input into a report on mercury trade, supply and demand.

22. In line with the invitation issued in decision MC-4/12 to parties, non-parties and other stakeholders to engage further with the Global Mercury Partnership to support the achievement of the goals of the Convention, several parties invited the secretariat of the Partnership to participate in workshops organized by project leads of the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance. Through those events, the secretariat of the Partnership provided project partners under the Specific International Programme with valuable advice on accessing information and expertise through the Partnership. The secretariat of the Minamata Convention also co-organized, with the Global Mercury Partnership, a number of in-person and online events, including side events on mercury waste at the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.

23. The Executive Secretary delivered introductory remarks at the twelfth meeting of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership Advisory Group, held online on 11 March 2022, and at the thirteenth meeting, held in person from 9 to 10 November 2022, back-to-back with the Global Forum on Environment, organized by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), entitled “Working towards the elimination of mercury and reducing its harmful impacts on human health and the environment”. On the occasion of the Forum, the Executive Secretary sent a letter to the co-chairs of the Partnership Advisory Group, outlining specific substantive areas in which the Partnership and the secretariat could engage in more defined collaboration. These related to intersessional mandates, technical Convention documents and capacity-building. Senior staff of the secretariat also participated in the aforementioned meetings. In addition, the secretariat took part in several meetings on specific Partnership topics and in selected activities and webinars, including those organized a part of the global and knowledge-management components of GEF-funded programmes on artisanal and small-scale gold mining.

24. Further details on the role of the Global Mercury Partnership with respect to the capacity-building and technical assistance activities of the secretariat are set out in the document on capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer (UNEP/MC/COP.5/13), while further details on the activities undertaken by the Global Mercury Partnership are set out in document UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/32, which was submitted by the Partnership itself.

C. Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and considerations beyond 2020

25. The secretariat continued to cooperate with the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, taking part in the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 in preparation for the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management held in September 2023. The secretariat is also a member of the UNEP internal task force on the intersessional process. The report of the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, submitted by the secretariat of the Strategic Approach, is set out in document UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/33. Suggested action on the matter is set out in the annex to the present note.

D. World Health Organization and International Labour Organization

26. The secretariat continued and strengthened its programmatic cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) by convening tripartite meetings and exchanging information with a view to identifying and carrying out concrete action to enhance implementation in areas of common interest, including dental amalgam and human biomonitoring.

27. The two organizations participated in the face-to-face meeting of the Open-ended Scientific Group for the effectiveness evaluation held from 27 to 31 March 2023. At that meeting, WHO offered to support the group's work on human biomonitoring in relation to mercury. Further meetings have taken place to discuss the details of the cooperation.

28. It is worth noting that the Implementation and Compliance Committee has made a recommendation related to the implementation of subparagraph 2 (a) of article 16 of the Convention, which requires the Conference of the Parties to consult and collaborate with WHO, ILO and other relevant intergovernmental organizations in considering health-related issue or activities. The Committee recommends that the Conference of the Parties encourage parties that have not taken measures under paragraph 1 of article 16 to do so and to consider relevant guidance developed by WHO in their implementation of article 16. This recommendation has been taken into account in the draft decision in the annex to the present note.

29. Information submitted by WHO and ILO on their activities contributing to the implementation of the Minamata Convention is set out in document UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/30.

E. Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals

30. As part of the UNEP delegation, the secretariat is a regular participant in the meetings of Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC). UNEP is one of the nine participating organizations of IOMC, which was created more than 25 years ago as an inter-agency coordination platform to support work on the sound management of chemicals. The nine participating organizations are the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, ILO, OECD, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNEP, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), WHO and the World Bank. IOMC also has various observers, including the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE). IOMC meets twice a year, uniting representatives of all the entities, and invites observers to the meeting. At the 2023 meetings of the conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, it was decided that the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions⁴ would become a participating organization of IOMC. Discussions with IOMC are ongoing regarding a possible invitation to the secretariat of the Minamata Convention also to become a member.

31. During the reporting period, much of the attention of IOMC was given to consideration of targets and indicators in relation to the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. At the IOMC regular meetings, the secretariat of the Minamata Convention was called upon to provide updates on ongoing work and intersessional processes.

32. Under the umbrella of IOMC, a mercury group met twice in the reporting period to exchange updates on activities undertaken in implementation of the Minamata Convention. It had in-depth discussions on artisanal and small-scale gold mining during one of its sessions and on mercury emissions during the other. The GEF secretariat, ILO, OECD, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, UNITAR, WHO and the World Bank participate in the group. Participating organizations also cooperated, through the group, to develop publicity materials on their activities. The secretariat participated actively in this information exchange.

33. The secretariat also collaborated directly with IOMC participating and observer organizations. ECE, ILO, OECD, UNIDO, UNITAR⁴ and WHO participated as observers in meetings of the expert groups on mercury releases and on mercury waste thresholds and the Open-ended Scientific Group for the effectiveness evaluation. The secretariat participated in meetings of the OECD Chemicals Committee, the OECD Global Forum on Environment on mercury and the ninth meeting of the working group of parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention), held in November 2022, to provide updates on the activities of the Minamata Convention.

F. Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions

34. In accordance with paragraph 4 of article 24 of the Minamata Convention and decisions MC-3/11 and MC-4/9, the secretariat continued to cooperate with the secretariat of the

⁴ The "secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions" is understood to mean the secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions administered by UNEP, which are under joint management.

Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, including under the overall direction of the joint task force on programmatic cooperation.

35. The respective executive secretaries agreed to prepare two joint documents on cooperation and coordination between the secretariat of the Minamata Convention and the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions for their respective conferences of the Parties to provide details on the activities undertaken in several programmatic, technical and administrative areas. The first joint document, contained in annex I to document UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/28, provides an update on the cooperation and coordination activities that have taken place during the reporting period. The second joint document presents an outline of future cooperation between the two secretariats and is contained in annex II to document UNEP/MC/COP.5/INF/28.

G. Cooperation with Indigenous Peoples' groups

36. With a view to strengthening engagement with Indigenous Peoples' organizations during the intersessional period, the secretariat undertook the activities described in the following paragraphs.

37. In March 2022, the secretariat was invited to participate in a meeting of the Indigenous Caucus during the resumed third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, held in Geneva, Switzerland. The secretariat made a presentation to introduce relevant work under the Minamata Convention. The ensuing discussion among the participants focused on artisanal and small-scale gold mining, mercury waste and how the contamination of fish and other food sources jeopardizes the livelihood and culture of many Indigenous Peoples.

38. In April 2022, on the occasion of the twenty-first session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the secretariat participated in a side event, held online, entitled "Nexus Dialogues: Indigenous Peoples in Addressing the Global Environmental Agenda". The side event was organized by the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in cooperation with GEF and the secretariats of the Minamata Convention, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The side event brought together United Nations bodies with mandates focused on environmental issues to present their work in relation to Indigenous Peoples. It aimed (a) to identify nexus approaches within the United Nations system that could help address the triple planetary crisis in a systemic and integrated manner by further engaging Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the established mechanisms; (b) to build momentum regarding the role of Indigenous Peoples in the environmental agenda by leveraging ongoing processes under the relevant instruments, including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and the replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund; and (c) to hear from representatives of Indigenous Peoples how to enhance coordination efforts to pursue environmental action and to ensure their full and effective participation.

39. In December 2022, the secretariat launched the Indigenous Peoples Platform of the Minamata Convention on Mercury to promote the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in the work of the Convention.⁵

40. In April 2023, the secretariat released a report entitled "The Socio-Economic Impacts of Mercury Pollution on Fisheries and Livelihoods", which was prepared thanks to the financial support of the Government of Sweden. The report describes the various types of impact of mercury pollution on ecosystem functions, with a focus on those affecting on Indigenous Peoples and coastal communities that rely on artisanal fisheries for food security, livelihoods and the maintenance of cultural and spiritual values. The report also helps to show areas of interlinkage between the implementation of the Minamata Convention and the preservation of biodiversity and the contribution of the Minamata Convention to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

41. The secretariat also provided input into processes related to GEF, through its Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel and its implementing agencies, on the inclusion of Indigenous learning and knowledge in GEF programming and on best practices for the engagement of Indigenous Peoples in the GEF-funded planetGOLD programme.

42. Finally, Indigenous Peoples' organizations were invited to contribute to the work of the Open-ended Scientific Group, in accordance with the terms of reference of the Group, as adopted in decision MC-4/11.

⁵ The Platform is available at www.mercuryconvention.org/en/indigenous-peoples-platform.

H. Contribution to implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

43. The Executive Secretary participated in the High-Level Segment of the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Montreal, Canada, from 15 to 17 December 2022. In her statement at the opening plenary, she drew attention to decision MC-4/12, which set out a process enabling the implementation of the Minamata Convention to contribute to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, once adopted. She noted that, through such a landmark decision, the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention had not only recognized the importance of addressing mercury pollution in the context of biodiversity but has also set a concrete pathway for achieving coherence among the Minamata Convention, the Convention on Biological Diversity and other biodiversity-related conventions.

44. The Executive Secretary also delivered a statement at the fifty-first session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, which was held in Geneva from 2 September to 7 October 2022. The statement was given on 20 September during an interactive dialogue that followed a presentation by the Special Rapporteur on toxics and human rights, Marcos Orellana, on his thematic report on mercury, small-scale gold mining and human rights.⁶ In addition, the secretariat contributed to the fourth edition of the UNEP–OHCHR Bulletin, released in October 2022, with an article entitled “A gender perspective on artisanal and small-scale gold mining under the Minamata Convention on Mercury”.⁷ The secretariat also participated in the development of the workplan of the Issue Management Group on Human Rights and the Environment established by the United Nations Environmental Management Group.

45. The secretariat continued to work with UNEP, the United Nations Statistics Division, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and other organizations to provide data for measuring achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 12, on ensuring responsible consumption and production patterns, specifically indicator 12.4.1, which measures the number of parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous waste and other chemicals that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement.

I. Other cooperation, coordination and information exchange

46. The secretariat participated in a number of workshops organized by UNITAR in the context of the organization’s project, funded by the Government of Switzerland, to support several countries in taking steps towards ratification of the Minamata Convention and other chemicals and waste conventions.

47. The secretariat also cooperated with other intergovernmental organizations on a number of thematic issues, including with the World Customs Organization on custom codes and the International Atomic Energy Agency on monitoring for the Minamata Convention effectiveness evaluation.

48. Discussions with the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change continued on the possibility of the secretariat of the Minamata Convention becoming an observer at meetings of the United Nations Climate Change Conferences.

49. Furthermore, the secretariat strengthened collaboration with the International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant. At the fifteenth meeting of the International Conference, held online in July 2022, five synthesis papers, which were published as a special issue of the journal *Ambio*,⁸ were presented as scientific input for global policymaking. With the International Conference, the secretariat organized online events on the themes of the papers and on other topics as part of the mercury science stream of Minamata Online.

⁶ More information is available at www.mercuryconvention.org/en/news/human-rights-council-mercury-small-scale-gold-mining-and-human-rights.

⁷ The fourth edition of the UNEP–OHCHR Bulletin, the “Environmental Rights Bulletin”, produced by UNEP and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, is available at www.unep.org/resources/newsletter/environmental-rights-bulletin.

⁸ Available at www.mercuryconvention.org/en/news/world-scientists-publish-global-mercury-synthesis-papers.

III. Suggested action by the Conference of the Parties

50. The Conference of the Parties may wish to consider the information contained in the present note and adopt a decision as suggested in the annex thereto.

Annex

Draft decision MC-5/[--]: Enhanced international cooperation and coordination

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling subparagraph 5 (b) of article 23 of the Minamata Convention and paragraph 2 of article 24 of the Convention, which state that the Conference of the Parties and the secretariat shall cooperate with relevant international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies, particularly in the chemicals and waste cluster,

Recalling also subparagraph 2 (a) of article 16, which requires the Conference, in considering health-related issues or activities, to consult and collaborate with the World Health Organization,

1. *Welcomes* the inclusion of a supplementary item entitled “Cooperation with multilateral environmental agreements” on the provisional agenda of the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly;
2. *Also welcomes* the opportunity for the secretariat to become an observer at meetings of the United Nations Climate Change Conferences, and *requests* the secretariat to continue to enhance cooperation and coordination with the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;
3. [*Also welcomes* the adoption of the framework for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 by the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its fifth session, and calls on parties to take into account the strategic objectives and targets of the framework in their actions to implement the Minamata Convention;
4. *Requests* the secretariat to continue to enhance cooperation and coordination with the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management to ensure mutual support for the implementation of the Minamata Convention and the framework for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 and to develop a proposal for activities providing such mutual support, to be included in the programme of work to be considered by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting;]¹
5. *Requests* the secretariat to continue and to enhance further cooperation and cooperation with the World Health Organization to support parties’ efforts to implement health-related aspects of the Convention, including through the use of relevant World Health Organization guidance;²
6. *Also requests* the secretariat to report on the implementation of the present decision to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting, as appropriate.

¹ The International Conference on Chemicals Management will convene its fifth session in September 2023, at which it will decide on the adoption of the framework for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

² This paragraph has been prepared by the secretariat, taking into account relevant recommendations included in the report on the work of the Implementation and Compliance Committee (UNEP/MC/COP.5/14).