

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Asia and the Pacific regional preparatory meeting for the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury
5 and 6 September 2023
Bangkok, Thailand

The Asia and the Pacific regional preparatory meeting for the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury (COP-5) will be held on 5 and 6 September 2023 from 9:30 to 17:00 (UTC +7), at the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC) in Bangkok, Thailand. The working language of the meeting will be English. The regional preparatory meeting is being organized thanks to the generous financial support provided by Switzerland and Sweden.

The objective of the regional preparatory meeting is to provide Parties in the Asia and the Pacific region with the possibility to hear briefings, exchange views and consult each other on the agenda items of COP-5.

The preparatory meeting will be chaired by COP-5 Bureau members from the Asia Pacific region: Syed Mujtaba Hussain (Pakistan) and Saeed A. Alzahrani (Saudi Arabia).

Organizations approved to participate as Observers in the previous meetings of the COP have been invited to participate in the regional preparatory meeting. Upon request by Parties, the Co-chairs may decide to hold certain sessions without the presence of Observers.

Participants are invited to consult relevant meeting documents of COP-5, which will be posted as they become available on the Convention's [website](#), in advance of the regional preparatory meeting.

The provisional programme for the regional preparatory meeting has been developed in consultation with the Bureau members and is presented below. The tentative schedule of COP-5 is presented in the annex to this document. Presentation of each of the matters under the agenda items will be followed by a Q&A session and discussion, as appropriate, led by the Co-chairs.



TUESDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2023

9.00 – 9.30	REGISTRATION
OPENING OF THE MEETING	
9.30 – 9.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening remarks from the Co-chairs and the Secretariat• Adoption of the provisional agenda and overview of the programme of the regional meeting
Item 1: Organization of work at COP-5 and logistical preparations	
9.45 – 10.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of the tentative schedule of work, information on regional statements, credentials and other aspects of organization of work at COP-5• Status of registration, travel of sponsored delegates, information on online events, knowledge labs, exhibitions and other events
Item 2: Matters for consideration or action by COP-5	
10.15 – 11.30	<p>Matters related to COP-5 agenda item 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used: Amendment to Annexes A and B, and consideration of feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing processes listed in Annex B<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Phase-out deadlines which COP-4 decided to consider at COP-5– Matters related to Annex B– The proposals for amendment of Annex A <p><i>Introduction by the Secretariat will be followed by a presentation on the proposals for amendment of Annex A by a representative of the Africa region</i></p>
11.30 – 12.00	<p>Matters related to COP-5 agenda item 2(c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Election of officers
LUNCH BREAK	
13.30 – 14.45	<p>Matters related to COP-5 agenda item 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Artisanal and small-scale gold mining• Financial resources and mechanism• Capacity building, technical assistance and technology transfer• Effectiveness evaluation
14.45 – 15.15	<p>Matters related to COP-5 agenda item 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Programme of work and budget• Information on the status of contributions by Parties to the general trust fund of the Minamata Convention
BREAK	
Item 3: Closed session for preparation of regional position	
15.45 – 16.45	Introduction of matters for consideration – election of officers, development of regional statement and any other matters
16.45 – 17.00	Wrap-up of DAY 1
END OF DAY1	



WEDNESDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 2023

Item 3: Closed session for preparation of regional position (continued)	
9.30 – 10.30	Election of officers (discussion by Parties only)
10.30 – 11.15	Preparation of the regional statement (discussion by Parties only)
Item 2: Matters for consideration or action by COP-5 (continued)	
11.15 – 12.00	Matters related to COP-5 agenda item 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emissions of mercury• Releases of mercury• Mercury waste: consideration of the relevant thresholds
<i>LUNCH BREAK</i>	
13.30 – 14.45	Matters related to COP-5 agenda item 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mercury supply sources and trade• Implementation and Compliance Committee• National reporting• Gender• Knowledge management• Mercury and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
14.45 – 15.30	Matters related to COP-5 agenda item 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• International cooperation and coordination• Updates from the Chemicals and Waste Cluster, including the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions
<i>BREAK</i>	
Item 3: Closed session for preparation of regional positions (continued)	
16.00 – 16.30	Preparation of the regional statement (discussion by Parties only)
Item 4: Any other business	
16.30 – 16.45	Any other business
Item 5. Closure of the meeting	
16.45 – 17.00	Conclusions and closure of the meeting
END OF THE REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING	



Annex – Tentative schedule of COP-5

COP-5	Monday, 30 October 2023	Tuesday, 31 October 2023	Wednesday, 1 November 2023	Thursday, 2 November 2023	Friday, 3 November 2023
<p>10:00-13:00</p> <p>Morning Session</p>	<p>Item 1: Opening of the meeting</p> <p>Item 2: Organizational matters (a) Adoption of the agenda (b) Organization of work (c) Election of officers for the intersessional period and the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (d) Report on the credentials of representatives to the fifth meeting</p> <p>Item 3: Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties: consideration of rule 45</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (l) Financial Rules</p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties: (b) Mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used: Amendment to Annexes A and B, and consideration of feasibility of mercury-free alternatives for manufacturing processes listed in Annex B</p>	<p><i>Report(s) of contact group(s)</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (j) National reporting (i) Implementation and Compliance Committee (a) Mercury supply sources and trade</p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, reports of contact groups</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (m) Gender (n) Knowledge management (o) Mercury and Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</p> <p>Item 5: International cooperation and coordination</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, adoption of report on credentials and adoption of decisions</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (cont.)</p>	<p><i>Consideration of remaining outcomes and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p> <p>Item 6: Programme of work and budget (cont.) <i>Adoption of the budget decision</i></p> <p>Item 7: Venue and dates of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>Item 8: Other matters</p>
<p>13:00-15:00</p>	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
<p>15:00-18:00</p> <p>Afternoon Session</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (g) Financial resources and mechanism (i) Global Environment Facility (ii) Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance (iii) Review of the financial mechanism (h) Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer (c) Artisanal and small-scale gold mining</p>	<p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (d) Emissions of mercury (e) Releases of mercury (f) Mercury waste: consideration of the relevant thresholds (k) Effectiveness evaluation</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes</i></p> <p>Item 4: Matters for consideration or action by the Conference of the Parties (cont.)</p>	<p><i>Consideration of outcomes, and adoption of remaining decisions</i></p>	<p>Item 9: Adoption of the report of the meeting</p> <p>Item 10: Closure of the meeting</p>