

COMMUNICATION

Call for contributions for the Specific Trust Fund

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,

The Specific International Programme was established pursuant to Article 13 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury to support the capacity of developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to implement their obligations under the Convention.

The Specific International Programme forms part of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention and through grants of between 50,000 USD and 250,000 USD funds projects that are country-driven, result-oriented and focused on impact and sustainability.

Since the launch of the Specific International Programme in 2018, the Governing Board approved five projects to be funded under the First Round of Applications and ten projects to be funded under the Second Round of Applications. The increased number of approved applications was possible thanks to a substantial increase in contributions to the Specific Trust Fund - from almost 1,300,000 USD in 2018 for the First Round to almost 2,400,000 USD in 2019 for the Second Round. Currently, around 800,000 USD have been received for the Third Round of Applications.

Against this background, I am writing to kindly seek your financial contribution to further support the Specific International Programme and ultimately the successful implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

I would also like to encourage those in a position to do so to consider supporting the Specific International Programme operations through a secondment or appointment of a Junior Professional Officer, as discussed at the most recent meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Lastly, I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize the governments of Austria, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States for their generous contributions to the Specific International Programme during the past biennium.

I thank you for your commitment to the implementation of the Minamata Convention, and look forward to your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Monika Stankiewicz
Executive Secretary

To: Governments through their official channels of communication to the UN Environment Programme

Cc: National Focal Points for the Minamata Convention on Mercury;

Permanent Missions to the UN Environment Programme and to the UN in Geneva