List of documents for the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, including working documents, information documents and additional relevant background documents

Note by the secretariat

1. Annex I to the present note sets out the list of working and information documents for the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

2. Annex II presents a list of additional documents containing relevant background information. It complements document UNEP/MC/COP.1/INF/1, which listed the documents for the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties and for the seven sessions of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, as well as reports, toolkits, guidance documents and other background documents relevant to the provisions of the Convention. It is presented without formal editing.

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* UNEP/MC/COP.2/1.
## Annex I

### Table 1

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Annex II

List of additional relevant background documents

The following list complements the lists of documents set out in document UNEP/MC/COP.1/INF.1.

1. Supply and trade


A good understanding of mercury supply, trade and demand is critical to effective implementation of the Convention. This report provides detailed and timely information on where mercury comes from, how it moves in commerce, and how it is used in products and industrial processes. To further facilitate informed decision-making, the report also evaluates data sources, discusses trends and identifies knowledge gaps.

2. Artisanal and small-scale gold mining


This document is intended to provide guidance to countries in formulating Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) National Action Plans (NAPs) that are compliant with the requirements of the Minamata Convention. The document also provides technical, legal and policy information on issues related to ASGM, which may be useful when preparing and implementing the NAP. This guidance is indicative – the use of this document is not mandatory or a requirement under the Convention. The mandate for the development of this document comes from the Final Act of the Minamata Convention, which called on the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Mercury (INC) to support the development of guidance to countries in preparing their NAPs. At COP1, the Parties agreed to the use of this guidance document for the development of ASGM NAPs.


This document, also referred to as the “ASGM baseline inventory toolkit” provides guidance and tools for conducting an ASGM overview and mercury use estimate for the National Action Plan. In addition to the main text, the toolkit also consists of survey forms and calculation spreadsheets. Developed in collaboration with the Artisanal Gold Council, the toolkit is intended to assist countries and other partners in adopting a standard and rigorous methodology for characterizing ASGM practices, extent, and mercury use. The resulting data and overview can then be used in the development of the full National Action Plan.

3. Mercury-added products


This guide provides a simplified list of steps governments may take in preparing to undertake the Convention Article 4 obligations. It is intended to facilitate the implementation of the legal, institutional, and practical components of a mercury product phase out strategy, including those that may be performed as part of Minamata Initial Assessments. The guide should be used in conjunction with the Convention text, and related materials providing additional details regarding Convention obligations.
4. Waste


The assessment describes the current mercury waste management practices in these countries, and provides a basis for understanding the size and nature of the gap between current practices and the environmentally sound mercury waste management envisioned in the Minamata Convention. The central finding is clear: The gap between the provisions of the Minamata Convention and the current mercury waste management practices is wide.

5. Health aspects

Human biomonitoring survey assessment of prenatal exposures to mercury using biomarkers in cord blood, maternal urine and hair: A tool for developing national protocols, World Health Organization (in press – to be made available on the website of the World Health Organization)


These SOP are the more detailed technical sampling and lab techniques that support the overall survey protocol (addressed by the above document)


6. Monitoring

Outcomes and lesson learnt report of the Project: Development of a Plan for Global Monitoring of Human Exposure to and Environmental Concentrations of Mercury, UN Environment (in press, to be made available on the UN Environment website)

The document contains a report by UN Environment, in close cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Italian National Research Council - Institute of Atmospheric Pollution Research (CNR-IIA) regarding the outcomes, lesson learnt of the UNEP/GEF project “Development of a Plan for Global Monitoring of Human Exposure to and Environmental Concentrations of Mercury”, including the shared contribution of the project to the discussion on the arrangement for providing comparable monitoring data and elements of an effectiveness Evaluation.

7. Assessments


The 2018 update the global atmospheric mercury assessment was requested by the Governing Council of UNEP at its twenty-seventh session. It will be presented at the 3rd UN Environment Assembly in 2019. The 2018 assessment will be expanded with respect to quantification of releases and discharges of mercury to the aquatic environment, and include an overview and assessment of mercury levels in humans and biota.
The Technical Background Report for the Global Mercury Assessment 2013 is a joint report of UNEP and the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (a working group under the Arctic Council) which presents the latest comprehensive information on global mercury emissions and releases to the environment, information on atmospheric and aquatic chemistry and fate and transport of mercury.