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## United Nations Environment Programme

Conference of the Parties to the  
Minamata Convention on Mercury  
Third meeting  
Geneva, 25–29 November 2019

### Decision adopted by the third Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

#### MC-3/3: Customs codes

##### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Requests* the secretariat, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme Global Mercury Partnership–Mercury in Products partnership area (hereafter “Products Partnership”) and involving relevant experts, to:

- (a) Draft a guidance document that includes:
  - (i) For the mercury-added products listed in annex A to the Convention, a list of possible customs nomenclature codes of more than six digits that could be used by parties;
  - (ii) For mercury-added products not listed in annex A to the Convention, a compilation of examples provided by national experts of customs nomenclature codes of more than six digits currently in use by parties;
  - (iii) Examples of good practice where the use of customs nomenclature codes at the national level has been supplemented by the use of other control tools for the purpose of implementing trade provisions, such as those found in article 4 to the Convention;

(b) Provide an assessment of whether the subsequent development of six-digit harmonized codes would be a useful complement to the outcome of the work undertaken under subparagraph 1 (a) (i) of the present decision for the mercury-added products listed in annex A or under subparagraph 1 (a) (ii) for mercury-added products not listed in annex A. The assessment shall, where possible, include several examples of the use of such codes for both listed and unlisted mercury-added products, taking into account experience concerning such codes under other international environmental conventions;

2. *Also requests* the secretariat to:

(a) Circulate an open call to all parties, non-parties and other stakeholders, including relevant organizations, to identify experts familiar with the use of national customs codes to participate in the open-ended process;

(b) Call for submissions by such experts by 31 March 2020; such submissions should include information relevant for the work related to subparagraphs 1 (a) (i)–(iii) of the present decision;

- (c) Prepare, in collaboration with the Products Partnership, a draft report covering the three elements referred to in subparagraph 1 (a) of the present decision;
- (d) Make the draft report available on the Convention website and invite parties and others to provide comments by 30 January 2021;
- (e) Revise, in collaboration with the Partnership, the draft report, taking due account of the further input received from parties and others;
- (f) Submit the final report to the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting for its consideration.