



Distr.: General  
27 October 2014

English only



**United Nations  
Environment  
Programme**

**Intergovernmental negotiating committee  
to prepare a global legally binding instrument  
on mercury  
Sixth session**

Bangkok, 3–7 November 2014  
Item 3 of the provisional agenda\*

**Work to prepare for the entry into force of the  
Minamata Convention on Mercury and for the  
first meeting of the Conference of the Parties**

**Available information that might assist the committee in its  
work**

**Note by the secretariat**

1. In its decision 25/5, the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) requested the Executive Director of UNEP to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee with the mandate to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury. At its fifth session, the intergovernmental negotiating committee agreed on the text of a global legally binding instrument, the Minamata Convention on Mercury, which was adopted and opened for signature at the Conference of Plenipotentiaries, held in Kumamoto, Japan, on 10 and 11 October 2013. In paragraph 3 of its resolution on arrangements in the interim period, the Conference of Plenipotentiaries also invited the Executive Director of UNEP to convene such further meetings of the intergovernmental negotiating committee during the period between the date on which the Convention is opened for signature and the date of the opening of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention as may be necessary to facilitate the rapid entry into force of the Convention and its effective implementation upon its entry into force.
2. The intergovernmental negotiating committee will have before it at its sixth session a number of working and information documents prepared at the request of the committee at its previous sessions. The secretariat is also making available to the committee a number of background documents prepared in response to previous decisions of the Governing Council and requests by the ad hoc open-ended working group to prepare for the intergovernmental negotiating committee on mercury and by the earlier Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Mercury. The background documents include reports, toolkits and guidance documents on topics relevant to provisions of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.
3. With a view to assisting Governments in their preparations for the sixth session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee, the documents for the session are listed in tables 1 and 2 below. Table 1 lists general reference documents and table 2 identifies other working, information and background documents that relate more specifically to individual articles of the Minamata Convention on Mercury. Each background document is identified by a capital letter that matches that used to identify the document as it appears in the annex to the present note. A brief description of each background document listed is also provided in the annex.

\* UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/1.

4. The present note and the annex update and expand the information contained in documents UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/INF/6, UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/INF/4, UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.3/INF/2, UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.4/INF/2 and UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/INF/2, which were made available to the committee at its first, second, third, fourth and fifth sessions, respectively.

Table 1  
**Working documents for the sixth session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/2	Scenario note for the sixth session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/3	Draft proposal on the provision of written consent or general notification for the import of mercury under the Minamata Convention on Mercury
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/4	Register of notification of consent to import mercury
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/5	Required content for certification to be provided for import by a non-party
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/6	Draft proposal on the format for registering exemptions
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/7	Proposal on information to be supplied when registering an exemption
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/8	Proposal on the register of exemptions to be maintained by the secretariat, including information on the maintenance of information supplied by States and regional economic integration organizations upon becoming parties
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/9	Factors which may be considered in the identification of stocks of mercury or mercury compounds
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/10	Report of the group of technical experts on the development of guidance required under article 8 of the Convention
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/11/Rev.1	Draft proposal for reporting format and frequency
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/12	Initial compilation of information on methodologies for acquiring monitoring data or for providing the Conference of the Parties with comparable data
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/13	Draft rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/14	Draft financial rules for the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/15	Initial information on sources of releases and methodology for the development of inventories
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/16	Initial proposal for guidance and assistance to countries with artisanal and small-scale gold mining in the development of national plans
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/17	Development of guidance on the environmentally sound interim storage of mercury
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/18	Consideration of the thresholds for identification of mercury waste
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/19	Guidance on managing contaminated sites and the proposed way forward for developing guidance

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/20	Initial consideration of the operation of the financial mechanism, in particular relating to the specific international programme to support capacity-building and technical assistance
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/21	Input to preliminary draft guidance on overall strategies, policies, programme priorities and eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources, and on an indicative list of categories of activities to be funded by the Global Environment Facility trust fund
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/22	Support for ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention and for the work of the interim secretariat of the Convention
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/23	Progress towards development of a memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the Council of the Global Environment Facility
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/1	Available information that might assist the committee's work
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/2	Terms of reference for the Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/3	Progress report on the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/4	Resolution on mercury adopted by the World Health Assembly at its sixty-seventh session
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/5	Progress report on cooperation and coordination with other actors
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/6	Report on activities of the Global Environment Facility in relation to the Minamata Convention during the interim period
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/7	Progress report on the work of the interim secretariat
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/8	Examples of memorandums of understanding between the Council of the Global Environment Facility and the governing bodies multilateral environmental agreements
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/9	Strengthening the sound management of chemicals and waste in the long term
UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/10	Status of work on the updating of the technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of elemental mercury and wastes containing or contaminated with mercury under the Basel Convention

Table 2

**Other documents relating to specific articles of the Minamata Convention on Mercury for the intergovernmental negotiating committee at its sixth session**

<i>Article of the Minamata Convention on Mercury</i>	<i>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sessions</i>	<i>Relevant background documents<sup>a</sup></i>
<b>Article 1 Objective</b>	<p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the first session</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/6: Possible tool for tracking the progress of the intergovernmental negotiating committee in developing provisions of the global legally binding instrument on mercury</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/16: International trade law that may be relevant to the future mercury instrument, including provisions on trade set out in selected conventions</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/18: Relevant issues being considered in international forums and their possible impact on the mercury negotiation process</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/19: Potential costs and benefits associated with each provision listed in paragraph 27 of Governing Council decision 25/5</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/INF/8: Potential costs and benefits associated with each provision listed in paragraph 27 of Governing Council decision 25/5</p>	G. Report presenting the costs and benefits for each of the strategic objectives set out in annex I to the report of the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Mercury, July 2008
<b>Article 2 Definitions</b>	<p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the first session</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/14: Glossaries of key terms</p>	
<b>Article 3 Mercury supply sources and trade</b>	<p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the sixth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/3: Draft proposal on the provision of written consent or general notification for the import of mercury under the Minamata Convention on Mercury</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/4: Register of notification of consent to import mercury</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/5: Required content for certification to be provided for import by a non-party</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/9: Factors which may be considered in the identification of stocks of mercury or mercury compounds</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF.3: Progress report on the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership</p> <p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the second session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/15: Analysis of possible options for using partnerships to help achieve the goals of the future instrument on mercury</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/INF/2: Guidelines on the environmentally sound management of elemental</p>	<p>C. Summary of Supply, Trade and Demand Information on Mercury, November 2006</p> <p>D. Mercury awareness-raising package, January 2009</p> <p>H. Report on current supply and demand for mercury, including projections considering the phase-out of primary mercury mining, July 2008</p> <p>J. Assessment of Excess Mercury in Asia, 2010–2050, May 2009</p> <p>K. Assessment report: Excess mercury supply in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2010–2050, July 2009</p> <p>L. Assessment report: Excess mercury supply in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, 2010–2050, April 2010</p> <p>R. Study on the possible effects on human health and the</p>

<sup>a</sup> Descriptions of the background documents are provided in the annex to the present note.

<p><i>Article of the Minamata Convention on Mercury</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sessions</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant background documents<sup>a</sup></i></p>
	<p>mercury and waste containing or contaminated with mercury</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/16: International trade law that may be relevant to the future mercury instrument, including provisions on trade set out in selected conventions</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/19: Potential costs and benefits associated with each provision listed in paragraph 27 of Governing Council decision 25/5</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/20: Update of information on the supply and trade of mercury</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/INF/8: Potential costs and benefits associated with each provision listed in paragraph 27 of Governing Council decision 25/5</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/INF/9: Update of information on the supply and trade of mercury</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/INF/10: Update on activities related to mercury supply and the environmentally sound storage of mercury</p>	<p>environment of the trade of products containing lead, cadmium and mercury in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific and Africa</p>
<p><b>Article 4 Mercury-added products</b></p> <p><b>Article 5 Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used</b></p> <p><b>Article 6 Exemptions available to a Party upon request</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the sixth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/6: Draft proposal on the format for registering exemptions</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/7: Proposal on information to be supplied when registering an exemption</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/8: Proposal on the register of exemptions to be maintained by the secretariat, including information on the maintenance of information supplied by States and regional economic integration organizations upon becoming parties</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF.3: Progress report on the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership</p> <p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the fourth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.4/6: Information on possible transitional arrangements pending phase out of mercury-added products and manufacturing processes in which mercury is used</p> <p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the third session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.3/6: Addressing health in the mercury instrument</p> <p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the second session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/11: Mercury-containing products, processes and technologies and their alternatives</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/12: Cost-benefit analysis of existing alternatives to mercury-based products, processes and technologies</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/13: Options for regulating mercury in products</p>	<p>C. Summary of Supply, Trade and Demand Information on Mercury, November 2006</p> <p>D. Mercury awareness-raising package, January 2009</p> <p>F. Guide for Reducing Major Uses and Releases of Mercury, June 2006</p> <p>H. Report on current supply and demand for mercury, including projections considering the phase-out of primary mercury mining, July 2008</p> <p>I. Report on the major mercury-containing products and processes, their substitutes and experience in switching to mercury-free products and processes, July 2008</p> <p>W. Economics of Conversion to Mercury-Free Products, October 2011</p> <p>Y. Research and Development Progress of and Feasibility Study Report on Mercury-free Catalyst in China, December 2011</p> <p>Z. Global Mercury Assessment: Sources, Emissions, Releases and Environmental Transport, February 2013</p> <p>BB. Global Chemicals Outlook: Towards Sound Management of Chemicals. Synthesis Report for Decision</p>

<p><i>Article of the Minamata Convention on Mercury</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sessions</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant background documents<sup>a</sup></i></p>
	<p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/17: Global inventory of mercury cell chlor-alkali facilities</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/13: Concept of essential use in international agreements</p>	<p>Makers, September 2012</p>
<p><b>Article 7 Artisanal and small-scale gold mining</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the sixth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/16: Initial proposal for guidance and assistance to countries with artisanal and small-scale gold mining in the development of national plans</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF.3: Progress report on the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership</p> <p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the fourth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.4/7: Compilation of reporting obligations and action plans envisaged in the draft negotiating text and survey of reporting obligations and action plans under other relevant multilateral environment agreements</p> <p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the second session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/8: Inventory of projects completed or under way in each country relating to artisanal and small-scale gold mining, including awareness-raising, technical assistance, formalization and financial assistance projects</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/9: Methodologies for determining mercury exposure in people involved in artisanal and small-scale gold mining</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/12: Cost-benefit analysis of existing alternatives to mercury-based products, processes and technologies</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/19: Potential costs and benefits associated with each provision listed in paragraph 27 of Governing Council decision 25/5</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/INF/8: Potential costs and benefits associated with each provision listed in paragraph 27 of Governing Council decision 25/5</p>	<p>C. Summary of Supply, Trade and Demand Information on Mercury, November 2006</p> <p>D. Mercury awareness-raising package, January 2009</p> <p>F. Guide for Reducing Major Uses and Releases of Mercury, June 2006</p> <p>H. Report on current supply and demand for mercury, including projections considering the phase-out of primary mercury mining, July 2008</p> <p>I. Report on the major mercury-containing products and processes, their substitutes and experience in switching to mercury-free products and processes, July 2008</p> <p>M. Guidance Document: Developing a National Action Plan to Reduce and, Where Feasible, Eliminate Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining, Working Draft, October 2014</p> <p>T. Analysis of formalization approaches in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector based on experiences in Ecuador, Mongolia, Peru, Tanzania and Uganda, June 2012</p> <p>U. Reducing Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small-scale Gold mining: A practical guide. Introduction to the document and draft technical document, June 2012</p> <p>V. Environment for Development Perspectives: Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining, August 2011</p> <p>Z. Global Mercury Assessment 2013: Sources, Emissions, Releases and Environmental Transport, February 2013</p> <p>BB. Global Chemicals Outlook: Towards Sound Management of Chemicals. Synthesis Report for Decision Makers, September 2012</p>

<p>Article of the Minamata Convention on Mercury</p>	<p>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sessions</p>	<p>Relevant background documents<sup>a</sup></p>
<p><b>Article 8 Emissions</b> <b>Article 9 Releases</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the sixth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/10: Report of the group of technical experts on the development of guidance required under article 8 of the Convention</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/15: Initial information on sources of releases and methodology for the development of inventories</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF.3: Progress report on the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership</p> <p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the fifth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/4: Air emission thresholds for facilities and information on releases to land and water</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/INF/1: Air emission thresholds for facilities and information on releases to land and water</p> <p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the fourth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.4/5: Approach to possible elements of Articles 10 and 11 prepared by the co-chairs of the contact group on emissions and releases</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.4/7: Compilation of reporting obligations and action plans envisaged in the draft negotiating text and survey of reporting obligations and action plans under other relevant multilateral environment agreements</p> <p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the third session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.3/5: Releases of mercury from the oil and gas industry</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the second session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/4: Study on mercury sources and emissions and analysis of the cost and effectiveness of control measures</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/16: Relationship between the future mercury instrument and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/18: Process optimization guidance for reducing mercury emissions from coal combustion in power plants (<i>executive summary</i>)</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/INF/2: Guidelines on the environmentally sound management of elemental mercury and waste containing or contaminated with mercury</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/INF/5: Process optimization guidance for reducing mercury emissions</p>	<p>B. The Global Atmospheric Mercury Assessment: Sources, Emissions and Transport (detailed summary and technical background report), November 2008</p> <p>D. Mercury awareness-raising package, January 2009</p> <p>E. Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases, Guidelines for inventory level 1 and level 2, April 2013</p> <p>F. Guide for Reducing Major Uses and Releases of Mercury, June 2006</p> <p>Z. Global Mercury Assessment 2013: Sources, Emissions, Releases and Environmental Transport, February 2013</p> <p>BB. Global Chemicals Outlook: Towards Sound Management of Chemicals. Synthesis Report for Decision Makers, September 2012</p>



<p><i>Article of the Minamata Convention on Mercury</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sessions</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant background documents<sup>a</sup></i></p>
	<p>from coal combustion in power plants (<i>full report</i>)</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/15: Progress in the preparation of the study called for in paragraph 29 of Governing Council decision 25/5</p>	
<p><b>Article 10 Environmentally sound interim storage of mercury, other than waste mercury</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the sixth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/17: Development of guidance on the environmentally sound interim storage of mercury</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF.3: Progress report on the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership</p> <p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the fifth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/4: Air emission thresholds for facilities and information on releases to land and water</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/ INF/1: Air emission thresholds for facilities and information on releases to land and water</p> <p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the third session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.3/7: Relationship between the future mercury instrument and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the second session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/4: Study on mercury sources and emissions and analysis of the costs and effectiveness of control measures</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/16: Relationship between the future mercury instrument and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/INF/2: Guidelines on the environmentally sound management of elemental mercury and waste containing or contaminated with mercury</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/INF/3: Information supplied by the secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal</p>	<p>B. The Global Atmospheric Mercury Assessment: Sources, Emissions and Transport (detailed summary and technical background report), November 2008</p> <p>D. Mercury awareness-raising package, January 2009</p> <p>E. Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases, Guidelines for inventory level 1 and level 2, April 2013</p> <p>F. Guide for Reducing Major Uses and Releases of Mercury, June 2006</p> <p>N. Options Analysis and Feasibility Study for the Long-Term Storage of Mercury in Latin America and the Caribbean, October 2010</p> <p>O. Analysis of options for the environmentally sound management of surplus mercury in Asia and the Pacific, September 2011</p> <p>Q. Management of Mercury and Mercury-Containing Waste: Final Project Report, June 2010</p> <p>X. A guide for managing mercury waste at household and community level, August 2011</p> <p>Several reports produced in the context of the mercury waste partnership area are relevant to the mercury waste issue and are available at:</p> <p><a href="http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/InterimActivities/Partnerships/WasteManagement/tabid/3535/language/en-US/Default.aspx">http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/InterimActivities/Partnerships/WasteManagement/tabid/3535/language/en-US/Default.aspx</a></p> <p>Z. Global Mercury Assessment 2013: Sources, Emissions, Releases and Environmental Transport, February 2013</p>

<i>Article of the Minamata Convention on Mercury</i>	<i>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sessions</i>	<i>Relevant background documents<sup>a</sup></i>
<p><b>Article 11</b> <b>Mercury wastes</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the sixth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/18: Consideration of the thresholds for identification of mercury waste</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF.3: Progress report on the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF.10: Status of work on the updating of the technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of elemental mercury and wastes containing or contaminated with mercury under the Basel Convention</p> <p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the fifth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/4: Air emission thresholds for facilities and information on releases to land and water</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/ INF/1: Air emission thresholds for facilities and information on releases to land and water</p> <p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the third session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.3/5: Releases of mercury from the oil and gas industry</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.3/7: Relationship between the future mercury instrument and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the second session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/4: Study on mercury sources and emissions and analysis of the costs and effectiveness of control measures</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/16: Relationship between the future mercury instrument and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/INF/2: Guidelines on the environmentally sound management of elemental mercury and waste containing or contaminated with mercury</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/INF/3: Information supplied by the secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal</p>	<p>B. The Global Atmospheric Mercury Assessment: Sources, Emissions and Transport (detailed summary and technical background report), November 2008</p> <p>D. Mercury awareness-raising package, January 2009</p> <p>E. Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases, Guidelines for inventory level 1 and level 2, April 2013</p> <p>F. Guide for Reducing Major Uses and Releases of Mercury, June 2006</p> <p>N. Options Analysis and Feasibility Study for the Long-Term Storage of Mercury in Latin America and the Caribbean, October 2010</p> <p>O. Analysis of options for the environmentally sound management of surplus mercury in Asia and the Pacific, September 2011</p> <p>Q. Management of Mercury and Mercury-Containing Waste: Final Project Report, June 2010</p> <p>X. A guide for managing mercury waste at household and community level, August 2011</p> <p>Several reports produced in the context of the mercury waste partnership area are relevant to the mercury waste issue and are available at:</p> <p><a href="http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/InterimActivities/Partnerships/WasteManagement/tabid/3535/language/en-US/Default.aspx">www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/InterimActivities/Partnerships/WasteManagement/tabid/3535/language/en-US/Default.aspx</a></p> <p>Z. Global Mercury Assessment 2013: Sources, Emissions, Releases and Environmental Transport, February 2013</p>
<p><b>Article 12</b> <b>Contaminated sites</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the sixth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/19: Guidance on managing contaminated sites and the proposed way forward for developing guidance</p>	<p>B. The Global Atmospheric Mercury Assessment: Sources, Emissions and Transport (detailed summary and technical background report), November 2008</p>

<p><i>Article of the Minamata Convention on Mercury</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sessions</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant background documents<sup>a</sup></i></p>
	<p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF.3: Progress report on the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership</p> <p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the fifth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/4: Air emission thresholds for facilities and information on releases to land and water</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/INF/1: Air emission thresholds for facilities and information on releases to land and water</p> <p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the third session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.3/5: Releases of mercury from the oil and gas industry</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.3/7: Relationship between the future mercury instrument and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the second session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/4: Study on mercury sources and emissions and analysis of the costs and effectiveness of control measures</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/16: Relationship between the future mercury instrument and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/INF/2: Guidelines on the environmentally sound management of elemental mercury and waste containing or contaminated with mercury</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/INF/3: Information supplied by the secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal</p>	<p>D. Mercury awareness-raising package, January 2009</p> <p>E. Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases, Guidelines for inventory level 1 and level 2, April 2013</p> <p>F. Guide for Reducing Major Uses and Releases of Mercury, June 2006</p> <p>N. Options Analysis and Feasibility Study for the Long-Term Storage of Mercury in Latin America and the Caribbean, October 2010</p> <p>O. Analysis of options for the environmentally sound management of surplus mercury in Asia and the Pacific, September 2011</p> <p>Q. Management of Mercury and Mercury-Containing Waste: Final Project Report, June 2010</p> <p>X. A guide for managing mercury waste at household and community level, August 2011</p> <p>Several reports produced in the context of the mercury waste partnership area are relevant to the mercury waste issue and are available at:</p> <p><a href="http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/InterimActivities/Partnerships/WasteManagement/tabid/3535/language/en-US/Default.aspx">www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/InterimActivities/Partnerships/WasteManagement/tabid/3535/language/en-US/Default.aspx</a></p> <p>Z. Global Mercury Assessment 2013: Sources, Emissions, Releases and Environmental Transport, February 2013</p>
<p><b>Article 13</b> <b>Financial resources and mechanism</b></p> <p><b>Article 14</b> <b>Capacity-building, technical assistance and</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the sixth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/20 -Initial consideration of the operation of the financial mechanism, in particular relating to the specific international programme to support capacity-building and technical assistance</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/21 -Input to preliminary draft guidance on overall strategies, policies, programme priorities and eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources, and of an indicative list of categories of activities to be funded by the Global Environment Facility trust fund</p>	<p>G. Report presenting the costs and benefits for each of the strategic objectives set out in annex I to the report of the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Mercury, July 2008</p> <p>S. Overarching Framework: UNEP Global Mercury Partnership, June 2009</p> <p>AA. Report on Overall Progress of the United Nations</p>

<p><i>Article of the Minamata Convention on Mercury</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sessions</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant background documents<sup>a</sup></i></p>
<p><b>technology transfer</b></p>	<p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/23 -Progress towards development of a memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the Council of the Global Environment Facility</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/2: Terms of reference for the Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/6: Report on activities of the Global Environment Facility in relation to the Minamata Convention during the interim period</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/7: Progress report on the work of the interim secretariat</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/8: Examples of memorandums of understanding between the Council of the Global Environment Facility and the governing bodies of multilateral environmental agreements</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/9: Strengthening the sound management of chemicals and wastes in the long term</p> <p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the fifth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/6: Draft elements of the final act to be adopted at the anticipated diplomatic conference</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the fourth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.4/4: Proposal for a conceptual approach and possible text on financial resources and technical assistance</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.4/INF/1: Information submitted by parties on financial resources and technical and implementation assistance</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the third session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.3/4: Further comparative analysis of options for financial mechanisms to support the global legally binding instrument on mercury</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC3/INF/3: Progress of the consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes led by the United Nations Environment Programme</p> <p><b>Relevant working documents prepared for the second session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/14: Analysis of possible funding sources and what they might cover, including an analysis of the role of the private sector</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/15: Analysis of possible options for using partnerships to help achieve the</p>	<p>Environment Programme Global Mercury Partnership, July 2010 – June 2012</p>

<p><i>Article of the Minamata Convention on Mercury</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sessions</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant background documents<sup>a</sup></i></p>
	<p>goals of the future instrument on mercury</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/8: Options for predictable and efficient financial assistance arrangements</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/9: Options for delivery of technical assistance and capacity-building: examples from multilateral environmental agreements and other organizations</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/10: Facilitating sustainable technology transfer and support for global mercury control actions: experience within existing legally binding and voluntary arrangements</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/19: Potential costs and benefits associated with each provision listed in paragraph 27 of Governing Council decision 25/5</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/INF/5: Progress of the consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes led by the United Nations Environment Programme</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/INF/8: Potential costs and benefits associated with each provision listed in paragraph 27 of Governing Council decision 25/5</p>	
<p><b>Article 15 Implementation and Compliance Committee</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/11: Key concepts, procedures and mechanisms of legally binding multilateral agreements that may be relevant to furthering compliance under the future mercury instrument</p>	
<p><b>Article 16 Health aspects</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the sixth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/4: Resolution on mercury adopted by the World Health Assembly at its sixty-seventh session</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/5: Progress report on cooperation and coordination with other actors</p> <p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the fifth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.5/5: Analysis of the extent to which the provisions of the draft mercury instrument reflect the content of article 20 bis on health aspects</p> <p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the third session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.3/6: Addressing health in the mercury instrument</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the second session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/5: Report on indicators to evaluate and track the health impacts of mercury and identify vulnerable populations</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/6: Report on information on harmonized systems for measuring mercury body burden</p>	

<p><i>Article of the Minamata Convention on Mercury</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sessions</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant background documents<sup>a</sup></i></p>
	<p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/7: Existing country-specific or regional monitoring efforts relating to fish and marine mammals in the food supply</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/9: Methodologies for determining mercury exposure in people involved in artisanal and small-scale gold mining</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/19: Executive summary of the document on guidance for identifying populations at risk from mercury exposure</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/INF/3: Guidance for identifying populations at risk from mercury exposure</p>	
<p><b>Article 17 Information exchange</b></p> <p><b>Article 18 Public information, awareness and education</b></p> <p><b>Article 19 Research, development and monitoring</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the sixth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/INF/4: Resolution on mercury adopted by the World Health Assembly at its sixty-seventh session</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the second session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/5: Report on indicators to evaluate and track the health impacts of mercury and identify vulnerable populations</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/6: Report on information on harmonized systems for measuring mercury body burden</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/7: Existing country-specific or regional monitoring efforts relating to fish and marine mammals in the food supply</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/8: Inventory of projects completed or under way in each country relating to artisanal and small-scale gold mining, including awareness-raising, technical assistance, formalization and financial assistance projects</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/9: Methodologies for determining mercury exposure in people involved in artisanal and small-scale gold mining</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/10/Rev.1: Collation and analysis of available data on mercury releases in relevant sectors at the national level</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/19: Executive summary of the document on guidance for identifying populations at risk from mercury exposure</p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/INF/3: Guidance for identifying populations at risk from mercury exposure</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/12: Effectiveness evaluation in other conventions and possible approaches to establishing baselines</p>	<p>A. Global Mercury Assessment, December 2002</p> <p>B. The Global Atmospheric Mercury Assessment: Sources, Emissions and Transport (detailed summary and technical background report), November 2008</p> <p>D. Mercury awareness-raising package, January 2009</p> <p>E. Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases, Guidelines for inventory level 1 and level 2, April 2013</p> <p>F. Guide for Reducing Major Uses and Releases of Mercury, June 2006</p> <p>Z. Global Mercury Assessment 2013: Sources, Emissions, Releases and Environmental Transport, February 2013</p>
<p><b>Article 20 Implementation</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the fourth session:</b></p>	

<p><i>Article of the Minamata Convention on Mercury</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sessions</i></p>	<p><i>Relevant background documents<sup>a</sup></i></p>
<p><b>plans</b></p>	<p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.4/7: Compilation of reporting obligations and action plans envisaged in the draft negotiating text and survey of reporting obligations and action plans under other relevant multilateral environment agreements</p>	
<p><b>Article 21 Reporting</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working document prepared for the fourth session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.4/7: Compilation of reporting obligations and action plans envisaged in the draft negotiating text and survey of reporting obligations and action plans under other relevant multilateral environment agreements</p> <p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/11: Key concepts, procedures and mechanisms of legally binding multilateral agreements that may be relevant to furthering compliance under the future mercury instrument</p>	
<p><b>Article 22 Effectiveness evaluation</b></p>	<p><b>Relevant working and information documents prepared for the first session:</b></p> <p>UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/12: Effectiveness evaluation in other conventions and possible approaches to establishing baselines</p>	

## Annex

### **Background documents for the consideration of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury**

- A. Global Mercury Assessment, December 2002 (available in English, French and Spanish at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/MercuryPublications/ReportsPublications/GlobalMercuryAssessmentReportDecember2002/tabid/3617/language/en-US/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/MercuryPublications/ReportsPublications/GlobalMercuryAssessmentReportDecember2002/tabid/3617/language/en-US/Default.aspx))**
1. The Global Mercury Assessment was submitted to the Governing Council at its twenty-second session. It provides information on many aspects of mercury, including chemistry, toxicology, impacts on human health and the environment and global cycling of mercury. It also provides information on the uses of mercury, prevention and control technologies available at the time and initiatives for controlling releases and limiting use and exposure. It formed the basis for Governing Council decision 22/4 of 7 February 2003, in which the Governing Council concluded that mercury posed global problems and required increased action.
- B. The Global Atmospheric Mercury Assessment: Sources, Emissions and Transport (detailed summary and technical background report), November 2008 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/MercuryPublications/ReportsPublications/tabid/3593/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/MercuryPublications/ReportsPublications/tabid/3593/Default.aspx))**
2. The updated emissions report was requested by the Governing Council at its twenty-fourth session. It provides the best available data on mercury atmospheric emissions and trends, in addition to current results from global modelling. Detailed information is provided in the technical report. Key findings include updated information on global emissions, of which anthropogenic activities had resulted in approximately 1,930 tons. It found that the largest single source of anthropogenic emissions was the burning of fossil fuels (primarily coal), with artisanal and small-scale gold mining, industrial gold production, other mining and metal production, and cement production also responsible for significant emissions. It pointed out that, while comparison of those findings with previous emission estimates was complicated by the addition of new sectors and changes in methodology, it appeared that emissions from previously assessed sectors had fallen during the period 2000–2005. The report also provides information on atmospheric transport and deposition. Modelling was used to explore the regional and global effects of reducing mercury emissions.
- C. Summary of Supply, Trade and Demand Information on Mercury, November 2006 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/MercuryPublications/ReportsPublications/tabid/3593/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/MercuryPublications/ReportsPublications/tabid/3593/Default.aspx))**
3. The report on supply, trade and demand information on mercury was prepared to inform discussions by the Governing Council at its twenty-fourth session. The report draws upon information submitted by Governments and publicly available databases. It also specifically considers trade in mercury used in artisanal and small-scale mining. It sets out the most common sources of mercury for the global supply, the overall extent of and changes in the global supply, the range of uses of mercury and the demand for mercury in the global supply. It outlines potential scenarios for mercury demand, based both on the status quo at the time the report was prepared and on a focused mercury reduction programme. Information is provided on trends in the price of mercury and the global trade in mercury, subject to the caveat that the clandestine nature of some illegal activities makes it difficult to accurately determine the extent of all mercury trade.
- D. Mercury awareness-raising package, January 2009 (available in English, French and Spanish at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/MercuryPublications/ReportsPublications/AwarenessRaisingPackage/tabid/4022/language/en-US/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/MercuryPublications/ReportsPublications/AwarenessRaisingPackage/tabid/4022/language/en-US/Default.aspx))**
4. The publication is intended to raise stakeholder awareness of the effects of mercury on human health, wildlife and the environment and of strategies to manage and control mercury. It is designed



for use by government officials, community leaders and workers. It is intended to contribute to building public support and capacity to take preventive action. It includes a user's guide, an overview and five thematic modules on mercury in products and wastes, mercury and industry, mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining, mercury use in health-care settings and dentistry, and cultural uses of mercury.

**E. Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Mercury Releases, Guidelines for inventory level 1 and level 2, April 2013 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/MercuryPublications/GuidanceTrainingMaterialToolkits/MercuryToolkit/tabid/4566/language/en-US/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/MercuryPublications/GuidanceTrainingMaterialToolkits/MercuryToolkit/tabid/4566/language/en-US/Default.aspx))**

5. The Toolkit is intended to assist countries in developing a national mercury releases inventory. It provides a standardized methodology and accompanying database enabling the development of consistent national and regional mercury inventories. National inventories will assist countries in identifying and addressing mercury releases and thus assist them in evaluating the risks from various sources. Comparable sets of mercury source release data will enhance international cooperation, discussion, goal-definition and assistance.

6. It comprises a procedure recommended by the United Nations Environment Programme for the effective compilation of mercury source and release inventories, given that comparable sets of mercury source release data can enhance international cooperation, discussion, goal-definition and assistance. Comparable data sets also help to establish a global picture of the scale of releases as a step in prioritizing actions to control or reduce releases and enlarging the international knowledge base on mercury uses and releases.

7. The Toolkit guides the inventory developer through the different stages of identifying sources and quantifying the consumption and releases of mercury from these sources. It provides a methodology, examples and extensive information on mercury release sources. The Toolkit has been revised in 2013 based on experiences in using it and new data and exists in two versions:

8. "Inventory Level 1" provides a simplified version of the Toolkit, as well as calculation spreadsheets and a reporting template, to make the development of an overview mercury inventory considerably easier.

9. "Inventory Level 2" is the comprehensive version that includes a detailed description of all mercury sources and is useful for anyone wishing to learn more about a specific mercury release source, including environmental authorities and researchers.

10. Based on the Toolkit, an e-learning platform is being developed (Mercury:Learn). This tool is developed to introduce the principles of the Toolkit to first-time users and serve as a reference tool for trained users. The approach of the training platform is to provide the technical information in the Toolkit in a visual manner, with interactive activities, maps, discussion groups, videos and exercises. The platform is developed in English, but will have the option for future expansion to other languages and other training topics.

**F. Guide for Reducing Major Uses and Releases of Mercury, June 2006 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/MercuryPublications/GuidanceTrainingMaterialToolkits/tabid/3609/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/MercuryPublications/GuidanceTrainingMaterialToolkits/tabid/3609/Default.aspx))**

11. The guide is intended to assist countries in strengthening their knowledge base, identifying sources of possible mercury exposure and readily assessing the viability of the main methods of reducing mercury exposures and risks to populations. The information provided reflects approaches considered or implemented in some countries, industries or products to reduce or eliminate mercury releases, which may not apply to all situations. Whether approaches are applied in a particular country depends upon government and local priorities, information and education about possible risks, the legal framework, enforcement, implementation costs, perceived benefits and other factors.

**G. Report presenting the costs and benefits for each of the strategic objectives set out in annex I to the report of the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Mercury, July 2008 (UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/OEWG.2/5/Add.1, available in all six official United Nations languages at <http://mercuryconvention.org/Negotiations/OEWG2/tabid/3432/Default.aspx>)<sup>a</sup>**

12. The report provides a general qualitative assessment of potential costs and benefits for each of the priority areas for mercury, classifying such costs and benefits as small, medium, large or not applicable. For purposes of the assessment, the cost of each strategic objective is the overall cost associated with implementing it, while the benefit is considered to be the extent to which achievement of the objective would reduce mercury-related risks on a global basis, distinguishing between local and global risk-reduction benefits. The final conclusion of the report is that investing in the reduction of mercury emissions and exposure will produce health and environmental benefits. It finds that technological measures, such as the installation of equipment to remove mercury from flue gases in electric power plants, waste incinerators and smelters, are relatively expensive (medium to high costs) compared to non-technological measures such as prevention, capacity-building and the promotion of mercury-containing waste separation (low to medium costs). Both groups of measures, however, would result in large benefits and their parallel application, resources permitting, would be appropriate.

**H. Report on current supply and demand for mercury, including projections considering the phase-out of primary mercury mining, July 2008 (UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/OEWG.2/6/Add.1, available in all six official United Nations languages at <http://mercuryconvention.org/Negotiations/OEWG2/tabid/3432/Default.aspx>)**

13. The report provides an assessment of whether projected demand for mercury could be met if primary mining were phased out. It also provides, based on available information, a brief summary of major sources of mercury releases by country or, if available country-level data is insufficient, by region. The report draws on, among other sources, the atmospheric emissions study prepared for the Governing Council. It covers emissions from coal-fired power plants; industrial emissions (e.g., waste combustion, non-ferrous metals and cement production); artisanal gold-mining use and emissions; and use of mercury in products and processes. Its conclusions are that, excepting the current situation in China, mercury mining is not essential. It also demonstrates that the mercury market reaches an equilibrium of supply and demand following major changes such as the closure of mercury mines in 2003 and 2004.

**I. Report on the major mercury-containing products and processes, their substitutes and experience in switching to mercury-free products and processes, July 2008 (UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/OEWG.2/7/Add.1, available in all six official United Nations languages at <http://mercuryconvention.org/Negotiations/OEWG2/tabid/3432/Default.aspx>)**

14. The report provides information on mercury-containing products and processes that have effective substitutes, including information on the relative quantities of mercury used and on experience in switching to non-mercury processes or products. The report discusses three categories of products: those for which alternatives are successfully used; those for which alternatives are available but face challenges to their use; and those for which the feasibility of alternatives varies significantly as the result of a number of economic, technical, social and institutional factors.

<sup>a</sup> An updated version of this report is available in document UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.1/INF/8, in English only.

- J. Assessment of Excess Mercury in Asia, 2010–2050, May 2009 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Documents/supplystorage/Assessment%20of%20Excess%20Mercury%20in%20Asia%202010-2015\\_Final%20Draft\\_May%202009.pdf](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Documents/supplystorage/Assessment%20of%20Excess%20Mercury%20in%20Asia%202010-2015_Final%20Draft_May%202009.pdf))**

15. In accordance with the scenarios assessed in the report, mercury supply and demand in Asia are projected to reach a rough equilibrium beginning during the period 2014–2015. After 2017, the urgency of an Asian mercury storage capability is likely to depend on the rate of demand reduction. Substantial excess mercury can be expected in Asia after 2030. The quantity of excess mercury, mostly accumulated between 2030 and 2050, would likely amount to just over 5,500 tons. In accordance with an alternative policy scenario, in which regional authorities may decide to move forward the storage of excess mercury, the quantity of mercury accumulated may be as high as 7,500 tons.

- K. Assessment report: Excess mercury supply in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2010–2050, July 2009 (available in English at [http://www.chem.unep.ch/mercury/storage/LAC%20Mercury%20Storage%20Assessment\\_Final\\_1July09.pdf](http://www.chem.unep.ch/mercury/storage/LAC%20Mercury%20Storage%20Assessment_Final_1July09.pdf))**

16. The future principal sources of mercury in the Latin American and Caribbean region were identified as that recovered as a by-product of mining operations and that recovered from the closure or conversion of mercury cell chlor-alkali plants. A base case scenario suggests that mercury supply may exceed demand as early as 2015, with the total excess arising between 2015 and 2050 possibly amounting to over 8,000 tons. According to an alternative minimum storage scenario, in which it is assumed that some by-product mercury continues to be exported and that there is a generally slower increase in the generation of by-product mercury, the quantity of mercury accumulated may be closer to 2,000–3,000 tons.

- L. Assessment report: Excess mercury supply in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, 2010–2050, April 2010 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Documents/supplystorage/EECA%20Excess%20Mercury\\_Final%20Draft\\_Apr2010.pdf](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Documents/supplystorage/EECA%20Excess%20Mercury_Final%20Draft_Apr2010.pdf))**

17. The study attempts to understand the dynamic flux between mercury supply and demand in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region. Current and future regional supply of mercury includes the continued mining of mercury, the occasional decommissioning of chlor-alkali facilities, the recovery of mercury from used products and wastes, mercury by-product from other mining operations and natural gas production, and the increasing use of mercury-free alternatives. This is compared with the regional demand in order to estimate the quantity of excess mercury which may need to be stored in the region.

- M. Guidance Document: Developing a National Action Plan to Reduce and, Where Feasible, Eliminate Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining, Working Draft, October 2014 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/NationalStrategicPlan/tabid/53985/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/NationalStrategicPlan/tabid/53985/Default.aspx))**

18. The document provides guidance to countries in formulating national action plans that are compliant with the requirements of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and provides technical, legal and policy information on issues related to artisanal and small-scale gold mining that can be useful when preparing and implementing the national action plan. The document is a working draft and is open for comments until 30 November 2014.

- N. Options Analysis and Feasibility Study for the Long-Term Storage of Mercury in Latin America and the Caribbean, October 2010 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/InterimActivities/Partnerships/SupplyandStorage/LACMercuryStorageProject/tabid/3554/language/en-US/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/InterimActivities/Partnerships/SupplyandStorage/LACMercuryStorageProject/tabid/3554/language/en-US/Default.aspx))**
19. The report analyses the options for storing surplus mercury in Latin America and the Caribbean using a multi-criteria approach. Three options were considered: above-ground warehousing; below-ground storage in geological formations; and export. While permanent options are being investigated, interim measures including temporary storage, such as in hazardous waste facilities, are necessary for the environmentally sound storage of mercury.
- O. Analysis of options for the environmentally sound management of surplus mercury in Asia and the Pacific, September 2011 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Documents/supplystorage/Analysis%20of%20options%20for%20the%20environmentally%20sound%20management%20of%20surplus%20Hg%20in%20AP%20R2.pdf](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Documents/supplystorage/Analysis%20of%20options%20for%20the%20environmentally%20sound%20management%20of%20surplus%20Hg%20in%20AP%20R2.pdf))**
20. The report analyses the options to remove surplus mercury from the market. The United States of America concept of storing elemental mercury above ground and the European Union approach of underground disposal of hazardous wastes are both technically promising, but their feasibility needs to be assessed on a site-specific basis. While permanent options are being investigated, interim measures including temporary storage, such as in hazardous waste facilities, are necessary for the environmentally sound storage of mercury.
- P. Technical and Economic Criteria for Processing Mercury-Containing Tailings, April 2010 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Documents/PartnershipsAreas/Technical%20and%20economic%20criteria-2010.pdf](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Documents/PartnershipsAreas/Technical%20and%20economic%20criteria-2010.pdf))**
21. The report includes a technical report identifying key parameters for the assessment of technical and economic opportunities for the processing of mine tailings with high levels of mercury; a description of sampling and analytical approaches for metal analysis; discussion of technical and economic aspects to be considered, taking into account the need to minimize the release of mercury into the environment; and a description of the situation and outline of possible options for a selected site in Chile.
- Q. Management of Mercury and Mercury-Containing Waste: Final Project Report, June 2010 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Documents/supplystorage/Final%20Report%20Mercury%20waste%20project\\_2010.pdf](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Documents/supplystorage/Final%20Report%20Mercury%20waste%20project_2010.pdf))**
22. The five-country project on mercury waste management was implemented from 5 November 2008 until 30 June 2010. The project included four countries – Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Pakistan and the Philippines – that were financed by the Government of Norway. The participation of Chile was made possible with funds from the Mercury Trust Fund. This project deals with the management of mercury and mercury-containing waste and will contribute to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) priority area on harmful substances and hazardous wastes under its medium-term strategy with the ultimate goal of minimizing the impact of harmful substances and hazardous wastes to the environment and human beings.
- R. Study on the possible effects on human health and the environment of the trade of products containing lead, cadmium and mercury in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific and Africa (available at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/LeadCadmium/ScientificReviews/TradeStudies/tabid/6172/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/LeadCadmium/ScientificReviews/TradeStudies/tabid/6172/Default.aspx))**
23. UNEP has prepared, with financial support from the Nordic Council of Ministers and the assistance of Grupo GEA (Peru) and the International POPs Elimination Network, studies on the analysis of the trade flows and review of environmentally sound management practices related to products containing lead, cadmium and mercury in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Asia and

the Pacific. These studies were presented to the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-sixth session, held in Nairobi in February 2011, as documents UNEP/GC.26/INF/11/Add.3 and UNEP/GC.26/INF/11/Add.4, respectively. In 2008, with the financial support of the Government of Sweden, UNEP had conducted a study on the possible effects on human health and the environment in Africa of the trade of products containing lead, cadmium and mercury, which was noted by the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its twenty-fifth session in February 2009.

**S. Overarching Framework: UNEP Global Mercury Partnership, June 2009 (available in English at <http://hqweb.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=rsuIRqojHyc%3d&tabid=3593&language=en-US>)**

24. The Overarching Framework guides the work of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership. It has been developed under the auspices of the Executive Director in consultation with Governments and other stakeholders. The document was forwarded to the Governing Council at its twenty-fifth session where progress made by the Partnership was welcomed and the continued involvement of UNEP in the Partnership was endorsed.

**T. Analysis of formalization approaches in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector based on experiences in Ecuador, Mongolia, Peru, Tanzania and Uganda, June 2012 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/PrioritiesforAction/ArtisanalandSmallScaleGoldMining/FormalizationoftheASGMSector/tabid/79426/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/PrioritiesforAction/ArtisanalandSmallScaleGoldMining/FormalizationoftheASGMSector/tabid/79426/Default.aspx))**

25. The document is a synthesis for policymakers and other interested stakeholders on the formalization of the artisanal and small-scale gold mining sector, based on the analysis of the case studies developed by international experts for Ecuador, Mongolia, Peru, Tanzania and Uganda and drawing upon examples from other countries. The goal of the document is to highlight critical elements of formalization processes, including institutional considerations, legislation development or reform, and financing. The analysis identifies key strategic lessons and recommendations, which inform the debate, and lessons learned that may be applicable in other countries.

**U. Reducing Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining: A practical guide. Introduction to the document and draft technical document, June 2012 (available in English and French at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/PrioritiesforAction/ArtisanalandSmall-scaleGoldMining/TechnicalGuidanceDoc/tabid/104260/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/PrioritiesforAction/ArtisanalandSmall-scaleGoldMining/TechnicalGuidanceDoc/tabid/104260/Default.aspx))**

26. The document has been produced with a view to sharing information with policymakers, miners and civil society about available technologies and approaches for reducing, and ultimately eliminating, mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM). It is rich in graphics with the aim of being a simple educational and planning tool for improving practices in ASGM. It is also hoped that the public will find parts of this booklet an accessible and informative resource with which to learn more about the often misunderstood ASGM sector.

**V. Environment for Development Perspectives: Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining, August 2011 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Partners/Environment%20for%20Development%20Perspectives%20Mercury%20Use%20in%20ASGM%20FINAL.doc](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Partners/Environment%20for%20Development%20Perspectives%20Mercury%20Use%20in%20ASGM%20FINAL.doc))**

27. The paper provides a synthesis of existing knowledge to frame the economic argument for investing in mercury reduction/elimination in artisanal and small-scale gold mining as part of development strategies for this sector. The objective is to provide an analytical foundation including often omitted negative external consequences for concurrent and future studies conducted under the Global Mercury Partnership. The aim is to identify the economic challenges and opportunities for reducing mercury in artisanal and small-scale practices, with the goal of eliminating its use wherever possible. This approach ultimately seeks to motivate greater political, private sector and civil society support for significant reduction or elimination of mercury in artisanal and small-scale gold production.

- W. Economics of Conversion to Mercury-Free Products, October 2011 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/UNEP%20Economics%20of%20Conversion%20to%20Mercury-free%20Report%20Final%20102611\\_finaldraft\\_wAPP.pdf](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/UNEP%20Economics%20of%20Conversion%20to%20Mercury-free%20Report%20Final%20102611_finaldraft_wAPP.pdf))**

28. The report takes into consideration the case studies of two firms involved in the transitioning from mercury-containing to mercury-free products in the medical technology industry. Despite the different supply chain locations of the firms, both were able to produce mercury-free products of the same quality as mercury-containing products. These products included hearing aid batteries, thermometer batteries and most sphygmomanometer applications. However, due to a lack of a legally binding agreement, the study concludes that producers willing to invest in the production of mercury-free devices are also required to continue producing mercury-containing products. This scenario decreases competition for innovation amongst mercury-free suppliers, prevents firms willing to invest in the sector from reaching economies of scale at a faster pace and ignores the fact that sufficient mercury-free capacity exists to meet consumer demand. Legislation and increased market demand would facilitate the shift to mercury-free products.

- X. A guide for managing mercury waste at household and community level, August 2011 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/2011.10.24-Brochure-English.pdf](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/2011.10.24-Brochure-English.pdf))**

29. The brochure was developed by the Foreign Economic Cooperation Office of the Chinese Ministry of Environmental Protection for UNEP, supported by the Government of Norway through UNEP. As a large mercury producer and consumer, the Chinese Government has carried forth national and international efforts to reduce mercury pollution. The development of the awareness-raising toolkit was part of a project that included pilot dissemination, assessment and project summary evaluation. The project concluded that the public has very limited basic knowledge about mercury pollution and is in urgent need of large-scale, targeted and systematic publicity and education.

- Y. Research and Development Progress of and Feasibility Study Report on Mercury-free Catalyst in China, December 2011 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/PrioritiesforAction/VinylChlorideMonomerProduction/tabid/4523/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/PrioritiesforAction/VinylChlorideMonomerProduction/tabid/4523/Default.aspx))**

30. Vinyl chloride monomer production using the mercury catalyst process is the second-largest demand sector for mercury globally (estimated at 570–800 tons annually in 2008). The process has emerged as a cost-effective production technique for countries with a higher availability of acetylene over ethylene as raw material (namely in China and Russia). It is believed that China represents 80–90 per cent of global capacity with 89 facilities currently identified. China undertook this report with support from UNEP as a means to promote cost-effective mercury-free PVC production processes.

- Z. Global Mercury Assessment 2013: Sources, Emissions, Releases and Environmental Transport, February 2013 (summary report and technical background report available in English at <http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Mercury/Informationmaterials/ReportsandPublications/tabid/3593/Default.aspx>)**

31. The 2013 update to the 2008 report on the global atmospheric mercury assessment was requested by the Governing Council of UNEP at its twenty-fifth session. The document was officially issued during the fifth session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee and information was made available to participants.

32. This report presents sources of mercury emissions to air and water. It presents estimates of anthropogenic emissions to air from various sources based on data from 2010 and estimates for releases to aquatic environment. The report also presents the latest information on atmospheric and aquatic chemistry, fate and transport. It is an overall summary report for policy makers based on a technical background report.

33. 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

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releases to the environment, information on atmospheric and aquatic chemistry and fate and transport of mercury. The report is a fully referenced scientific background report for *Global Mercury Assessment 2013: Sources, Emissions, Releases and Environmental Transport*.

**AA. Report on Overall Progress of the United Nations Environment Programme Global Mercury Partnership, July 2010 – June 2012 (available in English at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Meeting%20Report%20PAG%204.doc](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/Meeting%20Report%20PAG%204.doc))**

34. The report, on overall progress of the United Nations Environment Programme Global Mercury Partnership, was developed by the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership Advisory Group and reflects input received from within the partnership areas. It considers the future direction of the Partnership and provides an overview of the status and scope of the partnership areas.

**BB. Global Chemicals Outlook: Towards Sound Management of Chemicals. Synthesis Report for Decision Makers, September 2012 (available in the six official United Nations languages at [www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/UNEPsWork/Mainstreaming/GlobalChemicalsOutlook/tabid/56356/Default.aspx](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/UNEPsWork/Mainstreaming/GlobalChemicalsOutlook/tabid/56356/Default.aspx))**

35. The synthesis report for decision makers describes the main findings and conclusions of the full report “Global Chemicals Outlook: Towards Sound Management of Chemicals.” The report was developed by UNEP in collaboration with the World Health Organization. It was also developed in collaboration with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and other member institutions of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals and reflects the work of the Global Chemicals Outlook Steering Committee, which is composed of representatives of Governments, the private sector, civil society and academia.