### INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

#### 1. Information on the party

**Name of party**
Italy

**Date on which its instrument of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance was deposited**
5 January 2021

**Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party**
5 April 2021

#### 2. Information on the national focal point

**Full name of the institution**
Ministry of Ecological Transition

**Title of National Focal Point**
Ms.

**Name of National Focal Point**
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#### 3. Information about the contact officer submitting the reporting format if different from the above

Focal Point is submitting the national report

- Information is submitted by the national focal point
- Information is submitted through the national focal point by the contact officer
ART. 3: MERCURY SUPPLY SOURCES AND TRADE

3.1. Does the party have any primary mercury mines that were operating within its territory at the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- Yes
- No

Additional information on this question if needed

(Empty)

3.2. Does the party have any primary mercury mines that are now in operation that were not in operation at the time of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- Yes
- No

3.3. Has the party endeavoured to identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons and sources of mercury supply generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year that are located within its territory?

- Yes
- No

ba34_subsection

*If the party answered Yes to Question 3 above:

i. Please attach the results of your endeavor or indicate where it is available on the internet, unless unchanged from a previous reporting round.

Currently, to our knowledge, based on the information received so far, there would be no individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 tons and sources of mercury supply that generate stocks exceeding 10 tons per year that are located within the territory.

ii. Supplemental: Please provide any related information, for example on the use or disposal of mercury from such stocks and sources.

(Empty)

3.4. Does the party have excess mercury available from the decommissioning of chlor-alkali facilities?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please explain the measures taken to ensure that the excess mercury was disposed of in accordance with the guidelines for environmentally sound management referred to in paragraph 3 (a) of article 11 using operations that did not lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct re-use or alternative uses.

The only chlor-alkali plant with mercury cell technology, currently present on the Italian territory, carried out the decommissioning operations on schedule by 2021 and sent for solidification and for permanent storage the obtained mercury waste, according to the national provisions and the European legislation framework, in particular the Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury that, in its chapter IV, set out the provisions for the disposal of mercury waste from the decommissioning of chlor-alkali facilities.

3.5. *Has the party received consent, or relied on a general notification of consent, in accordance with article 3, including any required certification from importing non-parties, for all exports of mercury from the party’s territory in the reporting period?
### Declarations

#### ba35_subsection

If yes, a. and the party has submitted copies of the consent forms to the secretariat, then no further information is needed. If the party has not previously provided such copies, it is recommended that it do so.

- a. and the party has submitted copies of the consent forms to the secretariat, then no further information is needed.
  - (Empty)

Otherwise, please provide other suitable information showing that the relevant requirements of paragraph 6 of article 3 have been met.

The export for solidification took place in accordance with the national and European legislation procedures.

#### Supplemental: please provide information on the use of the exported mercury.

- (Empty)

Kindly attach all relevant information

- (Empty)

b. If exports were based on a general notification in accordance with article 3, paragraph 7, please indicate, if available, the total amount exported and any relevant terms or conditions in the general notification related to use.

- (Empty)

**Relevant terms or conditions in the general notification related to use**

- (Empty)

### 3.6. Has the party allowed the import of mercury from a non-party?

- No
- Yes
- The importing party has relied on paragraph 7 of article 3

#### Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

- (Empty)

### ART. 4: MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS

#### 4.1. Has the party taken any appropriate measures to not allow the manufacture, import or export of mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annex A of the Convention after the phase-out date specified for those products?

- Yes
- No
- Yes (implementing paragraph 2 of article 4)

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

The manufacture, import or export of mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annex A to the Convention are regulated by the following European regulatory instruments, legally binding in Italy:

- Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury
- Regulation (EU) n. 528/2012 (Regulation on biocides)
- Regulation (EC) n. 1907/2006 ("REACH")
4.3. Has the party taken two or more measures for the mercury-added products listed in Part II of Annex A in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

☐ Yes
☐ No

If yes, please provide information on the measures.
The use of dental amalgam in Italy is regulated through national legislation, in particular with the Ministerial Decree of 10 October 2001 (Official Journal no. 261 dd 09.11.2001), which establishes the prohibition of use, import and marketing, on Italian territory, of dental amalgams not prepared in the form of pre-dosed capsules, and gives rules on precautions and warnings to be reported in the instructions for use of dental amalgams marketed in Italy.
Furthermore, the use of dental amalgam is regulated through European legislation and in particular by Article 10 of Regulation (EU) 2017/852. On the basis of this legislation, Italy has approved a National Plan concerning the measures it intends to implement to phase down the use of dental amalgam (Ministerial decree 11 November 2020), which can be downloaded at this link: https://www.mite.gov.it/pagina/il–regolamento–ue–2017852–sul–mercurio or at the Ministry of Health link: https://www.salute.gov.it/портал/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=5340

4.4. Has the party taken measures to prevent the incorporation into assembled products of mercury-added products whose manufacture, import and export are not allowed under article 4?

☐ Yes
☐ No

4.5. Has the party discouraged the manufacture and the distribution in commerce of mercury-added products not covered by any known use in accordance with article 4, paragraph 6?

☐ Yes
☐ No

If no, has there been an assessment of the risks and benefits of the product that demonstrates environmental or health benefits? Has the party provided to the secretariat, as appropriate, information on any such product?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

[Empty]

▼ ART. 5: MANUFACTURING PROCESSES IN WHICH MERCURY OR MERCURY COMPOUNDS ARE USED

5.1. Are there facilities within the territory of the party that use mercury or mercury compounds for the processes listed in Annex B of the Minamata Convention in accordance with paragraph 5 of article 5 of the Convention?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ I do not know

If yes, please provide information on measures taken to address emissions and releases of mercury or mercury compounds from such facilities.
The only chlor-alkali plant with mercury cell technology, currently present on the Italian territory, has definitively concluded this kind of operation by the deadline set in Annex III of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury (11 December 2017), and has carried out the decommissioning operations on schedule by 2021.

If available, please provide information on the number and type of facilities and the estimated annual amount of
mercury or mercury compounds used in those facilities.

(Empty)

Please provide information on how much mercury (in metric tons) is used in the processes listed in the two first entries of Part II of Annex B in the last year of the reporting period. Mercury is not used in these processes.

5.2. Are measures in place to not allow the use of mercury or mercury compounds in manufacturing processes listed in Part I of Annex B after the phase-out date specified in that Annex for the individual process?

**CHLOR-ALKALI PRODUCTION**

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

**If yes, please provide information on these measures.**

Annex III of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury prescribes that the use of mercury and mercury compounds in the chlor-alkali production in which mercury is used as an electrode shall be prohibited as from 11 December 2017.

**ACETALDEHYDE PRODUCTION IN WHICH MERCURY OR MERCURY COMPOUNDS ARE USED AS A CATALYST**

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

**If yes, please provide information on these measures.**

To our knowledge, acetaldehyde production is not available within the territory.

5.3. Are measures in place to restrict the use of mercury or mercury compounds in the processes listed in Part II of Annex B in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

**VINYL CHLORIDE MONOMER PRODUCTION**

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

**If yes, please provide information on these measures.**

Annex III of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury prescribes that the use of mercury and mercury compounds in the production of vinyl chloride monomer shall be prohibited from 1 January 2022. To our knowledge, there is no vinyl chloride monomer production in Italy that involves the use of mercury and mercury compounds.

**SODIUM OR POTASSIUM METHYLATE OR ETHYLATE**

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable (do not have these facilities)
If yes, please provide information on these measures.
Annex III of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury prescribes that the use of mercury and mercury compounds in the production of sodium or potassium methyleate or ethylate shall be prohibited from 1 January 2028. Moreover, this kind of production is subject to the following conditions: (a) no use of mercury from primary mercury mining; (b) reduction of direct and indirect release of mercury and of mercury compounds into air, water and land in terms of per unit production by 50% by 2020 as compared to 2010; (c) supporting research and development in respect of mercury–free manufacturing processes; and (d) as from 13 June 2017, the capacity of installations using mercury and mercury compounds for the production of sodium or potassium methyleate or ethylate that were in operation before that date shall not be increased and no new installations shall be allowed.
To our knowledge, there is no sodium or potassium methyleate or ethylate production in Italy that involves the use of mercury and mercury compounds.

### PRODUCTION OF POLYURETHANE USING MERCURY–CONTAINING CATALYSTS
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

If yes, please provide information on these measures.
Annex III of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury prescribes that the use of mercury and mercury compounds in the production of polyurethane, to the extent not already restricted or prohibited in accordance with entry 62 of Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006, shall be prohibited from 1 January 2018. To our knowledge, there is no polyurethane production in Italy that involves the use of mercury and mercury compounds.

5.4. Is there any use of mercury or mercury compounds in a facility using the manufacturing processes listed in Annex B that did not exist prior to the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

5.5. Is there any facility that has been developed using any other manufacturing process in which mercury or mercury compounds are intentionally used that did not exist prior to the date of entry into force of the Convention?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so
[Empty]

▼ ART. 7: ARTISANAL AND SMALL–SCALE GOLD MINING

7.1. Have steps been taken to reduce, and where feasible eliminate, the use of mercury and mercury compounds in, and the emissions and releases to the environment of mercury from, artisanal and small–scale gold mining and processing subject to article 7 within your territory?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
7.2. Has the party determined and notified the secretariat that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing within its territory is more than insignificant?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

[Empty]

▼ ART. 8: EMISSIONS

8.1. Identify any Annex D source categories for which there are new sources of emissions of mercury or mercury compounds as defined in paragraph 2 (c) of article 8.

For each of those source categories describe the measures in place, including the effectiveness of such measures, to implement the requirements of paragraph 4 of article 8.

☑ Coal-fired power plants

Coal-fired power plants
According to the definition of “new source” provided in paragraph 2 (c) of article 8, this issue is not applicable for the reporting period, as the ratification was carried out in 2021.

☑ Coal-fired industrial boilers

Coal-fired industrial boilers
According to the definition of “new source” provided in paragraph 2 (c) of article 8, this issue is not applicable for the reporting period, as the ratification was carried out in 2021.

☑ Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals

Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals
According to the definition of “new source” provided in paragraph 2 (c) of article 8, this issue is not applicable for the reporting period, as the ratification was carried out in 2021.

☑ Waste incineration facilities

Waste incineration facilities
According to the definition of “new source” provided in paragraph 2 (c) of article 8, this issue is not applicable for the reporting period, as the ratification was carried out in 2021.

☑ Cement clinker production facilities

Cement clinker production facilities
According to the definition of “new source” provided in paragraph 2 (c) of article 8, this issue is not applicable for the reporting period, as the ratification was carried out in 2021.

Has the party required the use of best available techniques or best environmental practices (BAT/BEP) to control and where feasible reduce emissions for new sources no later than 5 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Attach relevant documentation

[Empty]
8.2. Identify any Annex D source categories for which there are existing sources of emissions of mercury or mercury compounds as defined in paragraph 2 (e) of article 8.

For each of those source categories, select and provide details on the measures implemented under paragraph 5 of article 8 and explain the progress that these applied measures have achieved in reducing emissions over time in your territory:

**COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS**

- A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

**Measures**

In Italy, the principles and precautions envisaged by Directive 96/61 / EC (IPPC), subsequently updated and integrated by Directive 2010/75/EU (IED) on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control), apply. These directives have been implemented, adopted and regulated in Italy by Legislative Decree 152/2006 and related subsequent amendments and additions. Directive 2010/75/EU lays down rules on the integrated prevention and reduction of pollution arising from industrial activities. It also lays down rules to prevent or, where this is not feasible, to reduce emissions to air, water and soil and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment as a whole. Operators of the authorised installations under this legislation are also subject to a control and monitoring plan which identifies pollutants, analytical methods and monitoring frequencies.

**Progress**

Considering that the legislation has been adopted in Italy since 2006, the undoubted progress achieved is not directly attributable to the application of the Minamata Convention, and to date cannot be easily quantified.

**COAL-FIRED INDUSTRIAL BOILERS**

- A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

**Measures**

In Italy, the principles and precautions envisaged by Directive 96/61 / EC (IPPC), subsequently updated and integrated by Directive 2010/75/EU (IED) on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control), apply. These directives have been implemented, adopted and regulated in Italy by Legislative Decree 152/2006 and related subsequent amendments and additions. Directive 2010/75/EU lays down rules on the integrated prevention and reduction of pollution arising from industrial activities. It also lays down rules to prevent or, where this is not feasible, to reduce emissions to air, water and soil and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment as a whole. Operators of the authorised installations under this legislation are also subject to a control and monitoring plan which identifies pollutants, analytical methods and monitoring frequencies.

**Progress**

Considering that the legislation has been adopted in Italy since 2006, the undoubted progress achieved is not directly attributable to the application of the Minamata Convention, and to date cannot be easily quantified.

To our knowledge, this technology does not exist in the territory.

**SMELTING AND ROASTING PROCESSES USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF NON-FERROUS METALS**
A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources

Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions

Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
In Italy, the principles and precautions envisaged by Directive 96/61 / EC (IPPC), subsequently updated and integrated by Directive 2010/75/EU (IED) on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control), apply. These directives have been implemented, adopted and regulated in Italy by Legislative Decree 152/2006 and related subsequent amendments and additions. Directive 2010/75/EU lays down rules on the integrated prevention and reduction of pollution arising from industrial activities. It also lays down rules to prevent or, where this is not feasible, to reduce emissions to air, water and soil and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment as a whole. Operators of the authorised installations under this legislation are also subject to a control and monitoring plan which identifies pollutants, analytical methods and monitoring frequencies.

Progress
Considering that the legislation has been adopted in Italy since 2006, the undoubted progress achieved is not directly attributable to the application of the Minamata Convention, and to date cannot be easily quantified.

WASTE INCINERATION FACILITIES

A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources

Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions

Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures
In Italy, the principles and precautions envisaged by Directive 96/61 / EC (IPPC), subsequently updated and integrated by Directive 2010/75/EU (IED) on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control), apply. These directives have been implemented, adopted and regulated in Italy by Legislative Decree 152/2006 and related subsequent amendments and additions. Directive 2010/75/EU lays down rules on the integrated prevention and reduction of pollution arising from industrial activities. It also lays down rules to prevent or, where this is not feasible, to reduce emissions to air, water and soil and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment as a whole. Operators of the authorised installations under this legislation are also subject to a control and monitoring plan which identifies pollutants, analytical methods and monitoring frequencies.

Progress
Considering that the legislation has been adopted in Italy since 2006, the undoubted progress achieved is not directly attributable to the application of the Minamata Convention, and to date cannot be easily quantified.

CEMENT CLINKER PRODUCTION FACILITIES

A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources

Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions

Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources
Measures
In Italy, the principles and precautions envisaged by Directive 96/61/EC (IPPC), subsequently updated and integrated by Directive 2010/75/EU (IED) on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control), apply. These directives have been implemented, adopted and regulated in Italy by Legislative Decree 152/2006 and related subsequent amendments and additions. Directive 2010/75/EU lays down rules on the integrated prevention and reduction of pollution arising from industrial activities. It also lays down rules to prevent or, where this is not feasible, to reduce emissions to air, water and soil and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment as a whole. Operators of the authorised installations under this legislation are also subject to a control and monitoring plan which identifies pollutants, analytical methods and monitoring frequencies.

Progress
Considering that the legislation has been adopted in Italy since 2006, the undoubted progress achieved is not directly attributable to the application of the Minamata Convention, and to date cannot be easily quantified.

Have the measures for existing sources under paragraph 5 of article 8 been implemented no later than 10 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

☐ Yes
☐ No

8.3. Has the party prepared an inventory of emissions from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the Convention for it?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Have not been a party for 5 years

8.4. Has the party chosen to establish criteria to identify relevant sources covered within a source category?

☐ Yes
☐ No

8.5. Has the party chosen to prepare a national plan setting out the measures to be taken to control emissions from relevant sources and its expected targets, goals and outcomes?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

Italy has implemented a national Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) to comply with Regulation EC n.166/2006 whose scope includes also Minamata Convention Annex D point sources among the releases/transfer source categories. Mercury emissions are also estimated annually in the national air emissions inventory, which Italy, as Party to the UN–ECE–CLRTAP Convention, has to update and communicate every year. MC Annex D point sources are included also among the source categories for the national air emissions inventory.

▼ ART. 9: RELEASES

9.1. Are there, within the party’s territory, relevant sources of releases as defined in paragraph 2 (b) of article 9?

☐ Yes
☐ No
Please explain
A clear definition of "releases" and of "relevant sources of releases" under the MC would allow a better understanding of this reporting requirement. Meanwhile the national Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) helps providing information about releases of pollutants to water. According to the definition of releases of the European Regulation EC n.166/2006 (Reg. EPRTR: ‘release’ means any introduction of pollutants into the environment as a result of any human activity, whether deliberate or accidental, routine or non–routine, including spilling, emitting, discharging, injecting, disposing or dumping, or through sewer systems without final waste-water treatment), to our knowledge, there is no relevant sources of releases as defined in paragraph 2 (b) of article 9 within the territory.

9.2. Has the party established an inventory of releases from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the convention for it?

- Yes
- Relevant sources do not exist in the territory
- Have not been a party for 5 years
- No

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

(Empty)

▼ ART. 10: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND INTERIM STORAGE OF MERCURY, OTHER THAN WASTE MERCURY

10.1. Has the party taken measures to ensure that the interim storage of non–waste mercury and mercury compounds intended for a use allowed to a party under the Convention is undertaken in an environmentally sound manner?

- Yes
- No
- I do not know

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

To our knowledge, there is no interim storage of non–waste mercury and mercury compounds in the territory.

▼ ART. 11: MERCURY WASTES

11.1. Have measures outlined in article 11, paragraph 3, been implemented for the party’s mercury waste?

- Yes
- No

Please describe the measures implemented pursuant to paragraph 3, and please also describe the effectiveness of those measures.

In Italy, the regulation (EU) 2017/852 sets the provisions on mercury waste. This regulation do not allow any management of mercury waste in disagreement with the provisions of Minamata Convention. In particular, Article 14 provides for traceability measures, and Article 12 sets data communication provisions. Other provisions on the environmentally sound management of mercury waste are set in Directive 2008/98/EC, establishing, inter alia, the extended producer responsibility (art. 8), in order to strengthen the re–use and the prevention, recycling and other recovery of waste, the waste management plans (art. 28) and the inspections (art. 34).
Moreover, Italy is a Party of Basel Convention and therefore apply the provisions and the guidelines established by the Convention.

11.2. Are there facilities for final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds in the party’s territory?

- Yes
- No
- I do not know

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

[Empty]

ART. 12: CONTAMINATED SITES

12.1. Has the party endeavoured to develop strategies for identifying and assessing sites contaminated by mercury or mercury compounds in its territory?

- Yes
- No

Please elaborate

Italy started to deal with contaminated sites in a systematic way at national level with Legislative Decree n.22 of February the 5th of 1997, with subsequent Ministerial Decree n.471 of October the 25th of 1999 providing specific administrative and technical procedures for identification and management. Before 1997 some Regions had their specific regional legislation. In 2006 a relevant change in legislation has been provided by the Legislative Decree n. 152, with a risk-based approach for the assessment and management of contaminated sites. The former (Ministerial Decree n.471 of 1999) and current (Legislative Decree n. 152/06 – Part IV – Title V) legislation on contaminated sites, include mercury in the list of contaminants that have reference concentration values set by the law for soil/sub-soil and groundwater.

Legislation on “Contaminated Sites Management” (Annex V of Legislative Decree n. 152/06 – Part IV – Title V) provides “screening values” (Contamination Threshold Concentrations – CSC) for Mercury in soil of 1 mg/Kg for residential/green land use and 5 mg/Kg for industrial/commercial land use. Mercury screening value in surface soil of agricultural areas used for food production (Decree of the Ministry of the Environment n. 46/2019) is 1 mg/Kg. Mercury screening value in groundwater is 1 μg/L (tap water standard, according to Directive 98/83/EC).

The contaminated sites identification procedure starts when occurs an event that may cause soil and/or groundwater contamination or when an historical contamination is discovered. In these cases a preliminary investigation is required to determine contaminant concentrations in the environmental media (soil, sub-soil and groundwater) and to make comparison with ‘Contamination Threshold Concentrations’ (CSC, i.e. screening values for residential and industrial commercial land uses).

After preliminary investigation the site is defined as “Potentially Contaminated Site” if the concentrations of one or more chemicals in the environmental media (soil, sub-soil and groundwater) exceed ‘Contamination Threshold Concentrations’ (CSC, i.e. generic screening values). Potentially contaminated sites (i.e. sites where screening values CSC are exceeded) need a detailed site investigation followed by a site-specific risk assessment to evaluate site-specific ‘Risk Threshold Concentrations’ (CSR, i.e. site specific target values). However the polluter may decide directly to remediate the site to screening values (CTCs) without performing the site-specific risk assessment. If Risk Threshold Concentrations (CSR) are exceeded, than the site is defined as “Contaminated Site” and needs for intervention, i.e. remediation or risk reduction measures. A Site is defined as “Uncontaminated Site” if the contamination found in the environmental media (soil, sub-soil and groundwater) is below CSC or, if CSC are exceeded, is below the site-specific CSR derived from risk assessment.

Contaminated, potentially contaminated and remediated sites managed at regional/local level are identified and listed in regional inventories. These Inventories, which are not all publicly accessible, are not specific for sites contaminated with mercury/mercury compounds, but cover all sites contaminated by chemicals for which screening values (CSC) are provided.

National legislation also defines the Sites of National Interest (SIN) – National Priority List Sites – that due to their contamination/management complexity are under the direct care of the Ministry of Ecological Transition (41 SINs identified on 31/12/2019).

Generally speaking, a site is included in the regional inventory as a potentially contaminated site as soon as there is an identified exceedance of one contamination threshold concentration (CSC). The information in the inventories is updated, e.g. when a given site is proved to be contaminated (exceedance of risk threshold concentration (CSR)) and then remediated.
ART. 13: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISM

13.1. Has the party undertaken to provide, within its capabilities, resources in respect of those national activities that are intended to implement the Convention in accordance with its national policies, priorities, plans and programmes?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Please specify
The Italian ratification law, namely "Legge 8 ottobre 2020, n. 134 – Ratifica ed esecuzione della Convenzione di Minamata sul mercurio, con Allegati, fatta a Kumamoto il 10 ottobre 2013", provides, in art. 4, financial provisions to meet the requirements deriving from its implementation.

Please provide comments, if any.
(Empty)

13.2. Supplemental: Has the party, within its capabilities, contributed to the mechanism referred to in paragraph 5 of article 13?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Please specify
Italy is a usual donor of the GEF.

Please provide comments, if any.
(Empty)

13.3. Supplemental: Has the party provided financial resources to assist developing–country parties and/or parties with economies in transition in the implementation of the Convention through other bilateral, regional and multilateral sources or channels?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Please specify
The ratification has been made in 2021

Please provide comments, if any.
(Empty)

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so
(Empty)

ART. 14: CAPACITY–BUILDING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

14.1. Has the party cooperated to provide capacity–building or technical assistance, pursuant to article 14, to another party to the Convention?
14.2. Supplemental: Has the party received capacity-building or technical assistance pursuant to article 14?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Please specify
Not being a developing country or a country with economy in transition, as specifically mentioned in article 14, Italy cannot receive capacity-building or technical assistance pursuant to article 14.

Please provide comments, if any.
(Empty)

14.3. Has the party promoted and facilitated the development, transfer and diffusion of and access to, up-to-date environmentally sound alternative technologies?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Other

Please specify
In this context, the up-to-date environmentally sound alternative technologies seem to refer to technologies useful for reducing emissions/releases of mercury or mercury compounds. If that is the case, Italy was not involved in projects covering these aspects. Otherwise, in the case that it is possible to refer to technologies useful for monitoring Hg levels in ambient air, the Italian National Research Council CNR-IIA promoted the development of Passive Air Samplers (CNR-PASs) for gaseous elemental mercury in the framework of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)-funded UNEP project “Development of a Plan for Global Monitoring of Human Exposure to and Environmental Concentrations of Mercury”. The aim of the project was to harmonize the approaches and to strengthen the analytical ability, at a global level, for the accurate monitoring of the mercury concentrations, both in the ambient air and in the human biological components. In this regard, in order to develop a global Mercury Monitoring Plan for the implementation of the International Convention of Minamata on Mercury, the project was agreed by the Chemicals and Health Branch of the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment), in collaboration with the World Health Organization – European Centre for Environment and Health (WHO – ECEH), involved in mercury monitoring in ambient air and biological compartments, respectively.

An ad-hoc campaign to monitor mercury levels in ambient air in South Africa, carried out thanks to the PAS systems, has been scheduled and is about to begin.

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

Passive Air Samplers (PASs) for mercury are innovative sampling devices developed in response to the limitations of conventional instrumentation and to the necessity of expanding the knowledge on long-range transport of mercury, to have available monitoring data from remote areas and to support the implementation of the Minamata Convention for the improvement of atmospheric mercury monitoring actions and for the characterization of mercury sources. Generally, PASs are compact and portable devices, and smaller than those of conventional...
instrumentation, so that they can be easily handled, transported, and installed in situ. Furthermore, PASs do not require external power supply (a limiting factor in many areas for active instruments), gas cylinders and mechanical pumps for working and, therefore, they are silent sampling devices suitable for monitoring studies both indoors and outdoors. Due to their ease of use, PAS samplers can be deployed in different positions without requiring continuous and expert installation, supervision, and maintenance by the operators. The advantages over conventional instrumentation allow to overcome the lacks shown by the active sampling technique and to integrate existing monitoring approaches. In fact, the properties of the PASs make passive sampling more appropriate and suitable for screening studies and for the monitoring of long-term mercury concentrations, as well as in background sites, even in dangerous and extreme environments, such as wild and remote areas, where electricity is not available and where the maintenance of active samplers would be difficult, as well as in developing countries where the cost of active samplers would be prohibitive.

**ART. 16: HEALTH ASPECTS**

16.1. Have measures been taken to provide information to the public on exposure to mercury in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 16?

- Yes
- No

**Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.**

Italy has implemented several tools to inform the population about the damage to health caused by mercury pollution. The dedicated web pages on the websites of the Ministry of Ecological Transition (https://www.mite.gov.it/pagina/inquinamento-da-mercurio), Ministry of Health (https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=5340) and the National Institute of Health (https://www.issalute.it/index.php/la-salute-dalla-a-alla-z-menu/m/mercurio#effetti-sulla-salute) are of particular importance. In addition, the Ministry of Ecological Transition has drawn up an information bulletin, which have wide distribution, focused on mercury, with information also on health aspects: https://www.mite.gov.it/sites/default/files/archivio/allegati/reach/reach_bollettino_numer01_gennaio2018_mercurio.pdf

16.2. Have any other measures been taken to protect human health in accordance with article 16?

- Yes
- No

**Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.**

Several legislations including measures to protect human health from the risks of mercury exposure have been implemented in the EU and consistently implemented at national level.

A non-exhaustive list of regulations below:

- Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH)
- Directive (EU) 2016/2284 on the reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants
- Council Directive 98/24/EC on the protection of the health and safety of workers from the risks related to chemical agents at work
- Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 laying down harmonised conditions for the marketing of construction products
- Regulation (EC) No 66/2010 on the EU Ecolabel
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 450/2009 on active and intelligent materials and articles intended to come into contact with food
- Directive 2001/95/EC on general product safety
- Directive 98/79/EC on In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices
- Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control)
- Directive 2008/68/EC on the inland transport of dangerous goods
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 10/2011 on plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food
- Directive 2014/68/EU on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of pressure equipment
- Council Directive 92/85/EEC of 19 October 1992 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health at work of pregnant workers and workers who have recently given birth or are breastfeeding...
Council Directive 94/33/EC on the protection of young people at work
EU Directive 92/58/EEC on the minimum requirements for the provision of safety and/or health signs at work
Directive 2009/48/EC on the safety of toys
Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009 on cosmetic products

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

(Empty)

ART. 17: INFORMATION EXCHANGE

17.1. Has the party facilitated the exchange of information referred to in article 17, paragraph 1?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Please provide more information, if any

The exchange of information is being facilitated through the implementation of the GOS4M Knowledge Hub, available at https://gos4m.org/kh and therein described. The GOS4M-KH provides access to datasets and a tool to retrieve information on fate of mercury emissions, from sources to receptors, and in the future estimate of costs associated with policies. This platform includes an emulator for analyses of complex chemo–physical atmospheric model outputs, coupled with a bio–geochemical model to simulate processes in the ocean and trophic model to estimate mercury uptake by biota. The first level macro–indicator is the Hg bioaccumulation in biological endpoints, which can be Hg in fish at upper trophic level, the second level is the Hg concentration in ambient air and precipitation samples. Long– term trends of macro–indicators can be analysed to assess the effectiveness of measures on medium–long term time period and eventually estimate associated socio–economic costs.

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

(Empty)

ART. 18: PUBLIC INFORMATION, AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

18.1. Have measures been taken to promote and facilitate the provision to the public of the kinds of information listed in article 18, paragraph 1?

☐ Yes
☐ No

If yes, please indicate the measures that have been taken and the effectiveness of those measures

Italy has implemented several tools to inform the population about the mercury pollution. It has been promoted and facilitated the provision to the public of information specifically related to paragraph 1–a) (iii)– The topics identified in paragraph 1 of Article 17 (see the answer at the previous point); and to paragraph 1–a) (iv) with regard to results of research, development and monitoring activities under Article 19. In respect to this latter aspect, information is available for the monitoring networks being part of the GOS4M (https://sdi.iaa.cn.it/gos4mcat/srv/eng/catalog.search#/home) and the national "Reti Speciali" Agreement (http://www.retspeciali.it/dati/).

Moreover, the dedicated web pages on the websites of the Ministry of Ecological Transition (https://www.mite.gov.it/pagina/inquinamento–da–mercurio) and the National Institute of Health (https://www.issalute.it/index.php/la–salute–dalla–a–alla–z–menu/m/mercurio#effetti–sulla–salute) are relevant for the provision to the public of information on health and environmental effects of mercury and mercury compounds. In addition, the Ministry of Ecological Transition has drawn up an information bulletin focused on
ART. 19: RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING

19.1. Has the party undertaken any research, development and monitoring in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 19?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please describe these actions

Research activity is being conducted on modelling mercury fate and transport to understand emission reduction scenarios as well as on Hg impact on human health. Results of research are published in open access journals to make them available to the wide public. A list of recent papers can be found at https://sdi.iia.cnr.it/hermes/dissemination/dissemination.zul

National monitoring of mercury in ambient air occurs through "Reti Speciali" (http://www.retspeciali.it/dati/)

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

(Empty)

COMMENTS

Part C: Comments regarding possible challenges in meeting the objectives of the Convention (Art. 21, para. 1)

The Convention entered into force for Italy on 05/04/2021, after the first full reporting period ended (16 August 2017 until 31 December 2020). Therefore, as confirmed by the Secretariat, the Art. 21 reporting obligation for Italy begins with the second short national report which covers the period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2022. Nevertheless, even if it does not fall within the obligations, Italy is participating in this reporting session on an experimental basis to comply with the implementation and facilitate the work of evaluating the effectiveness of the Convention.

Possible challenges will be reported in the next reporting period, when enough information will be available and the opportunity to verify the consistency of this report will be allowed.

SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Supplemental: Part D: Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

No relevant comments on this point.