



**Lao People's Democratic Republic**  
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

The Coordinator  
Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury  
Chemicals and Waste Branch  
Division of Technology, Industry and Economics  
United Nations Environment Programme  
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Date: May 9, 2016

Dear Sir and Madam,

**Notification that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing is more than insignificant within Lao PDR**

Lao PDR hereby notifies the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing in which mercury amalgamation is used to extract gold from ore is more than insignificant within its territory.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phengkhamla Phonvisai', written in a cursive style.

**Phengkhamla PHONVISAI, Ph. D**  
National SAICM Focal Point