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**United Nations  
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**Conference of the Parties to the  
Minamata Convention on Mercury  
Third meeting**

Geneva, 25–29 November 2019

Item 5 (f) of the provisional agenda\*

**Matters for consideration or action by the  
Conference of the Parties: capacity-building,  
technical assistance and technology transfer**

**Information received from existing regional, sub-regional and  
national arrangements on their capacity-building and technical  
assistance to support parties in implementing their obligations  
under the Minamata Convention**

**Note by the secretariat**

1. At its second meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury adopted decision MC-2/11, entitled “Article 14: Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer”, in which it recalled decision MC-1/21, where it was recognized that some of the existing regional and subregional centres were already developing projects and activities regarding mercury issues. In decision MC-2/11, the Conference of the Parties requested the secretariat of the Minamata Convention to collect the information received from the existing regional, subregional and national arrangements on their capacity-building and technical assistance to support parties in implementing their obligations under the Minamata Convention. It also requested the secretariat to report thereon to the Conference of the Parties at its third meeting, and emphasized the relevance of using, as appropriate, regional, subregional and national arrangements, including existing regional and subregional centres, in the delivery of capacity-building and technical assistance consistent with article 14 of the Convention.
2. The secretariat sought information from parties and other stakeholders relevant to decision MC-2/11 by means of a letter sent by the Executive Secretary on 3 December 2018 to all the participants in the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as well as national focal points for the Convention, permanent missions to the United Nations Environment Programme and permanent missions to the United Nations in Geneva.
3. Two submissions were received in response to the call for input. The first submission was from the Chair of the Steering Committee of the Intergovernmental Network on Chemicals and Waste for Latin America and the Caribbean and the second submission was from the Government of Japan. The information has been compiled in document UNEP/MC/COP.3/INF/14 and is also available on the website of the Minamata Convention at:  
[www.mercuryconvention.org/Meetings/Intersessionalwork/tabid/7857/language/en-US/Default.aspx](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Meetings/Intersessionalwork/tabid/7857/language/en-US/Default.aspx).

\* UNEP/MC/COP.3/1.

4. The first submission describes the regional arrangement of the Intergovernmental Network on Chemicals and Waste for Latin America and the Caribbean, outlining activities in 2017 and 2018, including the adoption of the Action Plan for Regional Cooperation on Chemicals and Waste Management 2019–2020 for Latin America and the Caribbean. The second submission introduces an initiative by Japan to support developing countries' efforts in mercury management. The submission also includes an annex consisting of an overview and report on "Mercury Material Flow in Japan (FY2014)" based on the importance of mercury material flows as baselines in efforts to promote mercury management.

### **Suggested action by the Conference of the Parties**

5. The Conference of the Parties may wish to consider the information provided in the submissions and draw the attention of parties and relevant stakeholders, especially those providing capacity-building and technical assistance pursuant to article 14, to the activities, initiatives and reports mentioned in the submissions as well as to the needs and challenges described therein. The Conference of the Parties may also wish to consider the issue further at its subsequent meetings, taking into account any further information reported by parties pursuant to article 21 or provided by other stakeholders.

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