

**Proceedings of the Eastern European States regional preparatory meeting for the online segment of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury**

**Online, 11 October 2021**

Similar to the segment of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-4) which will be held online from 1 to 5 November 2021 in view of the current COVID-19 pandemic, the COP-4 bureau agreed that the regional preparatory meetings for the online segment of COP-4 would be held online. The objective of the meetings was to give Parties in the regions the possibility to hear briefings, exchange views and consult each other on the items of the provisional agenda to be considered during the online segment of COP-4. The programmes of the online regional preparatory meetings were prepared in close cooperation with the bureau members of the concerned regions.

The Eastern European States regional preparatory meeting for the online segment of COP-4 was held online on 11 October 2021.

The meeting was chaired by Ms. Anahit Aleksandryan (Armenia), and Ms. Karmen Krajnc, members of the COP-4 Bureau. Opening remarks were delivered by COP-4 President, Rosa Vivien Ratnawati (Indonesia), Ms. Monika Stankiewicz, Executive Secretary of Minamata Convention.

Participants were informed of Bureau's decision that, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions on travel and gatherings, COP-4, originally planned to be held from 1 to 5 November 2021 in Bali, Indonesia, would be held in two segments: an online segment scheduled for 1 to 5 November 2021 and an in-person segment to be held during the first quarter of 2022 in Bali, Indonesia. Detailed information was provided to participants on the upcoming online segment of COP-4, including the tentative organization of work, practical arrangements, submission of credentials, and other technical arrangements.

Participants also received a briefing from the Secretariat on the items of the COP-4 agenda to be considered during its online segment, namely programme of work and budget, dates of the resumed meeting, financial resources and mechanism: GEF, national reporting, and effectiveness evaluation. Participants also received a briefing from Canada and Norway on their effectiveness evaluation initiative. Finally, Indonesia presented the proposed Bali Declaration on Combating Global Illegal Trade of Mercury.

Meeting documents and presentations for the online segment along with relevant information about the meeting can be found on the meeting website at:  
<https://www.mercuryconvention.org/en/events/regional-preparatory-meeting-online-segment-cop-4-eastern-european-states>

The programme of the meeting is set out in annex I to the present proceedings.

The meeting was attended by a total of 39 participants, including 23 representatives from 12 Parties. The list of participants is set out in annex II to the present proceedings.

## Annex I: Programme

Programme for the Eastern European States regional preparatory meeting for the online segment of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury 11 October 2021 10:00 a.m. – 14:30 p.m. (Geneva time)		
10.00 – 10.15	- Opening - Overview of the programme	Opening remarks from the co-chairs and the secretariat
<b>Item 1. Introduction to the online segment of COP-4</b>		
10.15 – 11.00	Organization of work, practical arrangements, credentials, and other technical matters related to the participation in the online segment	Presentation by the secretariat, followed by Q&A
<b>Item 2. Items of the agenda of COP-4 to be considered during its online segment</b>		
11.00 – 12.00	Programme of work and budget	Presentation by the secretariat, followed by a discussion
<i>Break</i>		
12.30 – 13.00	- Date of the resumed meeting - Financial resources and mechanism: Global Environment Facility - National reporting	Presentation by the secretariat, followed by a discussion on each item
13.00 – 13.45	Effectiveness evaluation	Presentation by the secretariat, followed by a discussion  Presentation by Canada and Norway on their initiative on effectiveness evaluation  Presentation by Indonesia on the Bali Declaration on Combating Global Illegal Trade of Mercury.
13:45 – 14:15	Continuation of the discussions on the items of the online segment of COP-4	Q&A
14:15 – 14:30	Conclusions and closure of the meeting	Closing remarks from the co-chairs

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*The Eastern European States regional preparatory meeting for the online segment of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury was organized thanks to the generous support of the Government of Switzerland.*  
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**Annex II: List of Participants**

**List of Participants**

# I. GOVERNMENTS

## Armenia

Ms. Anahit Aleksandryan (Co-Chair)  
Legal Advisor to the Minister of Environment,  
National Focal Point to the Minamata Convention on  
Mercury  
Ministry of Environment  
Email: anahit.aleksandryan@env.am

## Bulgaria

Ms. Veronika Orbetsova  
Third Secretary  
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Bulgaria in  
Geneva  
Email: veronika.orbetsova@mfa.bg

Ms. Hristina Filipova  
State Expert  
Integrated Permits and Hazardous Substances  
Department  
Ministry of Environment and Water  
Email: hfilipova@moew.government.bg

Ms. Elena Tchobanova  
State Expert  
Integrated Permits and Hazardous Substances  
Department  
Ministry of Environment and Water  
Email: etchobanova@moew.government.bg

## Croatia

Ms. Virna Milinov  
Senior Expert Adviser  
Sector for Sustainable Waste Management  
Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development  
Email: virna.milinov@mingor.hr

Mr. Mario Vujic  
Senior Expert Adviser-specialist  
Sector for Protection of Air, Soil and from Light  
Pollution  
Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development  
Email: mario.vujic@mingor.hr

## Czech Republic

Mr. Přemysl Štěpánek  
Head of Multilateral Relations Unit  
Ministry of the Environment  
Email: Premysl.Stepanek@mzp.cz

Ms. Michaela Vytopilová  
Policy Advisor  
Department of Environmental Risks and Ecological  
Damage  
Ministry of the Environment  
Email: michaela.vytopilova@mzp.cz

Ms. Kateřina Šebková  
Director of the National Centre for Toxic Compounds  
and Stockholm Convention Regional Centre in the  
Czech Republic  
Masaryk University  
Email: katerina.sebkova@recetox.muni.cz

## Estonia

Ms. Liina Tarkus  
Senior Officer  
Environment Technology Department  
Ministry of the Environment  
Email: liina.tarkus@envir.ee

## Latvia

Ms. Kristine Kazerovska  
Deputy Director  
Environmental Protection Department  
Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional  
Development  
Email: kristine.kazerovska@varam.gov.lv

Ms. Judite Dipane  
Senior Expert  
Pollution Prevention Division  
Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional  
Development  
Email: Judite.Dipane@varam.gov.lv

## Moldova

Ms. Svetlana Bolocan  
Head of the Waste and Chemicals Management  
Policy Department  
Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and  
Environment  
Email: svetlana.bolocan@mediu.gov.md

## Montenegro

Ms. Jelena Kovacevic  
National Focal Point for Minamata Convention

Division for Control of Industrial Pollution and  
Chemicals Management  
Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism  
Email: jelena.kovacevic@mepg.gov.me

### **North Macedonia**

Ms. Suzana Andonova  
National Project Coordinator / Minamata National  
Focal Point  
POPs Unit  
Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning  
Email: s.andonova@pops.org.mk

Ms. Emilija Kjupeva  
Head of Division for chemicals and industrial  
accidents  
Division for chemicals and industrial accidents  
Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning  
Email: e.kupeva@ozoneunit.mk

### **Poland**

Mr. Szymon Domagalski  
Chief Specialist  
Division for International instruments, Department  
for Risk Assessment  
Bureau for Chemical Substances  
Email: szymon.domagalski@chemikalia.gov.pl

Ms. Joanna Michalowska  
Chief Specialist  
Department of Strategy and Planning for Climate  
Transformation

Ministry of Climate and Environment  
Email: joanna.michalowska@klimat.gov.pl

### **Romania**

Ms. Claudia Sorina Dumitru  
Head of Chemicals Section  
Hazardous Substances and Contaminated Sites  
Directorate  
Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests  
Email: claudia.dumitru@mmediu.ro

### **Slovenia**

Ms. Karmen Krajnc (Co-Chair)  
Secretary  
Chemicals Office of the Republic of Slovenia  
Email: karmen.krajnc@gov.si

Mr. Alojz Grabner  
Director  
Chemicals Office of the Republic of Slovenia  
Email: Alojz.Grabner@gov.si

Ms. Barbara Blaznik Marc  
Senior Advisor  
Chemicals Office of the Republic of Slovenia  
Email: Barbara.Blaznik-Marc@gov.si

Ms. Vesna Ternifi  
Secretary  
Chemicals Office of the Republic of Slovenia  
Email: vesna.ternifi@gov.si

## II. SECRETARIAT

### Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Ms. Monika Stankiewicz  
Executive Secretary  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: monika.stankiewicz@un.org

Ms. Claudia ten Have  
Senior Policy Coordination Officer  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: claudia.tenhave@un.org

Mr. Eisaku Toda  
Senior Programme Management Officer  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: eisaku.toda@un.org

Ms. Marianne Bailey  
Programme Officer for Capacity-building and  
Technical Assistance  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: marianne.bailey@un.org

Ms. Manoela Pessoa De Miranda  
Programme Management Officer  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: manoela.miranda@un.org

Ms. Sandra Ruecker  
Administrative Officer  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: sandra.ruecker@un.org

Ms. Anna Garcia Sans  
Communication and Knowledge Management Officer  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: anna.garcia@un.org

Mr. Richard Gutierrez  
Programme Management Officer

Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: richard.gutierrez@un.org

Ms. Lara Ognibene  
Legal/Programme Officer  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: lara.ognibene@un.org

Ms. Reena Agrawal  
Finance and Budget Assistant  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: reena.agrawal@un.org

Mr. Pablo Garmon  
Public Information Assistant  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: pablo.garmonfidalgo@un.org

Mr. Alexandru Sofroni  
Programme Management Assistant  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: alexandru.sofroni@un.org

Ms. My Linh Doan  
Programme Management Assistant  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: linh.doan@un.org

Ms. Joyce Saad  
Programme Management Assistant  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: saadj@un.org

Ms. Ruvimbo Kamba  
Consultant : SIP Programme Review  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: ruvimbo.kamba@un.org

Mr. Shariful Islam  
Associate on Programme Management  
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention  
Email: shariful.islam1@un.org