Proceedings of the Latin America and the Caribbean regional preparatory meeting for the online segment of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Online, 8 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 Latin America and the Caribbean regional preparatory meeting for the online segment of COP-4 was held online on 8 October 2021.

The meeting was chaired by Ms. Angela Patricia Rivera Galvis (Colombia) and Ms. Bethune Morgan, members of the COP-4 Bureau. Opening remarks were delivered by Ambassador Virgilio Alcántara, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations Office in Geneva, COP-4 President, Rosa Vivien Ratnawati (Indonesia), and 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-latin-america-and-caribbean

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

The meeting was attended by a total of 93 participants, including 76 representatives from 17 Parties from the Latin America and the Caribbean region. The list of participants is set out in annex II to the present proceedings.
Annex I: Programme

Programme for the Latin America and the Caribbean regional preparatory meeting for the online segment of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury
8 October 2021, 14:00 – 21:00 (Geneva time)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Presenter/Details</th>
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| 14.00 – 14.15 | Opening  
| 14.15 – 15.00 | 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                                  |
| 15.00 – 16.00 | Programme of work and budget                                              | Presentation by the secretariat, followed by a discussion                           |
| Break   |                                                                          |                                                                                   |
| 16.30 – 17.15 | - 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             |
| 17.15 – 17.45 | 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. |
| 17.45 – 18.15 | Continuation of the discussions on the items of the online segment of COP-4 | Q&A                                                                               |
| 18.15 – 18.30 | Conclusions and closure of the meeting                                  | Closing remarks from the co-chairs                                                |
| Break   |                                                                          |                                                                                   |
| 19.00 – 21.00 | Additional time for discussion                                           | Closed-door meeting moderated by the co-chairs                                    |

The Latin America and the Caribbean 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.
Annex II: List of Participants

List of Participants
I. GOVERNMENTS

Argentina

Ms. Marisol Díaz Rivera
Hazardous Waste Coordinator
National Chemicals and Hazardous Waste Directorate
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
Email: mdiazrivera@ambiente.gob.ar

Mr. Agustin Harte
Technical Coordinator
National Chemicals and Hazardous Waste Directorate
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
Email: aharte@ambiente.gob.ar

Ms. Angela Teves Libarona
Secretaria de Embajada
Directorate of Environmental Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Email: tvl@mrecic.gov.ar

Mr. Bruno Ané
Advisor
Permanent Mission of Argentina in Geneva
Email: bruno.ane@missionarg.ch

Bolivia

Ms. Miroslava Vierka Castellon Geier
Profesional Responsible del PRONACOP’s Programa Nacional de Contaminantes Organicos Persistentes
Email: castellonmiroslava@gmail.com

Brazil

Mr. Helges Samuel Bandeira
Second Secretary
Permanent Mission of Brazil in Geneva
Email: helges.bandeira@itamaraty.gov.br

Mr. Pedro Piacesi de Souza
Second Secretary
Permanent Mission of Brazil in Geneva
Email: pedro.piacesi@itamaraty.gov.br

Mr. Matheus Freitas Rocha Bastos
Third Secretary
Division of the Environment II (DEMA II)
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Email: matheus.bastos@itamaraty.gov.br

Mr. Carlos Hugo Suarez Sampaio
Project Coordinator
Department of International Relations
Ministry of the Environment
Email: hugo.suarez@mma.gov.br

Mr. Erico Grassi Cademartori
Environmental Expert
Department of International Relations
Ministry of the Environment
Email: erico.grassi@mma.gov.br

Ms. Ana Cristina Linhares
Environmental Analyst
Coordination for the Control of Waste and Emissions
Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA)
Email: ana.linhares@ibama.gov.br

Ms. Thais Cavendish
Coordinator
Department of Surveillance in Environmental Health and Occupational Health
Ministry of Health
Email: thais.cavendish@saude.gov.br

Ms. Daniela Matos E Campos Do Amaral
Deputy Coordinator for International Cooperation
Brazilian Health Regulatory Agency
Email: daniela.amaral@anvisa.gov.br

Ms. Lady Virginia Traldi Meneses
Coordinator
Multilateral Agreement Division
Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Capacity-Building and the Transfer of Technology (SCRC Brazil) / Companhia Ambiental do Estado de Sao Paulo (CETESB)
Email: lmeneses@sp.gov.br

Chile

Mr. Osvaldo Patricio Álvarez-Pérez
Consejero
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Email: oalvarez@minrel.gob.cl

Ms. Claudia Aravena
Analista de Medio Ambiente y Asuntos Oceánicos
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Email: caravena@minrel.gob.cl
Mr. Ricardo Matute  
Asesor  
Permanent Mission of Chile in Geneva  
Email: rmatute@minrel.gob.cl

Ms. Paulina Riquelme  
Abogada  
Sociedad Nacional de Minería  
Email: priquelme@eelaw.cl

Mr. Cristián Brito  
Funcionario  
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente  
Email: CBrito@mma.gob.cl

**Colombia**

Ms. Ángela Patricia Rivera Galvis (Co-Chair)  
Contratista  
Oficina de Asuntos Internacionales  
Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible  
Email: arivera@minambiente.gov.co

Ms. Marjorie Andrea González Ramírez  
Segundo Secretario de Relaciones Exteriores  
Dirección de Asuntos Económicos, Sociales y Ambientales  
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores  
Email: marjorie.gonzalez@cancilleria.gov.co

Mr. Miguel Eduardo Ruiz Botero  
Tercer Secretario  
Misión Permanente de Colombia en Ginebra  
Email: migueleduardo.ruiz@cancilleria.gov.co

Mr. Diego Escobar Ocampo  
Coordinador Grupo de Sustancias Químicas y Residuos Peligrosos  
Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible  
Email: diescobar@minambiente.gov.co

Mr. Elías Pinto Martínez  
Contratista  
Dirección de Asuntos Ambientales, Sectorial y Urbana  
Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible  
Email: epinto@minambiente.gov.co

Ms. Sandra Milena Sánchez  
Coordinadora para la Gestión del Programa de Formalización Minera  
Ministerio de Minas y Energía  
Email: smsanchez@minenergia.gov.co

Mr. Juan Camilo González  
Contratista del Despacho del Viceministerio de Minas  
Ministerio de Minas y Energía  
Email: jcgonzalezc@minenergia.gov.co

Ms. Ana Lucy Cerón Martínez  
Asesora  
Dirección de Gestión de Aduanas  
Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales - DIAN  
Email: aceronm@dian.gov.co

**Costa Rica**

Ms. Nuria Chavarria Campos  
Chief of Department, Research and Development  
Dirección de Gestión de Calidad Ambiental  
Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía  
Email: nchavarriac@minae.go.cr

Ms. María del Mar Solano Trejos  
Project Chemical Engineer  
Dirección de Gestión de Calidad Ambiental  
Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía  
Email: mslano@minae.go.cr

Mr. José Alberto Rodríguez Ledezma  
Project Chemical Engineer  
Dirección de Gestión de Calidad Ambiental  
Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía  
Email: jalberto@minae.go.cr

**Dominican Republic**

Ms. Silmer Gonzalez  
Head of Environment Quality  
Vice-ministry for Environmental Quality  
Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources  
Email: silmer.gonzalez@ambiente.gob.do

Ms. Ana Mendoza  
Environmental Management Analyst  
Vice-ministry for Environmental Quality  
Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources  
Email: ana.mendoza@ambiente.gob.do

Ms. Ydalia Gonzalez  
Technical Coordinator  
International Agreements and Treaties  
Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources  
Email: ydalia.gonzalez@ambiente.gob.do

Ms. Harolenne Gomez  
Technical Assistant  
International Agreements and Treaties  
Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources
Email: hagomez@ambiente.gob.do

H.E. Mr. Virgilio Alcantara
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic in Geneva
Email: virgilioalcantara@gmail.com

Mr. Renso Herrera Franco
Minister Counsellor, Alternate Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic in Geneva
Email: rherrerafranco@gmail.com

Ms. Gabriela Santoni Bison
Minister Counsellor
Environmental Affairs
Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic in Geneva
Email: gabrielasantonionug@gmail.com

Ecuador

Ms. Berenice Alexandra Quiroz Yánez
Directora
Sustancias Químicas, Residuos y Desechos Peligrosos y No Peligrosos
Ministerio de Ambiente, Agua y Transicion Ecologica
Email: berenice.quiroz@ambiente.gob.ec

Ms. Nathaly Zumba Rubio
Especialista
Direcccion de Relaciones Internacionales
Ministerio de Ambiente, Agua y Transicion Ecologica
Email: nathaly.zumba@ambiente.gob.ec

Ms. Andrea Moscoso
Segunda Secretaria
Direcccion de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Movilidad Humana
Email: t-amoscoso@cancilleria.gob.ec

Mr. Cristian Jeyson Gonzalez Mosquera
Analyst in hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals, waste and waste
Directorate of hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals, waste and waste
Ministry of Environment
Email: cristian.gonzalez@ambiente.gob.ec

Guyana

Ms. Michelle Astwood
Environmental Specialist
Policy and Planning Unit
Ministry of Natural Resources
Email: mastwood@nre.gov.gy

Mr. Kiefer Bacchus
Mining Officer
Ministry of Natural Resources
Email: kbacchus@nre.gov.gy

Honduras

Mr. Marco Calix
Despacho de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente
Ministry of Environmental and Natural Resources
Email: matcalix@gmail.com

Mr. Elio Alvarenga
Despacho de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente
Email: elio.alvapaz@hotmail.com
Ministry of Environmental and Natural Resources

Mr. Carlos Alberto Thompson
Director
Centro de Estudios y Control de Contaminantes
Secretaría de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente
Email: carlosalbertothompson@yahoo.com

Jamaica

Ms. Bethune Morgan (Co-Chair)
Manager
Pollution Prevention Plan
National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA)
Email: bethune.morgan@nepa.gov.jm

Ms. Joanne Felix
Director, Projects and Enforcement
Environment and Risk Management Branch
Ministry of Housing, Urban Renewal, Environment and Climate Change (MHURECC)
Email: joanne.felix@mhurecc.gov.jm

Mr. Chadrick Clarke
Coordinator
Pollution Prevention Branch
National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA)
Email: chadrick.clarke@nepa.gov.jm

Ms. Leslie Ann Hoo Fung
Research Scientist
International Centre for Environmental and Nuclear Sciences
Email: lahoofung@gmail.com
Ms. Tamara Morrison
Registrar
Pesticides Control Authority
Email: morrison@caribpesticides.net

Mr. Dmitry Robertson
First Secretary
Permanent Mission of Jamaica in Geneva
Email: premier@jamaicamission.ch

Mexico

Mr. Arturo Gavilan García
Director de Investigación de Contaminantes, Sustancias, Residuos y Bioseguridad
Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático
Email: arturo.gavilan@inecc.gob.mx

Ms. Monica Velarde
Coordinadora para Temas Globales
Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores
Email: mvelarde@sre.gob.mx

Ms. Maria Teresa López Rocha
Jefa de Departamento de Gestión con la Industria Maquiladora
Dirección General de Gestión Integral de Materiales y Actividades Riesgosas
Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT)
Email: maria.rocha@semarnat.gob.mx

Mr. Jesús Ignacio López Olvera
Subdirector de Movimientos Transfronterizos de Residuos
Dirección General de Gestión Integral de Materiales y Actividades Riesgosas
Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT)
Email: jesus.olvera@semarnat.gob.mx

Ms. Leticia Albarran Mena
Especialista Agropecuario
Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (SADER)
Email: leticia.albarran@agricultura.gob.mx

Ms. Maria Gonzalez
First Secretary-Environment
Permanent Mission of Mexico in Geneva
Email: megonzalez@sre.gob.mx

Nicaragua

Ms. Silvia Lacayo Cárdenas

Especialista de la Dirección de Calidad Ambiental y Enlace Técnico ante el PNUMA
Ministerio del Ambiente y los Recursos Naturales
Email: selc1205@gmail.com

Peru

Ms. Vilma Morales Quillama
Director of Pollution Control and Chemical Substances
General Direction of Environmental Quality of the Peruvian Ministry of Environment
Ministerio del Ambiente
Email: vmorales@minam.gob.pe

Ms. Sonia Kathleen Farro Ríos
Chemical Management Specialist
General Direction of Environmental Quality of the Peruvian Ministry of Environment
Ministerio del Ambiente
Email: sfarro@minam.gob.pe

Ms. Dallas Noelia Gonzales Malca
Soil Pollution Specialist
General Direction of Environmental Quality of the Peruvian Ministry of Environment
Ministerio del Ambiente
Email: dgonzales@minam.gob.pe

Saint Lucia

Ms. Yasmin Jude
Sustainable Development and Environment Officer
Department of Sustainable Development
Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development
Email: yjude.sde@gmail.com

Ms. Kasha Jn Baptiste
Sustainable Development and Environment Officer
Department of Sustainable Development
Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development
Email: kayjnibaptiste@gmail.com

Mr. Parker Ragnanan
Chief Environmental Health Officer
Environmental Health Division
Ministry of Health and Wellness
Email: ragnanan@gmail.com

Ms. Cheryl St. Romain
Deputy Chief Environmental Health Officer
Environmental Health Division
Ministry of Health and Wellness
Email: chaw8593@gmail.com

Suriname

Mr. Ritesh Sardjoe
Permanent Secretary of Environment
Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment
Email: ritesh.sardjoe@gov.sr

Ms. Meredith Henry-Cumberbatch
Legal and Policy Advisor
Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment
Email: meredith.cumberbatch@gov.sr

Ms. Janet van Klaveren
Environmental Policy Officer
Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment
Email: janet.vanklaveren@gov.sr

Ms. Radjni Ramsukul
Environmental Monitoring and Enforcement Officer
National Institute for Environment and Developent in Suriname
Email: rramsukul@nimos.org

Ms. Gina Griffith
Legal Advisor

National Institute for Environment and Developent in Suriname
Email: ggriffith@nimos.org

Uruguay

Ms. Judith Torres
Punto Focal de Informacion del Convenio de Minamata en Uruguay
Asesoría de Cooperación y Relaciones Internacionales
Ministerio de Vivienda, Ordenamiento Territorial y Medio Ambiente (MVOTMA)
Email: jmtorres1426@gmail.com

Ms. Gabriela Nair Medina Amarante
Director
Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for training and technology transfer /, Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for capacity building and the transfer of technology Latin America and the Caribbean
Ministerio de Vivienda, Ordenamiento Territorial y Medio Ambiente (MVOTMA)
Email: gmedina.uruguay@gmail.com

Ms. Carmen Ciganda
Directora
Ministerio de Salud Pública
Email: cciganda@msp.gub.uy

Ms. Valentina Sierra
Second Secretary
Permanent Mission of Uruguay in Geneva
Email: valentina.sierra@mrree.gub.uy
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

Mr. Alfred Muge
Intern
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention
Email: alfred.muge@un.org