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United Nations Environment Programme

Conference of the Parties to the
Minamata Convention on Mercury
First meeting
Geneva, 24–29 September 2017

Decision adopted by the first Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

MC-1/21: Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer for the Minamata Convention on Mercury

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 1/5 on chemicals and waste, in which the Environment Assembly invited parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and other stakeholders, including parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury and stakeholders of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, to consider ways of promoting an effective and efficient network of regional centres to strengthen the regional delivery of technical assistance,

Recalling also United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 2/7 on the sound management of chemicals and waste, in which the Environment Assembly, inter alia, highlighted the role of the regional centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions in assisting the regions in the implementation of those conventions, and in other relevant work relating to the multilateral environmental agreements in the chemicals and waste cluster in the countries they served;

Recalling further paragraph 2 of article 14 of the Minamata Convention, which provides that capacity-building and technical assistance for the implementation of the Minamata Convention may be delivered through regional, subregional and national arrangements, including existing regional and subregional centres, through other multilateral and bilateral means, and through partnerships, including partnerships involving the private sector;

Recognizing that some of the existing regional and subregional centres are already developing projects and activities regarding mercury issues and projects to deliver capacity-building and technical assistance;

Recognizing also the capacity-building and technical assistance delivered through other multilateral and bilateral means, and through partnerships including partnerships involving the private sector, which is continuously contributing to various mercury-related activities;

Requests the Minamata Convention secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to collect information on the work undertaken by the existing regional, subregional and national arrangements in delivering capacity-building and technical assistance to assist parties in implementing their obligations under the Minamata Convention, and report thereon to the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting.