

N° 15 - 01 029 ABF/ET

Addis Abéba. le 19 AUG 2015

L'Ambassade du Burkina Faso à Addis Abéba, Mission permanente auprès du Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement (PNUE) présente ses compliments au Secrétariat exécutif du PNUE et a l'honneur de lui faire parvenir ci-après les commentaires du Gouvernement du Burkina Faso, communiqués par Monsieur Sadou Maïga, Ministre de l'Environnement et des Ressources halieutiques, sur le mandat du Groupe d'experts sur le financement de la Convention de Minamata sur le Mercure :

« Suite à l'atelier régional sur la Convention de Minamata sur le mercure, un Groupe d'Experts a été mis en place par le comité de négociation intergouvernemental pour discuter sur la question du mécanisme financier de la convention qui comportait :

- Le Fonds pour l'Environnement Mondial ;
- Un programme International Spécifique pour soutenir le renforcement des capacités et l'assistance technique.

Trois (3) experts africains venant d'Egypte, du Gabon et du Nigeria ont pris part aux travaux compte tenu de leurs expériences en la matière.

Il est ressorti de ces travaux les recommandations suivantes :

- renforcer durablement les institutions nationales, notamment par le biais des centres régionaux;
- renforcer les activités scientifiques et techniques au niveau national ;
- renforcer la capacité dans la région pour évaluer les niveaux de mercure dans les milieux environnementaux (y compris l'air, l'eau, le sol, et les aliments), ainsi que ceux liés à l'exposition humaine, de façon à obtenir des informations sur les effets du mercure, car cela pourrait influencer sur l'orientation de la politique et permettre à la région d'avoir une voix plus forte à la fois lors des réunions du Comité de négociation intergouvernemental et des réunions de la Conférence des Parties ;

- améliorer la capacité des systèmes de soins de santé à identifier et à gérer les problèmes liés à l'exposition au mercure ;
- transférer les technologies efficaces, en particulier en s'assurant que les technologies ne sont pas seulement mises à disposition des pays, mais aussi rendues utilisables dans le long terme grâce à la formation appropriée des techniciens locaux.

Ces points constituent l'ensemble de nos commentaires sauf que le Burkina Faso appuie les recommandations faites par les experts désignés et attache un grand intérêt à l'aboutissement de ce processus pour une bonne gestion du mercure ».

L'Ambassade, Mission permanente du Burkina Faso auprès du Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement (PNUE) remercie le Secrétariat exécutif du PNUE de son aimable coopération et saisit cette occasion pour lui renouveler les assurances de sa haute considération.

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement
NAIROBI-KENYA





UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



Email contact: mercury.chemicals@unep.org

Ref: Minamata Convention/StL

Date: 5 June 2015

Subject: Call for comments from Governments on the mandate of the ad hoc working group of experts on financing established at the sixth session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee on mercury

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Minamata Convention on Mercury was adopted and opened for signature at the Conference of Plenipotentiaries held from 10 to 11 October 2013 in Kumamoto, Japan. The Minamata Convention provides for a financial mechanism to support developing country parties and parties with economies in transition in implementing their obligations. The financial mechanism includes the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund and a specific international programme to support capacity-building and technical assistance.

In its resolution on financial arrangements, the Conference of Plenipotentiaries requested the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) “... to develop for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting a proposal for the hosting institution for the specific international programme, including any necessary arrangements with the hosting institution, as well as guidance on operation and duration of that programme”¹.

At its sixth session held from 3 to 7 November 2014 in Bangkok, the INC established an ad hoc working group of experts on financing to provide input to the INC at its seventh session in implementing this decision of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries².

Amongst others, the sixth session of the INC requested the interim secretariat to invite and compile comments from the INC parties on the above-mentioned mandate, as well as subsequently to prepare a document outlining options for hosting institutions for the specific international programme and any necessary information available on arrangements with the hosting institutions, in order to inform the work of the ad hoc working group of experts prior to its meeting.

To: INC6 Government representatives

Cc: SAICM National Focal Points
Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Geneva and to UNEP in Nairobi

¹ UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/4 - Final Act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury, paragraph 6 of resolution 2 on financial arrangements.

² UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.6/24 - Report of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury on the work of its sixth session

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ARRIVEE No. 0820
LE 10/06/15

The ad hoc working group of experts will comprise the two co-chairs appointed by the INC at its sixth session as well as a total of 19 experts from each of the five United Nations regional groups. Further to the call for nominations, representatives from the following countries have been designated: Egypt, Gabon and Nigeria for Africa; China, India, Japan, Jordan and Malaysia for Asia and the Pacific; Latvia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia for Central and Eastern Europe; Argentina, Brazil and Cuba for Latin America and the Caribbean; the European Commission, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America for the Western European and other States. The meeting will also be supported by the presence of the Chair of the INC and, as observers, the GEF secretariat as well as technical advisors from relevant institutions that may be invited as decided by the co-chairs. The meeting will be assisted by the interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention.

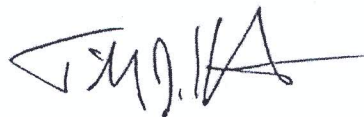
The ad hoc working group of experts is expected to meet once intersessionally before the seventh session of the INC. This meeting has been tentatively scheduled from 26 to 29 October 2015 in Brazil.

To facilitate the preparations of the required compilation and documents, we would appreciate the submission of comments on the mandate of the ad hoc working group of experts on financing no later than 31 August 2015. Such comments should be submitted to:

The Coordinator
Interim secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
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We look forward to your Government's comments to contribute to the further work on the Minamata Convention.

Yours sincerely,



Timothy J. Kasten
Head ad Interim
Chemicals Branch
Division of Technology, Industry and Economics

AMBASSADE DU BURKINA FASO ADDIS ABEBA
ARRIVEE No. _____
LE _____