



MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

Reference: MCM/32MCMV/May 2019

16 May 2019

Dear Sir / Madam,

Further to the decision of the first Conference of the Parties for the Minamata Convention on Mercury (COP1), I wish to draw your attention to the need for contributions to the Special Trust Fund of the Minamata Convention.

The Financial Rules for the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Minamata Convention on Mercury and any of its subsidiary bodies, as well as financial provisions governing the functioning of the secretariat, adopted by decision MC-1/10, state in rule 5.3 (f) that "given the importance of the full and effective participation of developing country parties, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, and parties with economies in transition, the head of the secretariat shall remind parties of the need for contributions to the Special Trust Fund at least six months prior to each ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, reflecting on the financial need, and urge parties in a position to do so to ensure that any contributions are paid at least three months before the meeting."

Decision MC-2/12 approved a budget of USD 4,014,890 for the Special Trust Fund for 2019. As of 30 April 2019, there are around USD 1.6 million pledged and/ or received in 2019. As you are aware, part of the host country contribution of Switzerland, i.e. CHF 400,000 (around USD 400,000) is to be prioritized for the participation of representatives of developing-country parties, in particular the least developed country parties and small island developing States among them, and of parties with economies in transition, in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies. The estimated total costs of sponsored delegates attending COP3 taking place in Geneva, Switzerland from 25 to 29 November 2019 amount to USD 640,000 according to the approved 2019 budget, leaving a current funding gap of around USD 240,000.

According to the same Financial Rules, rule 4.3, the Special Trust Fund shall also support capacity-building and technical assistance under article 14 as well as other purposes consistent with the objectives of the Convention.

I would be grateful for your support in contributing to the Special Trust Fund.

Thanks once again for your support to the Convention!

Best wishes,

Rossana Silva Repetto
Executive Secretary

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