

Ref: MC/ES/2020/30

2 September 2020

Subject: Update on the intersessional work on draft monitoring guidance and indicators

Dear Madam/Sir,

Further to my earlier communications [MC/ES/2020/17](#) on 21 May 2020 and [MC/ES/2020/18 on 29](#) June 2020, I would like to update you on the intersessional work to implement Decision 3/10 "Arrangements for the first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury".

Intersessional work on developing monitoring guidance

In line with the [roadmap for developing monitoring guidance](#), Parties and stakeholders were invited to comment on the draft annotated outline of the guidance by 31 July 2020, and to identify experts and scientists to contribute to the drafting of the guidance by 15 August 2020.

The Secretariat received comments on the annotated outline from Canada, India, Japan, Norway, the United States of America and the Zero Mercury Working Group. The comments received have been posted on the [online workspace](#). Furthermore, the Secretariat has received names of identified experts and scientists from Argentina, Canada, China, Colombia, India, Japan, Norway, Peru, Slovenia, Spain, the United States of America, Inuit Circumpolar Council and IPEN. The [list](#) of the identified experts and scientists is posted on the Convention website. These experts and scientists will receive a link to the first online meeting on monitoring guidance to be held on 15 September 2020, 14h00-16h00 CEST.

If additional Parties wish to submit names of experts and scientists who are to contribute to the drafting of the monitoring guidance, it is still possible to do so by **11 September 2020**. The names of the identified experts and scientists should be communicated through the national focal points for the Convention or other official communication channels (to mea-minamatasecretariat@un.org).

Intersessional work on the proposed indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of the Convention

In line with the plan of work on the proposed indicators, information sessions on the indicators will be held by the Secretariat on 17 September 2020. In a similar manner as the information session on monitoring guidance held on 10 June 2020, there will be two sessions considering different time zones – 10h00-11h00 and 16h00-17h00 CEST. Those who wish to participate in the sessions should register through the [Convention website](#).

I thank you in advance for your contribution to the intersessional work on the effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention and your commitment to [#MakeMercuryHistory](#).

Yours, sincerely,



Monika Stankewicz
Executive Secretary

To: Governments through their official channels of communication to the UN Environment Programme
Cc: National Focal Points for the Minamata Convention on Mercury
Permanent Missions to the UN Environment Programme and to the UN in Geneva