

Proposed format for the registration of exemptions for the products and processes listed in Part I of Annex A

(China)

Annex A: Mercury-Added Products

REGISTRATION OF EXEMPTION FOR ARTICLE 4		
PARTY: China		
The Secretariat of the Minamata Convention is hereby notified of the registration of the following exemption(s) pursuant to paragraph 1 of article 6 of the Convention.		
Mercury added products, as listed in Part I of Annex A.	Indicate whether the exemption is for manufacture, import, and/or export and, if relevant, whether the registration is for a category or a subcategory.	Duration of exemption (if less than five years past the phase-out date)
The following non-electronic measuring devices except non-electronic measuring devices installed in large-scale equipment or those used for high precision measurement, where no suitable mercury-free alternative is available: (a) Barometers; (b) Hygrometers; (c) Manometers; (d) Thermometers; (e) Sphygmomanometers.	(a) Manufacture of clinical thermometers; (b) Manufacture of sphygmomanometers.	2025
Please attach the explanatory statement on the need for an exemption, one statement per individual product category listed in Part I of Annex A. As part of or in addition to the explanation of the need for the exemption, a registering Party may include, as appropriate, the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> any timetable or plan of action to phase out the import, export, or manufacture or to adjust manufacturing specifications to comply with the mercury concentrations for products set out in Annex A; information on the level of stocks of the product available nationally; and information on the availability of suitable alternatives that are free of mercury or that involve the consumption of less mercury than the exempt use and which are considered to be technically and economically feasible, taking into account the environmental and human health risks and benefits of the alternatives. 		
THIS NOTIFICATION IS SUBMITTED BY:		
Job title	Division director	
Institution/department	Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China	
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Telephone: +861066556518	Fax: +861066556513	E-mail address: xia.yingxian@mep.gov.cn
Contact name	Xiayingxian	Date: (dd/mm/yyyy) 18/01/2017
PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO:		
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) International Environment House 11-13, Chemin des Anémones, CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland		Fax: +41 22 797 3460 Email: mercury.chemicals@unep.org

Explanatory Statement on the Application for the Exemption of the Manufacture of Mercury-Containing Clinical Thermometers

Three types of clinical thermometers are currently being manufactured and used in China, mercury-containing clinical thermometer, electronic clinical thermometer and gallium-indium-tin clinical thermometer. Due to performance and cost factors, electronic clinical thermometer and gallium-indium-tin clinical thermometer cannot fully replace mercury-containing clinical thermometers. An application to extend the phase-out date for manufacture of mercury-containing clinical thermometers to 2025 is therefore requested.

Rationale for the request:

Performance:

Electronic clinical thermometers with electronic sensors are sensitive to electromagnetic interference, temperature and humidity, making measurement results inaccurate. Gallium-indium-tin clinical thermometers cost several times more than mercury-containing clinical thermometers, and the production process still needs improvement, problems including disruption in production process, low output rate of qualified products and breakoff during product use can still occur.

Application:

Most of hospitals in China are not capable to judge the accuracy and reliability of the electronic clinical thermometers, no established procedure on using and disinfecting electronic clinical thermometers is in place. Moreover, the high price of the electronic clinical thermometers and the gallium-indium-tin clinical thermometers places heavy burden on many hospitals, especially those in rural hospitals of less developed areas.

Phase-out plan:

Given the lack of resources and ability in rural hospitals of less developed areas, China is formulating practical, effective and widely acceptable standards on mercury-free clinical thermometers to eliminate concerns over using new thermometers in hospitals. The standards will be released before 2020, and mercury-containing clinical thermometers will be phased out by 2025 as required by the convention.

Explanatory Statement on the Application for the Exemption of the Manufacture of Mercury-Containing Sphygmomanometers

Multiple types of sphygmomanometers are currently being manufactured and used in China, among them, mercury-containing sphygmomanometer and electronic sphygmomanometer are the most common ones. Due to cost and custom factors, electronic sphygmomanometers cannot fully replace the mercury-containing ones. An application to extend the phase-out date for manufacture of mercury-containing sphygmomanometers to 2025 is therefore requested.

Rationale for the request:

Most of hospitals in China are not capable to determine the accuracy and reliability of the electronic sphygmomanometers, the result of which is not always accepted. Moreover, the high price of electronic sphygmomanometers places heavy burden on many hospitals, especially for rural hospitals in less developed areas.

Phase-out plan:

Given the lack of resources and ability in rural hospitals of less developed areas, China is formulating practical, effective and widely acceptable standards on mercury-free sphygmomanometers to eliminate concerns over new sphygmomanometers in hospitals. The standards will be released before 2020, and mercury-containing sphygmomanometers will be phased out by 2025 as required by the convention.

Proposed format for the registration of exemptions for the products and processes listed in Part I of Annex A

(Macao S.A.R, China)

Annex A: Mercury-Added Products

REGISTRATION OF EXEMPTION FOR ARTICLE 4		
PARTY: China		
The Secretariat of the Minamata Convention is hereby notified of the registration of the following exemption(s) pursuant to paragraph 1 of article 6 of the Convention.		
Mercury added products, as listed in Part I of Annex A.	Indicate whether the exemption is for manufacture, import, and/or export and, if relevant, whether the registration is for a category or a subcategory.	Duration of exemption (if less than five years past the phase-out date)
Batteries, except for button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content <2% and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content < 2%	Import and export	2025
Switches and relays, except very high accuracy capacitance and loss measurement bridges and high frequency radio frequency switches and relays in monitoring and control instruments with a maximum mercury content of 20 mg per bridge, switch or relay	Import and export	2025
Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) for general lighting purposes that are ≤30 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner	Import and export	2025
Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes: (a) Triband phosphor <60 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp; (b) Halophosphate phosphor ≤40 watts with a mercury content exceeding 10 mg per lamp	Import and export	2025
High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes	Import and export	2025
Mercury in cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays: (a) Short length (≤500 mm) with mercury content exceeding 3.5 mg per lamp (b) Medium length (>500 mm and ≤1500 mm) with mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp (c) Long length (>1500 mm) with mercury content exceeding 13 mg per lamp	Import and export	2025

Cosmetics (with mercury content above 1ppm), including skin lightening soaps and creams, and not including eye area cosmetics where mercury is used as a preservative and no effective and safe substitute preservatives are available ¹ ¹ The intention is not to cover cosmetics, soaps or creams with trace contaminants of mercury.	Import and export	2025
Pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics	Import and export	2025
The following non-electronic measuring devices except non-electronic measuring devices installed in large-scale equipment or those used for high precision measurement, where no suitable mercury-free alternative is available: (a) Barometers; (b) Hygrometers; (c) Manometers; (d) Thermometers; (e) Sphygmomanometers.	Import and export	2025
<p>Please attach the explanatory statement on the need for an exemption, one statement per individual product category listed in Part I of Annex A.</p> <p>As part of or in addition to the explanation of the need for the exemption, a registering Party may include, as appropriate, the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> any timetable or plan of action to phase out the import, export, or manufacture or to adjust manufacturing specifications to comply with the mercury concentrations for products set out in Annex A; information on the level of stocks of the product available nationally; and information on the availability of suitable alternatives that are free of mercury or that involve the consumption of less mercury than the exempt use and which are considered to be technically and economically feasible, taking into account the environmental and human health risks and benefits of the alternatives. 		
THIS NOTIFICATION IS SUBMITTED BY:		
Job title	Division director	
Institution/department	Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China	
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Telephone: +861066556518	Fax: +861066556513	E-mail address: xia.yingxian@mep.gov.cn
Contact name	Xiayingxian	Date: (dd/mm/yyyy) 18/01/2017
PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO:		
Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) International Environment House 11-13, Chemin des Anémones, CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland		Fax: +41 22 797 3460 Email: mercury.chemicals@unep.org

Explanatory Statement on the Application for the Exemption of the Import and Export of Mercury - Containing Batteries

According to the External Merchandise Trade Statistics of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, records of the import and export of batteries exist. However, there is no detail information in relation to the composition of mercury within batteries, making it impossible to confirm the quantity of import and export of mercury-containing batteries. The quantity and situation of mercury-containing batteries in Macao SAR should be clarified and suitable alternatives should also be considered, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing batteries. Therefore, an application of extension of the phase-out date of import and export of mercury-containing batteries to 2025 is requested.

Phase-out plan: Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China will revise the Nomenclature for the External Trade of Macao / Harmonized System, to optimize the registration system for the import and export of mercury-containing batteries. After clarifying the situation in relation to the import and export of mercury-containing batteries in Macao SAR, appropriate regulation limiting the import and export of the relevant mercury-containing batteries will be formulated, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing batteries by 2025 as required by the convention.

Explanatory Statement on the Application for the Exemption of the Import and Export of Mercury - Containing Switches and Relays

According to the External Merchandise Trade Statistics of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, records of the import and export of switches and relays exist. However, there is no detail information in relation to the composition of mercury within switches and relays, making it impossible to confirm the quantity of import and export of mercury-containing switches and relays. The quantity and situation of mercury-containing switches and relays in Macao SAR should be clarified and suitable alternatives should also be considered, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing switches and relays. Therefore, an application of extension of the phase-out date of import and export of mercury-containing switches and relays to 2025 is requested.

Phase-out plan: Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China will revise the Nomenclature for the External Trade of Macao / Harmonized System, to optimize the registration system for the import and export of mercury-containing switches and relays. After clarifying the situation in relation to the import and export of mercury-containing switches and relays in Macao SAR, appropriate regulations limiting the import and export of the relevant mercury-containing switches and relays will be formulated, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing switches and relays by 2025 as required by the convention.

Explanatory Statement on the Application for the Exemption of the Import and Export of Mercury - Containing Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs)

According to the External Merchandise Trade Statistics of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, records of the import and export of fluorescent lamps exist. However, there is no detail information in relation to the composition of mercury within fluorescent lamps, making it impossible to confirm the quantity of import and export of mercury-containing CFLs. The quantity and situation of mercury-containing CFLs in Macao SAR should be clarified and suitable alternatives should also be considered, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing CFLs. Therefore, an application of extension of the phase-out date of import and export of mercury-containing CFLs to 2025 is requested.

Phase-out plan: Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China will revise the Nomenclature for the External Trade of Macao / Harmonized System, to optimize the registration system for the import and export of mercury-containing CFLs. After clarifying the situation in relation to the import and export of mercury-containing CFLs in Macao SAR, appropriate regulations limiting the import and export of the relevant mercury-containing CFLs will be formulated, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing CFLs by 2025 as required by the convention.

Explanatory Statement on the Application for the Exemption of the Import and Export of Mercury - Containing Linear Fluorescent Lamps (LFLs)

According to the External Merchandise Trade Statistics of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, records of the import and export of fluorescent lamps exist. However, there is no detail information in relation to the composition of mercury within fluorescent lamps, making it impossible to confirm the quantity of import and export of mercury-containing LFLs. The quantity and situation of mercury-containing LFLs in Macao SAR should be clarified and suitable alternatives should also be considered, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing LFLs. Therefore, an application of extension of the phase-out date of import and export of mercury-containing LFLs to 2025 is requested.

Phase-out plan: Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China will revise the Nomenclature for the External Trade of Macao / Harmonized System, to optimize the registration system for the import and export of mercury-containing LFLs. After clarifying the situation in relation to the import and export of mercury-containing LFLs in Macao SAR, appropriate regulations limiting the import and export of the relevant mercury-containing LFLs will be formulated, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing LFLs by 2025 as required by the convention.

Explanatory Statement on the Application for the Exemption of the Import and Export of High Pressure Mercury vapour lamps (HPMV)

According to the External Merchandise Trade Statistics of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, records of the import and export of mercury or sodium vapour lamps exist. However, there is no detail information in relation to the composition of mercury within mercury or sodium vapour lamps, making it impossible to confirm the quantity of import and export of HPMV. The quantity and situation of HPMV in Macao SAR should be clarified and suitable alternatives should also be considered, in order to phase out the relevant HPMV. Therefore, an application of extension of the phase-out date of import and export of HPMV to 2025 is requested.

Phase-out plan: Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China will revise the Nomenclature for the External Trade of Macao / Harmonized System, to optimize the registration system for the import and export of HPMV. After clarifying the situation in relation to the import and export of HPMV in Macao SAR, appropriate regulations limiting the import and export of the relevant HPMV will be formulated, in order to phase out the relevant HPMV by 2025 as required by the convention.

Explanatory Statement on the Application for the Exemption of the Import and Export of Mercury - Containing Cold Cathode Fluorescent lamps (CCFL) and External Electrode Fluorescent Lamps (EEFL)

According to the External Merchandise Trade Statistics of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, records of the import and export of fluorescent lamps exist. However, there is no detail information in relation to the composition of mercury within fluorescent lamps, making it impossible to confirm the quantity of import and export of mercury-containing CCFL and EEFL. The quantity and situation of mercury-containing CCFL and EEFL in Macao SAR should be clarified and suitable alternatives should also be considered, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing CCFL and EEFL. Therefore, an application of extension of the phase-out date of import and export of mercury-containing CCFL and EEFL to 2025 is requested.

Phase-out plan: Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China will revise the Nomenclature for the External Trade of Macao / Harmonized System, to optimize the registration system for the import and export of mercury-containing CCFL and EEFL. After clarifying the situation in relation to the import and export of mercury-containing CCFL and EEFL in Macao SAR, appropriate regulations limiting the import and export of the relevant mercury-containing CCFL and EEFL will be formulated, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing CCFL and EEFL by 2025 as required by the convention.

Explanatory Statement on the Application for the Exemption of the Import and Export of Mercury - Containing Cosmetics

According to the External Merchandise Trade Statistics of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, records of the import and export of cosmetics exist. However, there is no detail information in relation to the composition of mercury within cosmetics, making it impossible to confirm the quantity of import and export of mercury-containing cosmetics. The quantity and situation of mercury-containing cosmetics in Macao SAR should be clarified and suitable alternatives should also be considered, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing cosmetics. Therefore, an application of extension of the phase-out date of import and export of mercury-containing cosmetics to 2025 is requested.

Phase-out plan: Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China will revise the Nomenclature for the External Trade of Macao / Harmonized System, to optimize the registration system for the import and export of mercury-containing cosmetics. After clarifying the situation in relation to the import and export of mercury-containing cosmetics in Macao SAR, appropriate regulation limiting the import and export of the relevant mercury-containing cosmetics will be formulated, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing cosmetics by 2025 as required by the convention.

Explanatory Statement on the Application for the Exemption of the Import and Export of Mercury - Containing Pesticides, Biocides and Topical Antiseptics

According to the External Merchandise Trade Statistics of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, records of the import and export of pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics exist. However, there is no detail information in relation to the composition of mercury within pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics, making it impossible to confirm the quantity of import and export of mercury-containing pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics. The quantity and situation of mercury-containing pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics in Macao SAR should be clarified and suitable alternatives should also be considered, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics. Therefore, an application of extension of the phase-out date of import and export of mercury-containing pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics to 2025 is requested.

Phase-out plan: Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China will revise the Nomenclature for the External Trade of Macao / Harmonized System, to optimize the registration system for the import and export of mercury-containing pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics. After clarifying the situation in relation to the import and export of mercury-containing pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics in Macao SAR, appropriate regulation limiting the import and export of the relevant mercury-containing pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics will be formulated, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics by 2025 as required by the convention.

Explanatory Statement on the Application for the Exemption of the Import and Export of Mercury - Containing Barometers, Hygrometers, Manometers, Thermometers and Sphygmomanometers

According to the External Merchandise Trade Statistics of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, records of the import and export of barometers, hygrometers, manometers, thermometers and sphygmomanometers exist. However, there is no detail information in relation to the composition of mercury within barometers, hygrometers, manometers, thermometers and sphygmomanometers, making it impossible to confirm the quantity of import and export of mercury-containing barometers, hygrometers, manometers, thermometers and sphygmomanometers. Currently, the meteorological and medical related governmental departments normally use mercury free instruments or are undergoing gradual elimination of mercury-containing instruments in use. It is only in the very limited situation (such as the calibration of instruments), will involve the usage of relatively precise mercury-containing instruments. The quantity and situation of mercury-containing barometers, hygrometers, manometers, thermometers and sphygmomanometers in Macao SAR should be clarified, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing barometers, hygrometers, manometers, thermometers and sphygmomanometers. Therefore, an application of extension of the phase-out date of import and export of mercury-containing barometers, hygrometers, manometers, thermometers and sphygmomanometers to 2025 is requested.

Phase-out plan: Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China will revise the Nomenclature for the External Trade of Macao / Harmonized System, to optimize the registration system for the import and export of mercury-containing barometers, hygrometers, manometers, thermometers and sphygmomanometers. After clarifying the situation in relation to the import and export of mercury-containing barometers, hygrometers, manometers, thermometers and sphygmomanometers in Macao SAR, appropriate regulation limiting the import and export of the relevant mercury-containing barometers, hygrometers, manometers, thermometers and sphygmomanometers will be formulated, in order to phase out the relevant mercury-containing barometers,

hygrometers, manometers, thermometers and sphygmomanometers by 2025 as required by the convention.