

**ADAPTATION OF THE BRS REPORTING TEMPLATE AS PART OF THE
COLLECTION OF INFORMATION UNDER DECISION MC-1/21**

Information on the work of Regional Centres in delivering capacity-building and technical assistance to support parties in implementing their obligations under the Minamata Convention was requested, inter alia, by the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention in its First meeting in 2017 through decision MC-1/21.

The Minamata Convention Secretariat has adapted the “template for reporting requirements and the performance evaluation of regional centres under the Basel and Stockholm Conventions.” This adapted template is being circulated to Regional Centres as part of the collection of information under such decision.

Regional Centres are requested to kindly update this template by **Tuesday, 13 November 2018** for the reporting period between 01/01/2017 and 31/12/2018. Should the Regional Centre wish to include activities from 2016 or earlier, this should be clearly indicated in the submission.

PART 1: THE ACTIVITY REPORTS

Name of the Regional Centre submitting the report	Basel Convention Regional Centre Slovakia	
Name of the person submitting the report	Dana Lapesova	
Date of submission:	09.11.2018	
Reporting period	From: 01/01/2017	To: 31/12/2018

List of the capacity building projects/activities undertaken (completed and/or ongoing)

Activity/ Project No.	Name of the project/activity	Planned for the Year	Implemen ted in the Year
1.	Collaboration on the document published by UN Environment “Global Mercury Waste Assessment” - Review of Current National Measures	2016- 2017	2016- 2017
2.	Executing agency for the project “Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Macedonia”	2016- 2018	2016- 2018
3.	Organization of a working session on the Minamata Convention, back-to-back with the regional meetings for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions in preparation for the Conferences of the Parties in the CEE region, Riga, Latvia 24.03 2017	2017	2017
4.	Participation at the final workshop on the dissemination of the results of the UNEP/GEF project ”Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Moldova” 05.04.17	2017	2017

5.	Participation at the regional meeting in preparation for the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention for CEE, Brno, Czech Republic 11.-13.07.2017	2017	2017
6.	Participation of BCRC at the meeting in Vienna 10.-11.09.18	2018	2018

(Add more rows if you have more projects/activities to the list)

List of the technology transfer activities undertaken and or facilitated by the centre (completed and/or ongoing)¹

Activity ID if any	Name of the technology transfer activity	Planned for the Year	Implemented in the Year

(Add more rows if you have more projects/activities to the list)

List of contributions made to countries in support of submissions under the first round of applications under the Specific international programme in accordance with paragraph 7 of Annex 1 to decision MC-1/6

Name of the project	Relevant date (mm/yyyy)

¹ See Article 14 on Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer of the Minamata Convention.

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(Add more rows if you have more projects/activities to the list)

PART 2

ACTIVITIES (PROJECTS) REPORTS SUMMARY

(Please provide a summary (max. 1 page) for each of the completed projects/activities)

Project no. and Project name	PCA/2015/GEF ID 01372 “Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in the Republic of Macedonia”	
Project duration	24 months	Start and end dates: 04 /04 /2016 to 04 /04 /2018
Beneficiary countries:	Republic of Macedonia	
Areas of technical assistance	Chemicals and Wastes	
Total project budget (in US\$): 200, 000 USD		
Funding sources and corresponding amounts:	1 GEF Trust Fund Cash	US\$ 200,000
	2.....	US \$...
	3.....	US\$...
Collaborating agencies, if any:	Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, POPs Unit	

The Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) Report for the Republic of Macedonia provides the review of Mercury Inventory results (Level 2) based on the UN Environment Toolkit for identification and quantification of mercury releases", Inventory Level 2 (version 1.3, April 2015), initial findings from the policy, regulatory and institutional assessments and provide general recommendations for further prioritized steps toward phasing out mercury and sustainable mercury management in the country.

The detailed Mercury Inventory Report was prepared as a stand alone document within the Project.

Results of the mercury inventory

The initial mercury inventory identifies sources of mercury releases in the country and estimates or quantifies the releases. In order to have reliable releases estimations as well as more specific and precise inventory, sampling and analyses of different matrices were performed and specific input/output factors were developed for those subcategories that may substantially influence the inventory results.

The results of the Inventory on the mercury releases show that the total mercury release in the country for the year of 2013 is 3.282,77 kg/y. The waste deposition/landfilling and waste water treatment sector is the responsible for the highest amount of mercury releases (contribution of 45% of the total mercury releases) or 1,476.8 kg Hg/y.

Emissions to air: The individual mercury release category contributing the highest mercury releases to the atmosphere is waste incineration with amount of 382.9 kg Hg/y, followed by sectors waste deposition/landfilling and waste water treatment with 326.45 kg Hg/y and extraction and use of fuels/energy sources with 218.06 kg Hg/y.

Emissions to land: The dominant source category that made the largest contribution of the mercury releases in the land is the waste deposition/landfilling and waste water treatment with 3,319.74 kg/y.

Emissions to “other” categories: The individual mercury release category contributing the highest mercury releases to the general waste output is consumer products with amount of 193.41 kg Hg/y, followed by production of recycled metals with 98.97 kg Hg/y, then other intentional products and waste deposition/landfilling and waste water treatment with 49.4 kg Hg/y and 36.61 kg Hg/y, respectively.

This initial mercury inventory should be considered as a first step as further assessment is needed to confirm the potential priority problems that should be addressed through release reduction initiatives.

Policy, regulatory and Institutional Framework Assessment

The assessment performed during development of MIA Report shows gaps that may impede efficient implementation of Minamata Convention objectives on national scale and it is presented in Annex 1 of the MIA Report containing the Minamata Convention objectives, identification if these objectives exist in national legislation and statements if these requirements have been transposed into the national legislation.

The main conclusions are:

- The legal framework for mercury management in the Republic of Macedonia is incomplete and included in several framework laws and secondary legislation;
- Special national legislation incorporating the Minamata Convention objectives and EU Regulation 1102/2008 on the banning of mercury and certain mercury compounds and mixtures and the safe storage of mercury does not exist;
- Some of the Minamata Convention objectives have been transposed in national legislation (e.g. certain definitions are incorporated in the definitions of the Law on Environment, in the chapter on sources for mercury supply and trade only the provision related to the export of mercury is completely covered by the Law on Chemicals, production processes using mercury or mercury compounds are partly covered by several acts of national legislation including the Law on Environment, Law on Ambient Air Quality, Law on Waters and the by-laws, and the Law on Ratification of the Protocol to The Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution for Heavy Metals, the temporary storage of mercury, which is not waste mercury, is completely regulated by the new Law on Chemicals, promotion of health aspects through the development and implementation of strategies and programs for identifying the population at risk, especially the vulnerable categories is regulated in the Law on Health Care and the Law on Safety and Health at Work. The provisions of the Convention related to the exchange of information, as well as information, awareness and education of the public are generally included in the Law on

Environment and the Law on Health Protection (epidemiological information on the effects on the health of people due to exposure to mercury and mercury compounds);

- Provisions related to mercury-added products are partially incorporated in several national framework laws and by-laws;
- The control and reduction of emissions of mercury and mercury compounds into the atmosphere through measures for control of emission from point sources is to a certain extent transposed in Law on Environment and Law on air quality, while discharges to other environmental media (soil and water) is partially covered by the Law on Environment and the Law on waters;
- Mercury-contaminated sites are not included in existing national legislation;
- The provisions of the Convention related to the exchange of information, as well as information, awareness and education of the public are generally included in the Law on Environment and the Law on Health Protection;
- The obligation to develop mercury phasing out implementation plan does not exist in national legislation.

Republic of Macedonia signed the Minamata Convention on 25 July 2014, but it has not been yet ratified.

The MIA Report will be used as a comprehensive information to be presented to the Macedonian Government and Parliament in the course of the ratification process. After ratification of the Minamata Convention (tentative period November – December 2018) the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning will continue to work on development of Implementation plan in accordance to the Article 20 of the Minamata Convention.