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Conference of the Parties to the   
Minamata Convention on Mercury

Second meeting

Geneva, 19–23 November 2018

Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda[[1]](#footnote-1)\*

Organizational matters: organization of work

List of documents for the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, including working documents, information documents and additional relevant background documents

Note by the secretariat

1. Annex I to the present note sets out the list of working and information documents for the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury.
2. Annex II presents a list of additional documents containing relevant background information. It complements document UNEP/MC/COP.1/INF/1, which listed the documents for the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties and for the seven sessions of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, as well as reports, toolkits, guidance documents and other background documents relevant to the provisions of the Convention. It is presented without formal editing.

Annex I

Table 1   
Working documents for the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

| *Symbol* | *Agenda item* | *Title* |
| --- | --- | --- |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/1 |  | Provisional agenda |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/1/Add.1 | 2 (c) | Annotations to the provisional agenda |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/2 | 2 (c) | Scenario note for the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/3 | 3 | Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/4/Rev.1 | 5 (a) | Guidance in relation to mercury releases |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/5 | 5 (b) | Guidelines on the environmentally sound interim storage of mercury other than waste mercury |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/6 | 5 (c) | Report on the outcome of the open-ended process on waste thresholds called for under article 11 |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/7 | 5 (d) | Guidance on the management of contaminated sites |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/8 | 5 (e) (i) | Update on matters related to the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/9 | 5 (e)(ii) | Overall report on the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-building and Technical Assistance |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/10 | 5 (f) | Submissions and reports received in relation to alternative technologies and technology transfer as referred to in paragraph 4 of article 14 |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/11 | 5 (g) | Report on the work of the Implementation and Compliance Committee of the Minamata Convention on Mercury |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/12 | 5 (h) | Cooperation with the World Health Organization and the International Labour Organization |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/13\* | 5 (i) | Report on the outline, plan and elements of the effectiveness evaluation framework |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/14 | 5 (j) | Financial rules for the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, its subsidiary bodies and the secretariat of the Convention |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/15/Rev.1 | 5 (k) | Review of the organizational arrangements of the secretariat |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/15/Add.1 | 5 (k) | Review of the organizational arrangements of the secretariat: addendum |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/16 | 5 (l) | Information in relation to emissions of mercury resulting from the open burning of waste |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/17 | 5 (k) | Progress report on the main activities of the secretariat in the intersessional period |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/18 | 6 | Update on the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2018–2019 |

Table 2   
Information documents for the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

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| *Symbol* | *Agenda item* | *Title* |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/1 | 2 (c) | List of documents for the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, including working documents, information documents and additional relevant background documents |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/2 | 6 | Report on the activities of relevant international bodies |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/3 | 5 (e) (i) | Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury at its second meeting |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/4 | 5 (k) | Offer by Switzerland to host a stand-alone secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury in Geneva |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/5 | 5 (f) | Compilation of submissions and reports received in relation to alternative technologies and technology transfer as referred to in paragraph 4 of article 14 |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/6 | 5 (l) | Compilation of information submitted in relation to emissions of mercury resulting from the open burning of waste |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/7 | 5 (k) | Information requested by the Bureau on possible services that the secretariat of the Minamata Convention could purchase from or share with the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/8 | 5 (i) | Report of the ad hoc group of experts on effectiveness evaluation |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/9 | 6 | Programme of work and budget: budget detail sheets |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/10 | 5 (c) | Information submitted by nominated experts that may contribute to the development of mercury waste thresholds |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/11 | 5 (k) | Report by the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions on cooperative activities with the secretariat of the Minamata Convention in areas of mutual interest |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/12 | 6 | Activities of the Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/13 | 6 | Report on activities undertaken within the United Nations Environment Programme Global Mercury Partnership |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/14 | 6 | Update on the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/15 | 5 (i) | Compilation of comments submitted on the draft report of the ad hoc group of experts on effectiveness evaluation |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/16 | 5 (e) (ii) | Application guidelines for the first round of applications to the Specific International Programme to Support Capacity-building and Technical Assistance |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/17 | 5 (h) | Addressing health aspects in the context of developing national action plans under the Minamata Convention on Mercury |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/18 | 4 | Status of ratification of the Minamata Convention on Mercury as at 18 September 2018 |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/19 | 2 (c) | Admission of observers: bodies or agencies having requested admission to participate as observers in the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury |
| UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/20 | 5 (h) | Work of the International Labour Organization relevant to the Minamata Convention on Mercury in 2017 and 2018 |

Annex II

List of additional relevant background documents

The following list complements the lists of documents set out in document UNEP/MC/COP.1/INF/1.

1. **Supply and trade**

**Global Mercury Supply, Trade, and Demand, 2017, UN Environment** (available in English at <http://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/21725/global_mercury.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>)

A good understanding of mercury supply, trade and demand is critical to effective implementation of the Convention. This report provides detailed and timely information on where mercury comes from, how it moves in commerce, and how it is used in products and industrial processes. To further facilitate informed decision-making, the report also evaluates data sources, discusses trends and identifies knowledge gaps.

1. **Artisanal and small-scale gold mining**

**Developing a National Action Plan to Reduce, and Where Feasible, Eliminate Mercury Use in Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining, 2017, UN Environment** (Available in English, French, Spanish and Russian at <http://web.unep.org/globalmercurypartnership/nap-starter-kit>)

This document is intended to provide guidance to countries in formulating Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) National Action Plans (NAPs) that are compliant with the requirements of the Minamata Convention. The document also provides technical, legal and policy information on issues related to ASGM, which may be useful when preparing and implementing the NAP. This guidance is indicative – the use of this document is not mandatory or a requirement under the Convention. The mandate for the development of this document comes from the Final Act of the Minamata Convention, which called on the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Mercury (INC) to support the development of guidance to countries in preparing their NAPs. At COP1, the Parties agreed to the use of this guidance document for the development of ASGM NAPs.

**Methods and Tools: Estimating Mercury Use and Documenting Practices in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining. 2017, UN Environment and Artisanal Gold Council** (Available in English, French and Spanish at <http://web.unep.org/globalmercurypartnership/nap-starter-kit>)

This document, also referred to as the “ASGM baseline inventory toolkit” provides guidance and tools for conducting an ASGM overview and mercury use estimate for the National Action Plan. In addition to the main text, the toolkit also consists of survey forms and calculation spreadsheets. Developed in collaboration with the Artisanal Gold Council, the toolkit is intended to assist countries and other partners in adopting a standard and rigours methodology for characterizing ASGM practices, extent, and mercury use. The resulting data and overview can then be used in the development of the full National Action Plan.

1. **Mercury-added products**

**Guide and Checklist for Phasing Our Mercury-added Products Under the Minamata Convention on Mercury, 2017, NRDC and Zero Mercury Working Group** (Available in English at <http://www.zeromercury.org/phocadownload/Developments_at_UNEP_level/FAO_project_2014-17/180219_map_checklist_final_en.pdf>), French at <http://www.zeromercury.org/phocadownload/Developments_at_UNEP_level/FAO_project_2014-17/180219_map_checklist_final_fr.pdf>, and Spanish at <http://www.zeromercury.org/phocadownload/Developments_at_UNEP_level/FAO_project_2014-17/180219_map_checklist_final_es.pdf>)

This guide provides a simplified list of steps governments may take in preparing to undertake the Convention Article 4 obligations. It is intended to facilitate the implementation of the legal, institutional, and practical components of a mercury product phase out strategy, including those that may be performed as part of Minamata Initial Assessments. The guide should be used in conjunction with the Convention text, and related materials providing additional details regarding Convention obligations.

1. **Waste**

**Global Mercury Waste Assessment: Review of Current National Measures, 2017, UN Environment** (Available in all UN languages at [https://www.unenvironment.org/ietc/  
what-we-do/mercury-waste-management](https://www.unenvironment.org/ietc/what-we-do/mercury-waste-management))

The assessment describes the current mercury waste management practices in these countries, and provides a basis for understanding the size and nature of the gap between current practices and the environmentally sound mercury waste management envisioned in the Minamata Convention. The central finding is clear: The gap between the provisions of the Minamata Convention and the current mercury waste management practices is wide.

**No time to waste: International expert group meeting on the sustainable management of mercury waste, UN Industrial Development Organization** (Available at <https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/files/2018-11/MWaste%20Booklet.pdf>)

1. **Health aspects**

**Human biomonitoring survey assessment of prenatal exposures to mercury using biomarkers in cord blood, maternal urine and hair: A tool for developing national protocols, World Health Organization** (in press – to be made available on the website of the World Health Organization)

**Assessment of prenatal exposure to mercury: standard operating procedures, World Health Organization** (Available in English at http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/  
environment-and-health/chemical-safety/publications/\_recache)

These SOP are the more detailed technical sampling and lab techniques that support the overall survey protocol (addressed by the above document)

http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/environment-and-health/chemical-safety/publications/2018/assessment-of-prenatal-exposure-to-mercury-standard-operating-procedures-2018/\_recache

**Health sector involvement in the Minamata Convention on Mercury: Outcomes of World Health Organization regional workshops for ministries of health, World Health Organization**(in press – to be made available on the website of the World Health Organization)

**WHO Guidance on Strategic Planning for Implementation of the Health-related articles of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, World Health Organization**. (in preparation – to be made available on the website of the World Health Organization)

**State-of-the-Science Review of Mercury Biomarkers in Human Populations Worldwide Between 2000 and 2018**, commissioned by WHO and published in Environmental Health Perspectives. (available at <https://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/doi/10.1289/EHP3904>)

1. **Monitoring**

**Outcomes and lesson learnt report of the Project: Development of a Plan for Global Monitoring of Human Exposure to and Environmental Concentrations of Mercury, UN Environment**   
(in press, to be made available on the UN Environment website)

The document contains a report by UN Environment, in close cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Italian National Research Council - Institute of Atmospheric Pollution Research (CNR-IIA) regarding the outcomes, lesson learnt of the UNEP/GEF project “Development of a Plan for Global Monitoring of Human Exposure to and Environmental Concentrations of Mercury”, including the shared contribution of the project to the discussion on the arrangement for providing comparable monitoring data and elements of an effectiveness Evaluation.

1. **Assessments**

**Global Mercury Assessment 2018, UN Environment** (summary report and technical background report available in English from November 2018 at <https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/mercury/global-mercury-assessment>)

The 2018 update the global atmospheric mercury assessment was requested by the Governing Council of UNEP at its twenty-seventh session. It will be presented at the 3rd UN Environment Assembly in 2019. The 2018 assessment will be expanded with respect to quantification of releases and discharges of mercury to the aquatic environment, and include an overview and assessment of mercury levels in humans and biota.

The Technical Background Report for the Global Mercury Assessment 2013 is a joint report of UNEP and the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (a working group under the Arctic Council) which presents the latest comprehensive information on global mercury emissions and releases to the environment, information on atmospheric and aquatic chemistry and fate and transport of mercury.

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1. \* UNEP/MC/COP.2/1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)