

REPORTING PERIOD:

16 August 2017 to 31 December 2020

UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION**DISCLAIMER**

This is a secretariat version translation of the submitted report by the Party. The text has not been officially translated and edited, and is provided for information purposes. In case of any error or omission in the translation, the original submission prevails.

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party

Cuba

Date on which its instrument of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance was deposited

30 January 2018

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

30 April 2018

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution

Cuban Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment

Title of National Focal Point

Mr.

Name of National Focal Point

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3. Information about the contact officer submitting the reporting format if different from the above

Focal Point is submitting the national report

- ☒ Information is submitted by the national focal point
- ☐ Information is submitted through the national focal point by the contact officer

▼ ART. 3: MERCURY SUPPLY SOURCES AND TRADE

3.1. Does the party have any primary mercury mines that were operating within its territory at the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Additional information on this question if needed
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3.2. Does the party have any primary mercury mines that are now in operation that were not in operation at the time of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

3.3. Has the party endeavoured to identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons and sources of mercury supply generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year that are located within its territory?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

If the party answered No above, please explain.

Cuba is currently starting the Initial Assessment of Minamata through a project financed by the GEF, which should end in 2023, so we do not have results that support us in giving this answer.

3.4. Does the party have excess mercury available from the decommissioning of chlor-alkali facilities?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please explain the measures taken to ensure that the excess mercury was disposed of in accordance with the guidelines for environmentally sound management referred to in paragraph 3 (a) of article 11 using operations that did not lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct re-use or alternative uses.

In the Electrochemical Company of Sagua, specifically in the Chlorous Plant, there is stored in the niches 7,946,867 Kg of mercurial sludge, as well as 1,000.5 Kg of virgin mercury and 13,165.24 Kg of recovered mercury, in bottles, which at this time are confined in container.

3.5. *Has the party received consent, or relied on a general notification of consent, in accordance with article 3, including any required certification from importing non-parties, for all exports of mercury from the party's territory in the reporting period?

- ☐ Yes, exports to parties
- ☐ Yes, exports to non-parties
- ☒ No

Additional information if needed

{Empty}

3.6. Has the party allowed the import of mercury from a non-party?

- ☒ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ The importing party has relied on paragraph 7 of article 3

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ ART. 4: MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS

4.1. Has the party taken any appropriate measures to not allow the manufacture, import or export of mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annex A of the Convention after the phase-out date specified for those products?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Yes (implementing paragraph 2 of article 4)

If no, has the party registered for an exemption pursuant to article 6?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

4.3. Has the party taken two or more measures for the mercury-added products listed in Part II of Annex A in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

4.4. Has the party taken measures to prevent the incorporation into assembled products of mercury-added products whose manufacture, import and export are not allowed under article 4?

☐ Yes

☒ No

4.5. Has the party discouraged the manufacture and the distribution in commerce of mercury-added products not covered by any known use in accordance with article 4, paragraph 6?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If no, has there been an assessment of the risks and benefits of the product that demonstrates environmental or health benefits? Has the party provided to the secretariat, as appropriate, information on any such product?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ **ART. 5: MANUFACTURING PROCESSES IN WHICH MERCURY OR MERCURY COMPOUNDS ARE USED**

5.1. Are there facilities within the territory of the party that use mercury or mercury compounds for the processes listed in Annex B of the Minamata Convention in accordance with paragraph 5 of article 5 of the Convention?

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ I do not know

5.2. Are measures in place to not allow the use of mercury or mercury compounds in manufacturing processes listed in Part I of Annex B after the phase-out date specified in that Annex for the individual process?

CHLOR-ALKALI PRODUCTION

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

If yes, please provide information on these measures.

An investment process has been developed with the start-up of a new plant that stops using mercury in the production of chlor-alkali.

ACETALDEHYDE PRODUCTION IN WHICH MERCURY OR MERCURY COMPOUNDS ARE USED AS A CATALYST

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

If no to either of the questions above, has the party registered for an exemption pursuant to article 6?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

5.3. Are measures in place to restrict the use of mercury or mercury compounds in the processes listed in Part II of Annex B in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

VINYL CHLORIDE MONOMER PRODUCTION

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

SODIUM OR POTASSIUM METHYLATE OR ETHYLATE

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

PRODUCTION OF POLYURETHANE USING MERCURY-CONTAINING CATALYSTS

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

5.4. Is there any use of mercury or mercury compounds in a facility using the manufacturing processes listed in Annex B that did not exist prior to the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

☐ Yes

☒ No

5.5. Is there any facility that has been developed using any other manufacturing process in which mercury or mercury compounds are intentionally used that did not exist prior to the date of entry into force of the Convention?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ ART. 7: ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE GOLD MINING

7.1. Have steps been taken to reduce, and where feasible eliminate, the use of mercury and mercury compounds in, and the emissions and releases to the environment of mercury from, artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing subject to article 7 within your territory?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ There is no artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing subject to article 7 in which mercury amalgamation is used in the territory

If yes, please provide information on the steps.

- In the territory there is no artisanal and small-scale gold mining and treatment contemplated in article 7 in which mercury amalgamation is used.

7.2. Has the party determined and notified the secretariat that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing within its territory is more than insignificant?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ ART. 8: EMISSIONS

8.1. Identify any Annex D source categories for which there are new sources of emissions of mercury or mercury compounds as defined in paragraph 2 (c) of article 8.

For each of those source categories describe the measures in place, including the effectiveness of such measures, to implement the requirements of paragraph 4 of article 8.

- ☐ Coal-fired power plants
- ☐ Coal-fired industrial boilers
- ☐ Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals
- ☐ Waste incineration facilities
- ☐ Cement clinker production facilities

Has the party required the use of best available techniques or best environmental practices (BAT/BEP) to control and where feasible reduce emissions for new sources no later than 5 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Please explain

(The competent Authority does not have the information, it will be available at the end of the national inventory, foreseen in the GEF Project called "Development of an initial evaluation of Minamata in Cuba"

A strategy to control multiple contaminants that provides parallel benefits for the control of mercury emissions;

The Cuban Government develops a Natural Resources and Environment Macroprogram, within which there is a Project for the confinement of hazardous waste, this Macroprogram is permanently reviewed by the country's Directorate.

Attach relevant documentation

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8.2. Identify any Annex D source categories for which there are existing sources of emissions of mercury or mercury compounds as defined in paragraph 2 (e) of article 8.

For each of those source categories, select and provide details on the measures implemented under paragraph 5 of article 8 and explain the progress that these applied measures have achieved in reducing emissions over time in your territory:

▼ COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS

- ☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions

- ☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

▼ **COAL-FIRED INDUSTRIAL BOILERS**

- ☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- ☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

▼ **SMELTING AND ROASTING PROCESSES USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF NON-FERROUS METALS**

- ☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- ☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

▼ **WASTE INCINERATION FACILITIES**

- ☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- ☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures

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Progress

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▼ CEMENT CLINKER PRODUCTION FACILITIES

- ☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- ☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

Have the measures for existing sources under paragraph 5 of article 8 been implemented no later than 10 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Please explain

The Cuban Government develops a Natural Resources and Environment Macroprogram, within which there is a Project for the confinement of hazardous waste, this Macroprogram is permanently reviewed by the country's Directorate.

8.3. Has the party prepared an inventory of emissions from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the Convention for it?

- ☐ Yes

- ☐ No
- ☒ Have not been a party for 5 years

8.4. Has the party chosen to establish criteria to identify relevant sources covered within a source category?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

8.5. Has the party chosen to prepare a national plan setting out the measures to be taken to control emissions from relevant sources and its expected targets, goals and outcomes?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

{Empty}

▼ ART. 9: RELEASES

9.1. Are there, within the party's territory, relevant sources of releases as defined in paragraph 2 (b) of article 9?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ I do not know

9.2. Has the party established an inventory of releases from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the convention for it?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Relevant sources do not exist in the territory
- ☒ Have not been a party for 5 years
- ☐ No

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ ART. 10: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND INTERIM STORAGE OF MERCURY, OTHER THAN WASTE MERCURY

10.1. Has the party taken measures to ensure that the interim storage of non-waste mercury and mercury compounds intended for a use allowed to a party under the Convention is undertaken in an environmentally sound manner?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I do not know

Please indicate the measures taken to ensure that such interim storage is undertaken in an environmentally sound manner and the effectiveness of those measures.

In the entity there is 1,000.5 kg of virgin mercury in bottles and 13,165.24 kg of recovered mercury, derived from the deactivation process of the plant, bottled. All these bottles are in provisional storage, with security measures and due control.

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ **ART. 11: MERCURY WASTES**

11.1. Have measures outlined in article 11, paragraph 3, been implemented for the party's mercury waste?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Please describe the measures implemented pursuant to paragraph 3, and please also describe the effectiveness of those measures.

If so, please describe the measures taken pursuant to paragraph 3 and the effectiveness of those measures.

- a)– Actions are implemented that guarantee an environmentally sound management of waste, in three directions:
- Control of the quality of the raw material and of the technological process, to minimize the generation of mercurial sludge.
 - Safe confinement of the mercurial sludge in niches specially prepared for it, with a battery of these constructions in the plant that meet the requirements and whose execution is covered by an Environmental License granted by the environmental authority.
 - Recovery of the mercury resulting from the deactivation of the technology, repackaged in bottles and stored safely, for later reuse.
- b) The recovery of surplus mercury or mercury that was in use at the time the technology was deactivated has been guaranteed, repackaging it in bottles and storing it in safe conditions for later reuse.
- c) No transportation actions have been carried out.

11.2. Are there facilities for final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds in the party's territory?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ I do not know

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ ART. 12: CONTAMINATED SITES

12.1. Has the party endeavoured to develop strategies for identifying and assessing sites contaminated by mercury or mercury compounds in its territory?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Please elaborate

There is a systematic monitoring program of the areas at risk of contamination in the surroundings of the plant, as well as of the groundwater in the area of probable incidence. In addition, studies have been carried out on the mercury content in the waters of the Sagua la Grande River, from the point of entry of possible effluents to its mouth, as well as in an extensive marine area between Bahía de Uvero and Bahía de Carahatas.

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ ART. 13: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISM

13.1. Has the party undertaken to provide, within its capabilities, resources in respect of those national activities that are intended to implement the Convention in accordance with its national policies, priorities, plans and programmes?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Please specify

The State and Government financed the investment to replace the chlor-alkali production technology through mercurial cells, with a technology with the same purpose but without harm to health and the environment.

Please provide comments, if any.

{Empty}

13.2. Supplemental: Has the party, within its capabilities, contributed to the mechanism referred to in paragraph 5 of article 13?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please specify

Cuba does not have financial resources to solve its own problems with hazardous waste of salts and mercurial sludge.

Please provide comments, if any.

{Empty}

13.3. Supplemental: Has the party provided financial resources to assist developing-country parties and/or parties with economies in transition in the implementation of the Convention through other bilateral, regional and multilateral sources or channels?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please specify

Cuba does not have financial resources to solve its own problems with hazardous waste of salts and mercurial sludge.

Please provide comments, if any.

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Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ ART. 14: CAPACITY-BUILDING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

14.1. Has the party cooperated to provide capacity-building or technical assistance, pursuant to article 14, to another party to the Convention?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please specify

At this time, human resources are being prepared that will also be able to provide technical assistance, and international cooperation is required for this.

14.2. Supplemental: Has the party received capacity-building or technical assistance pursuant to article 14?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please specify

The resources for the preparation of personnel with the support of international cooperation have not been made available.

Please provide comments, if any.

{Empty}

14.3. Has the party promoted and facilitated the development, transfer and diffusion of and access to, up-to-date environmentally sound alternative technologies?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other

Please specify

A membrane technology was acquired to replace the production of chlor-alkali with mercurial technology.

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

{Empty}

▼ ART. 16: HEALTH ASPECTS

16.1. Have measures been taken to provide information to the public on exposure to mercury in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 16?

☐ Yes

☒ No

16.2. Have any other measures been taken to protect human health in accordance with article 16?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.

Is in the National Priorities of the HUman Health Care

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ ART. 17: INFORMATION EXCHANGE

17.1. Has the party facilitated the exchange of information referred to in article 17, paragraph 1?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Please provide more information, if any

{Empty}

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ ART. 18: PUBLIC INFORMATION, AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

18.1. Have measures been taken to promote and facilitate the provision to the public of the kinds of information listed in article 18, paragraph 1?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ ART. 19: RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING

19.1. Has the party undertaken any research, development and monitoring in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 19?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If yes, please describe these actions

The Office of Environmental Regulation and Safety, as the national regulatory authority, has a contract for monitoring heavy metals in the main bays of the country.

Technology transfer is required to eliminate certain activities and implement good practices. Training of the personnel in charge of regulating is demanded.

Part E – Additional comments on the article in free text if the party chooses to do so

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▼ COMMENTS

Part C: Comments regarding possible challenges in meeting the objectives of the Convention (Art. 21, para. 1)

{Empty}

▼ SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Supplemental: Part D: Comments regarding the reporting format and possible improvements, if any

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