

MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY 2021

* Questions 3.3, 4.3, 10.1, 14.2, 19.1, Part E of Articles 12 and 16 amended by Dominican Republic on 1 July 2022



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

Dominican Republic

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

20 March 2018

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

{Empty}

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

Title of National Focal Point

Mr.

Name of National Focal Point

Orlando Jorge Mera

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Ave. Cayetano Germosen, Esq. Ave. Gregory Luperon, El Pedregal, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
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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

a3_subsection

Full name of the institution

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

Title of contact officer

Director of Environmental Quality

Name of contact officer

Silmer Gonzalez Ruiz

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▼ 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

{Empty}

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

ba34_subsection

*If the party answered Yes to Question 3 above:

i. Please attach the results of your endeavor or indicate where it is available on the internet, unless unchanged from a previous reporting round.

<https://ambiente.gob.do/> Title of the document, Development of the Initial Assessment of the Minamata Convention in Latin America and the Caribbean (October 2017). Please see annex.

i. Please attach the results of your endeavor or indicate where it is available on the internet, unless unchanged from a previous reporting round.

{Empty}

ii. Supplemental: Please provide any related information, for example on the use or disposal of mercury from such stocks and sources.

{Empty}

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

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

ba35_subsection

If yes, a. and the party has submitted copies of the consent forms to the secretariat, then no further information is needed. If the party has not previously provided such copies, it is recommended that it do so.

a. and the party has submitted copies of the consent forms to the secretariat, then no further information is needed.

{Empty}

Otherwise, please provide other suitable information showing that the relevant requirements of paragraph 6 of article 3 have been met.

{Empty}

Supplemental: please provide information on the use of the exported mercury.

{Empty}

Kindly attach all relevant information

{Empty}

b. If exports were based on a general notification in accordance with article 3, paragraph 7, please indicate, if available, the total amount exported and any relevant terms or conditions in the general notification related to use.

{Empty}

Relevant terms or conditions in the general notification related to use

{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

{Empty}

▼ 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

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

1 – Promote the use of cost-effective and clinically effective non-mercury alternatives for dental restoration.

2 – Encourage representative professional organizations and dental schools to educate and train dental professionals and students on the use of non-mercury alternatives in dental restoration and the promotion of best management practices.

3 – The formation of the National Mercury Committee in 2003, made up of public and private institutions and academies.

4 – There is a National Mercury Program since 2003.

Go to the link: <https://indocal.gob.do> (in publications, see, Reglamento Técnico de Metrología, in RTM 005 you will find the document Compact Clinical Electric Thermometer of Maximum Temperature.

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

{Empty}

▼ 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)

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

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

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

{Empty}

▼ 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

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

{Empty}

▼ 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 power plants

Use of filters in chimneys of coal-fired power plants to prevent atmospheric emissions, as well as the incorporation of an emission standard for mercury

☐ 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

Attach relevant documentation

{Empty}

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}

▼ **SMEETING 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

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

▼ **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

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

Please explain

No relevant sources have been detected in the territory, because it is still in the process of determining the existence of relevant sources in the territory. The situation of the pandemic has affected all the actions directed for such purposes, at the moment we do not know the exact date to identify what was requested at this point.

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

{Empty}

▼ 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.

The country has not yet taken measures to store mercury on a temporary basis, these measures were taken by the mining company which is the only one that produces mercury in its process generated as a by-product of the metallurgical process.

For the construction of the temporary storage facility, the company's corporate guidelines, the Chemical Substances regulations of the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources and the Minamata Convention on Mercury were consulted.

A warehouse was built at the gold mine with the following characteristics:

- Dimensions of 12m x 15m.
- It is designed with 2% of drainage in its interior platform to facilitate the flow in case of spillage.
- The building is surrounded by a containment chute where it can be handled safely.
- The building has an insulated perimeter.

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

{Empty}

▼ 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.

The companies operate under an environmental permit granted by the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, which is based on an Environmental Management plan for all the company's operations, which must show its environmental compliance from time to time. In the event that said company handles mercury in any of its life cycles, it must comply with all the requirements regarding the environmental law.

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

{Empty}

▼ 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

We have elaborated the following:

1. National Strategy to Identify and Evaluate Sites Contaminated with Mercury, it was developed within the project.
2. Development of the Initial Evaluation of the MINAMATA Convention in Latin America and the Caribbean, Dominican Republic, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Basel Convention Coordinating Center–Stockholm Convention Regional Center for Latin America and the Caribbean (BCCC–SCRC) – Laboratory Technology of Uruguay (LATU).

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

A contaminated site is considered to be a site where there is evidence of an increase in mercury concentration above the quality or safety levels recommended for a given use. There is currently no regulation in the country that establishes the limits for permissible heavy metals. In this sense, the regulations of the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS / EPA) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) will be used as a reference (See annex).

▼ 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

All the actions and activities carried out by the country have been donations with funds from the GEF and with the support of regional projects.

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

At the moment the DR does not have the availability of financial resources to contribute.

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

At the moment the DR does not have the availability of financial resources to contribute.

Please provide comments, if any.

{Empty}

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

{Empty}

▼ 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

The Dominican Republic does not have the conditions to provide training or technical assistance to other parties.

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please specify

The years of the reporting period the technical assistance or capacity building support was received; Response, in the period 2008–2010; 2015–2017, through the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), the Basel Convention Coordinating Center–Stockholm Convention Coordinating Center for Latin America and the Caribbean, Technological Laboratory of Uruguay– Montevideo – Uruguay, National Program of the United Nations (PNUMA).

The type of capacity building or technical assistance; Response, Development of the Level 1 and Level 11 inventory, National diagnosis on sources of mercury releases and emersions, Registration and Transfer of pollutants. With support from SAICM and EPA.

Capacity Building for the Development of a Mercury Inventory, (Situational Analysis on Mercury Management in the Dominican Republic and National Mercury Emissions Inventory).

Strengthen capacity for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention through scientific and technical knowledge and tools.

(Total value of the project was US\$119,000).

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

The country does not have manufacturing industries of any type of products containing mercury, nor does it have mercury mines, it only has imports of products with added mercury.

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

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

During the development of the projects mentioned above, several workshops were held where flyers were distributed with information on the Convention, its objectives and the risks to human health and the environment that mercury and its derivatives can produce if they are not managed in an environmentally friendly manner. rational. How to protect yourself from its danger.

The result of those measures. Universities have reduced the use of dental amalgam in practices. The Dominican College of Bioanalyst published in 2010 an article in its magazine alluding to the damage caused by mercury and its compounds.

The metrological and technical regulation for digital electric clinical thermometers with maximum temperature measurement device was elaborated

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.

Establish and strengthen, as appropriate, institutional and health professional capacity to prevent, diagnose, treat, and monitor health risks related to exposure to mercury and mercury compounds.

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

During the development of the projects mentioned above, several workshops were held where flyers were handed out with information about the convention, its objectives and the risks to human health and the environment that mercury and its derivatives can produce if they are not managed in an environmentally sound manner and how to protect oneself from its dangers.

(Attach the texts of the projects carried out).

▼ **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

There is currently a web page that contains information on chemical substances and on the BREM agreements.

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

{Empty}

▼ **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

If yes, please indicate the measures that have been taken and the effectiveness of those measures

Information is available on:

- i) The effects of mercury and mercury compounds on health and the environment;
- ii) Alternatives to mercury and mercury compounds;
- (iii) The topics listed in paragraph 1 of article 17;
- iv) The results of the research, development and surveillance activities carried out in accordance with article 19; and
- v) Activities aimed at fulfilling the obligations contracted under this Convention;

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

{Empty}

▼ 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

A project entitled, NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY–Project DOM7004, was developed by the Vice–Ministry of Coastal and Marine Affairs of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources in coordination with the Ministry of Tourism and the Technical cooperation of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Cienfuegos– Cuba, the project, "Developing human resources and supporting nuclear technology for addressing key priority areas including biodiversity and environmental conservation", was developed in Samaná Bay, Dominican Republic.

As part of the project activities, a workshop on the Application of nuclear and isotopic techniques in the management of coastal marine areas with infrastructure development for the tourism sector was held during the week of 18–22 January 2016, including basic lessons on nuclear and isotopic techniques and their applications to assess environmental pollution, soil and beach erosion, habitat loss and ecosystem connectivity. In Sanana Bay, where a large amount of mercury has been lodged since the time of colonisation.

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)

Availability of resources in quantity and on time for the implementation of plans and programs.
It is necessary to have trained personnel

▼ SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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

{Empty}