

# MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY 2021

\* Questions 13.1 and 13.2 amended by El Salvador on 24 June 2022

## DISCLAIMER

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## REPORTING PERIOD:

16 August 2017 to 31 December 2020

## UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Attachments can be found on the website

### ▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

## 1. Information on the party

### Name of party

El Salvador

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

June 20, 2017

### Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

18 September 2017

## 2. Information on the national focal point

### Full name of the institution

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

### Title of National Focal Point

Hazardous Materials Specialist

### Name of National Focal Point

Italo Andres Flamenco Cordova

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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

Through Decree No. 639, PROHIBITION LAW OF METALLIC MINING, of March 29, 2017, published in the Official Gazette No. 66, Volume No. 415 of April 4, 2017, the Prohibition of metal mining is established, indicating as scope in its article 2 "The prohibition of metal mining includes the activities of: Exploration, extraction, exploitation and processing, whether open pit or underground. Also, the use of toxic chemicals, such as cyanide, mercury and others, in any metal mining process is prohibited.  
<https://imprentanacional.gob.sv/servicios/archivo-digital-del-diario-oficial/>

### 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.

As an initial activity, a search has been carried out in the Environmental Assessment System of the entities with an Environmental Permit that could store, use, generate or import Mercury. Search results are negative for activities that could generate sources greater than 10 metric tons or for Mercury stocks greater than 50 metric tons. There are no mercury mines or activities that use mercury.

<http://seaweb.marn.gob.sv:8080/eseapublic/index.php>

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

#### Additional information if needed

There have been no exports of Mercury to the Parties or to States or Organizations that are not Parties.

### 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

**If yes, please provide information on the measures.**

The Ministry of Health (MINSAL), in its National Oral Health Policy, has included strategies and lines of action aimed at preventing dental caries and promoting health.

To promote the use of mercury-free alternatives for dental restoration, MINSAL uses Light-curing Composite Resins in dental fillings.

To limit the use of dental amalgam in its encapsulated form, MINSAL has not included in its purchases of supplies and materials since 2019 the filing of Silver, Mercury and pre-dosed Silver amalgam.

MINSAL has prioritized the use of Composite Resins to reduce the release of Mercury and its compounds into water and soil.

**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**



The approval of a special regulation to improve the control and surveillance of mercury compounds and the prohibition of their use in products is in process.

▼ 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**

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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.**

Through Decree No. 639, PROHIBITION LAW OF METALLIC MINING, of March 29, 2017, published in the Official Gazette No. 66, Volume No. 415 of April 4, 2017, the Prohibition of metal mining is established, indicating as scope in its article 2 "The prohibition of metal mining includes the activities of: Exploration, extraction, exploitation and processing, whether open pit or underground. Also, the use of toxic chemicals, such as cyanide, mercury and others, in any metal mining process is prohibited.  
<https://imprentanacional.gob.sv/servicios/archivo-digital-del-diario-oficial/>

## **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 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 maximum term of five years from the date of entry into force of the Convention expires in September 2022. Currently, a legal instrument is being worked on that requires future new sources of Mercury emissions to implement best available techniques or the best environmental practices to control and, where possible, reduce mercury emissions.

### **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}

### ▼ 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**

{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

**Please explain**

The maximum term of ten years from the date of entry into force of the Convention expires in September 2027. Currently, a national plan is being worked on that will include some of the measures described in paragraph 5 of article 8 of the Convention to be applied to existing relevant sources with the objective of achieving reasonable progress in reducing Mercury emissions.

**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

**If yes, when was the inventory last updated?**

Mon, 11/01/2021 – 00:00

**Please indicate where this inventory is available**

The Mercury Emissions and Releases Inventory document is in the process of being reviewed for subsequent publication.

**Attach**

- SLV\_8.3.xls

**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

**If yes, has the party submitted its national plan to the Conference of the Parties under this article no later than 4 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?**

- ☐ Yes  
☒ No

**Please explain**

The National Plan, which sets out the measures to be adopted to control emissions, is under development.

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

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**▼ 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

**When was the inventory last updated?**

2021-11-01

**Please indicate where this inventory is available**

The Mercury Emissions and Releases Inventory document is in the process of being reviewed for subsequent publication.

**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

**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

**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**

There is a "NATIONAL STRATEGY TO IDENTIFY SITES CONTAMINATED WITH MERCURY AND TECHNICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE ASSESSMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION OF SITES CONTAMINATED WITH MERCURY"

**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**

El Salvador, through the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), as the National Authority on environmental matters, assumed the country's commitments for the implementation of the Minamata Convention. The Ministry, in accordance with its Policy and plans, provides technical resources to perform the administrative functions required by virtue of carrying out the implementation and monitoring of activities aimed at complying with the national commitments derived from the International Conventions on waste management and hazardous substances, including the Minamata Convention.

Likewise, the Ministry of Health and the Salvadoran Institute of Social Security, together with the University of El Salvador, carry out joint work in the application of the sanitary articles of the Agreement. As well as, the Ministry of Economy together with MARN are linked in efforts to achieve comprehensive attention to artisanal and small-scale gold extraction, in which mercury is used for gold extraction.

**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**

El Salvador is a developing country.

**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**

No contributions have been made to developing countries from other sources.

**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**

El Salvador is a developing country and has not adopted measures to support capacity building and the provision of technical assistance for the benefit of other Parties that are developing countries.

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

**Please specify**

El Salvador has received funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the development of the project "Development of an initial evaluation of the Minamata Convention in El Salvador" GEF ID 9751

**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**

For El Salvador, it has not been possible to promote the transfer and access to said technologies.

**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.**

The Faculty of Dentistry of the University of El Salvador teaches the course "Contemporary Clinical Cariology and Latest Generation Biomaterials", which is part of the Academic Cooperation Agreement between the said university and the Salvadoran Social Security Institute (ISSS). The course is aimed at strengthening the national capacities of the dentists' union, especially those who provide services in the ISSS and MINSAL in order to withdraw the use of Mercury/Silver dental amalgam and promote alternative Mercury-free technologies.

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

{Empty}

**▼ 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**

{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**

The training of dentists from the ISSS national network to perform fillings for the consequences of cariodental diseases that do not include mercury through the course "Contemporary Clinical Cariology and Latest Generation Biomaterials".

**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**

Inventories of anthropogenic emissions to air, and releases to water and soil, of mercury and mercury compounds.

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

{Empty}

**▼ COMMENTS**

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

The eradication of illegal small-scale mining is a problem that could increase, so work options and access to sources of training and development of local populations in areas with the presence of small-scale mining (informal and illegal) are being sought. .

**▼ SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

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

{Empty}