

FIRST FULL NATIONAL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY 2021

* Question 14.1 amended by Estonia on 26 June 2022



REPORTING PERIOD:

16 August 2017 to 31 December 2020

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party

Estonia

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

21 June 2017

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

19 September 2017

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution

Ministry of Environment

Title of National Focal Point

Ms.

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
{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.

There are no facilities in Estonia that use mercury. When ratifying the convention the information about the potential use of mercury in Estonia was checked with different national authorities. Conclusion was that there is no use of mercury in Estonia and no mercury stocks that would fall under the definition of mercury stocks by the convention.

As Estonia is a member country of the European Union the EU mercury regulation is directly applicable to Estonia. Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (Text with EEA relevance) can be found here <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852> According to article 18 of this regulation EU member states have to report information regarding mercury located in the territory of the member state. This information is publicly available at the website of the European Environment Agency <https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/dashboards/mercury-regulation-data-viewer>

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

No export has taken place.

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

Regarding the questions where reference to European Union legislation is made, more detailed description of the measures of the EU law could be reported by the European Commission on behalf of EU.

▼ 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 yes, please provide information on the measures.

As Estonia is a member country of the European Union the EU mercury regulation is directly applicable to Estonia. Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (Text with EEA relevance) can be found here <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852>
This regulation covers also the manufacture and use and trade of mercury-added products and with

this regulation the products listed in Part I of Annex A of the convention are also covered (Annex II of the regulation).

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.

As Estonia is a member country of the European Union the EU mercury regulation is directly applicable to Estonia. Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (Text with EEA relevance) can be found here <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852>

Article 10 of this regulation covers issues related to dental amalgam. According to article 10 of the EU mercury regulation, from 1 January 2019, dental amalgam shall only be used in pre-dosed encapsulated form. The use of mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners shall be prohibited. From 1 July 2018, dental amalgam shall not be used for dental treatment of deciduous teeth, of children under 15 years and of pregnant or breastfeeding women, except when deemed strictly necessary by the dental practitioner

based on the specific medical needs of the patient. From 1 January 2019, operators of dental facilities in which dental amalgam is used or dental amalgam fillings or teeth containing such fillings are removed, shall ensure that their facilities are equipped with amalgam separators for the retention and collection of amalgam particles, including those contained in used water. Dental practitioners shall ensure that their amalgam waste, including amalgam residues, particles and fillings, and teeth, or parts thereof, contaminated by dental amalgam, is handled and collected by an authorised waste management establishment or undertaking.

Also in Estonia the professional organizations and dental schools educate and train dental professionals and students on the use of mercury-free dental restoration alternatives and on promote best management practices.

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

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

To ensure health and environment safety of the products, measures regarding mercury-added products are addressed in the EU acquis, namely by EU mercury regulation (Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (Text with EEA relevance) can be found here <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852>)

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 yes, please provide information on the measures.

As Estonia is a member country of the European Union the EU mercury regulation is directly applicable to Estonia. Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (Text with EEA relevance) can

be found here <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852>
Article 8 of the regulation addresses new mercury-added products and new manufacturing processes. This article stipulates that economic operators shall not manufacture or place on the market mercury-added products that were not being manufactured prior to 1 January 2018 ('new mercury-added products') unless authorised to do so by means of a decision taken pursuant to paragraph 6 of this Article or allowed to do so under Directive 2011/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council.

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

Regarding the questions where reference to European Union legislation is made, more detailed description of the measures of the EU law could be reported by the European Commission on behalf of EU.

▼ 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

Estonia does not have these facilities that use mercury, described in the questions. However as Estonia is a member country of the European Union the EU mercury regulation is directly applicable to Estonia. Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (Text with EEA relevance) can be found here <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852> This regulation covers manufacturing processes listed in Part I of Annex B and part II of Annex B.

▼ 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 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

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▼ 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

As Estonia is member country of the European Union the Industrial Emissions Directive (Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control) Text with EEA relevance <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32010L0075>) is transposed to the national law (Industrial Emissions Act <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/508122020005/consolide>). EU law addresses Hg and Hg compounds air emissions from the relevant installations as all source categories listed in Annex D of the Minamata convention fall within the scope of application of the Industrial Emissions Directive. As a fundamental principle of action, all new and existing installations must make use of the BAT and operate according to BAT-based permit conditions, which must ensure that all appropriate preventive measures are taken against pollution.

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

As Estonia is member country of the European Union the Industrial Emissions Directive (Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control) Text with EEA relevance <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32010L0075>) is transposed to

the national law (Industrial Emissions Act <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/508122020005/consolide>). EU law addresses Hg and Hg compounds air emissions from the relevant installations as all source categories listed in Annex D of the Minamata convention fall within the scope of application of the Industrial Emissions Directive. As a fundamental principle of action, all new and existing installations must make use of the BAT and operate according to BAT-based permit conditions, which must ensure that all appropriate preventive measures are taken against pollution.

Progress

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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

If yes, when was the inventory last updated?

Mon, 01/04/2021 – 00:00

Please indicate where this inventory is available

Inventory regarding Estonia and other European Union member states can be found on the Industrial Emissions Portal <https://industry.eea.europa.eu/explore/explore-data-map/map>

It covers wide range of pollutants, also Hg.

The information contained in the Portal is reported annually and requested under the European Union Industrial Emissions Directive, via the EU Registry on Industrial Sites (EU Registry) and the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR). As of June 2021, this portal has replaced the E-PRTR website.

The date when the inventory was updated is not accurate, as it is updated annually.

Attach

{Empty}

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

Regarding the questions where reference to European Union legislation is made, more detailed description of the measures of the EU law could be reported by the European Commission on behalf of EU.

▼ 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.

There are no locations in the territory of Estonia, that are storing mercury on an interim basis. However as Estonia is a member country of the European Union the EU mercury regulation (Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (Text with EEA relevance) can be found here <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852>) is directly applicable to Estonia (and other EU legislative acts that address environmentally sound management of hazardous chemicals).

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

Regarding the questions where reference to European Union legislation is made, more detailed description of the measures of the EU law could be reported by the European Commission on behalf of EU.

▼ 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.

As Estonia is a member country of the European Union the EU mercury regulation is directly applicable to Estonia. Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (Text with EEA relevance) can be found here <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852> Articles 11 to 14 of the mercury regulation address the issue of the disposal of mercury waste (metallic mercury from large sources).

In addition EU waste law addresses more generally the management of mercury waste in accordance with the requirements set out in article 11 of the Minamata Convention. Substances or objects consisting of or containing or contaminated with Hg and Hg compounds qualify as "hazardous waste" under EU waste law (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02000D0532-20150601>) . Concerning the management of mercury waste Directive 2008/98/EC (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02008L0098-20180705&qid=1640785952936>) sets the general principle and obligation according to which waste must be handled without endangering human health and without harming the environment, i.e. without risk to water, soil, plants or animals. In Estonia this EU directive is transposed into national law (Waste Act <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/502112021006/consolide>)

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

Regarding the questions where reference to European Union legislation is made, more detailed description of the measures of the EU law could be reported by the European Commission on behalf of EU.

▼ 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

In Estonia mercury contaminated sites are identified on the basis of a broader policy and regulatory framework, where mercury is one of many pollutants of concern. Therefore only mercury specific strategy is not planned. Mercury-contaminated sites are identified in an Environmental Register (<https://keskkonnaportaal.ee/register>) via the implementation of measures regarding the identification of sites contaminated with hazardous substances. Mercury is one amongst other pollutants that are considered when identifying contaminated sites.

As Estonia is a member country of the European Union the EU mercury regulation is directly applicable to Estonia. Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (Text with EEA relevance) can be found here <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32017R0852>

In accordance with Article 15 of this regulation the European Commission has organised an exchange of information with the Member States on the measures taken at national level to identify and assess sites contaminated or potentially contaminated by mercury and mercury compounds and to address the significant risks such contamination may pose to human health and the environment. Compilation of this information can be found here <https://circabc.europa.eu/sd/a/1c1cb013-d78d-4ecf-a1b0-032b15c23c72/Art.%2015%20Mercury%20Regulation%20-%20Info%20on%20mercury%20contaminated%20sites%20final%20version.docx.pdf>

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

Resources have been provided to implement national policies and strategies relevant to the objectives of the Minamata Convention. For example the monitoring of mercury content in the environment is integrated in the relevant sub programmes (different water bodies and integrated monitoring programme) of the national environmental monitoring programme.

Information about environmental monitoring on the webpage of the Environment Agency.

<https://keskkonnaagentuur.ee/en/goals-activities/environmental-monitoring>

Resources have also been provided for remediation of different contaminated sites, where mercury is one amongst other pollutants.

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

Due to different budget deliberations and decisions taken at the national level, it has not been possible to contribute to this voluntary mechanism.

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

Due to different budget deliberations and decisions taken at the national level, it has not been possible to provide such contributions.

However not directly related to this question, but some financial resources were provided by the government for the organization of the Minamata CEE regional meeting that took place in Estonia in 2019.

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

At the wider European Union setting this objective is covered.

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please specify

Capacity-building or technical assistance has not been needed.

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

This objective is supported at the European Union level.

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.

Measures to protect human health from the exposure of hazardous chemicals, including mercury, are in place mostly via implementation of the European Union legislation. At the national level National Health Plan 2020–2030 is adopted https://www.sm.ee/sites/default/files/content-editors/Tervishoid/rahvatervis/rta_2020–2030.pdf and among other health related issues, it also focuses on the risks that hazardous chemicals can pose.

Estonian Rescue Board has made information publicly available of how to react when chemical accident with mercury occurs. <https://www.rescue.ee/et/juhend/kaeitumisjuhised-keemiaonnetuste-korral/elavhobeda-kokkukorjamine>

Information regarding the health risks of mercury are also available on Estonian Poison Information Centre website <https://www.16662.ee/et/murgistused-kemikaalidest/katkine-elavhobedatermomeeter>

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.

Information is provided at the national level regarding the monitoring results of the level of Hg found in the fish of the Baltic Sea and also other water bodies in Estonia. Ministry of Agriculture makes publicly available recommendations on the safety of fish and other food sources that might be polluted with Hg.

<https://www.agri.ee/sites/default/files/content/valjaanded/valjaanne-2021-elavhobe-toidus.pdf>

Based on the monitoring results the content of mercury in food products is in Estonia low and do not pose risk to human health.

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

Regarding the questions where reference to European Union legislation is made, more detailed description of the measures of the EU law could be reported by the European Commission on behalf of EU.

▼ 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

As Estonia is member country of the European Union, the requirements of the article 17 have been covered by different obligations that are put in place by EU legislation.

Information regarding all the European Union member states have been made publicly available on the website of the European Environment Agency <https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/dashboards/mercury-regulation-data-viewer>

Information about emissions and releases is found on the European Industrial Emissions Portal <https://industry.eea.europa.eu/explore/explore-data-by-pollutant>

At the national level information regarding the Minamata Convention is made available on the website of the Ministry of Environment <https://envir.ee/ringmajandus/toostusheide-ja-kemikaalid/elavhobe>

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

Regarding the questions where reference to European Union legislation is made, more detailed description of the measures of the EU law could be reported by the European Commission on behalf of EU.

▼ 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

Measures taken to promote and facilitate the provisions to the public have been described in the explanations of the question regarding health aspects and information exchange.

At the national level no evaluation of the effectiveness of these measures have been done yet.

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

Mercury is one the the heavy metals that is monitored by different sub programmes of the national monitoring programme. Information about the national monitoring programme can be found the the website of the Estonian Environment Agency <https://keskkonnaagentuur.ee/en/goals-activities/environmental-monitoring>

Information on monitoring results are publicly available on the website of Estonian environmental monitoring system <https://kese.envir.ee/kese/listProgramAndPublicReport.action>

In addition to national monitoring, some site specific studies have been made, if more information is needed for remediation plans of contaminated sites (usually there are many pollutants on one contaminated site, not only mercury).

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)

{Empty}

▼ SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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

{Empty}