

REPORTING PERIOD:

16 August 2017 to 31 December 2020

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party

Jamaica

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

19 July 2017

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

17 October 2017

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution

Ministry of Housing, Urban Renewal, Environment and Climate Change

Title of National Focal Point

Director, Projects and Enforcement

Name of National Focal Point

Miss Joanne Felix

Mailing address

Joanne Felix
Director, Projects and Enforcement
Environment and Risk Management Branch
Ministry of Housing, Urban Renewal, Environment and Climate Change
Kingston 5
Jamaica

Telephone number

(876) 633-7500

Fax number

{Empty}

E-mail

joanne.felix@mhurecc.gov.jm

Second E-mail

{Empty}

Web page

<https://mhurecc.gov.jm/>

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

If the party answered No above, please explain.

Jamaica does not produce or import mercury or mercury compounds and as such, does not have individual stocks exceeding 50 metric tons or mercury supply sources exceeding 10 metric tons.

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

Jamaica has not had any mercury exports during the reporting period.

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 yes, please provide information on the measures.

Some controls have been established for mercury-containing cosmetics and non-electronic measuring devices.

- Imports of mercury-containing cosmetics are prohibited, and the local regulatory authority does not facilitate registration or issuance of manufacturing licences for mercury-containing cosmetics.
- Imports of non-electronic measuring devices is controlled through the import permitting process. Importation is restricted to facilities with appropriate storage and disposal capacity for these devices once they become obsolete.

The local regulatory authority does not issue licences for importation of any known pesticides and biocides containing mercury.

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

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

See measures detailed in 4.1 above for mercury-containing cosmetics.

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 industrial boilers
- ☐ Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals
- ☒ Waste incineration facilities

Waste incineration facilities

There is one new facility which was granted an environmental permit in 2018 that prohibits the incineration of mercury-added products. The incinerator also has pollution controls.

- ☐ 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

N/A

Progress

N/A

▼ 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

N/A

Progress

N/A

▼ 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

Existing facilities were previously not required to have environmental permits but are now so required to do so as per the Natural Resources Conservation (Permits and Licences) (Amendment) Regulations 2015).

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

The cement company is required to report on mercury emissions as one of their priority air pollutants under their air quality discharge licence. The company is also required to utilize electrostatic precipitators as a pollution control device.

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

There are emissions limits for new cement clinker production facilities, however the facility that is currently in operation does not fall under that category since they have been in existence prior to the establishment of these limits.

▼ 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

{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 local entities that import mercury or mercury compounds fall under the category of Article 3.2 a) "... to be used for laboratory-scale research or as a reference standard..." In such instances, it is in very small amounts and is stored in designated areas along with other laboratory chemicals.

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

Jamaica has very small stocks of mercury waste, as such it is not economically feasible to export the waste for environmentally sound disposal.

▼ 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

Jamaica participated in the USAID Project "Reducing the Threats of Toxic Chemical Pollution to Human Health in Low- and Middle-Income Countries" which developed strategies for identifying and assessing sites across the island for chemical pollutants (including mercury) with the aim of mitigating health risks by breaking pollution exposure pathways.

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

{Empty}

▼ 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

Funds are provided from the Government's recurrent budget to develop and implement the policy, legislative, monitoring and enforcement frameworks that support implementation of the provisions of the Convention. These resources may be supplemented with the funding from projects which address specific issues.

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

Jamaica has not contributed to the mechanism referred to in paragraph 5 of article 13.

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

Jamaica does not have the capacity to provide financial resources to assist other developing-country parties and parties with economies in transition.

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

While Jamaica does not have the capacity to provide capacity-building and technical assistance to other parties, an offer has been made to some regional parties to provide laboratory testing for mercury levels in mining residues.

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please specify

Jamaica received financial support from the Global Environment Facility, through the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Caribbean, to prepare its 2018 Minamata Initial Assessment.

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

Jamaica does not have any up-to-date environmentally sound alternative 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

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

Jamaica developed some knowledge products related to the Convention, mercury emissions and mercury-added-products with the assistance of the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Caribbean Region and the British Research Institute.

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.

There has been some capacity building for healthcare professionals with patients who may be suffering from heavy metal exposure including mercury by the International Centre for Environmental and Nuclear Sciences (ICENS). Healthcare staff benefitted from the Centre's presentation on "Heavy Metal Exposure: Sources, Toxicology and Methods of Analysis".

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

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

Where possible, mercury analysis has been included in other research and monitoring activities in public sector and academic institutions, building on existing research initiatives. There have been prior assessments of dietary mercury intake from fish, seafood and rice consumption – the primary dietary sources. There was ongoing assessment of mercury in fish during the reporting period.

In addition, studies were also undertaken to assess mercury in marine sediments and mining residues; assessment of potentially contaminated sites; and other potential dietary exposure pathways, taking into consideration the potential implications for human health and livelihoods. Monitoring of other potential sources such as effluent also commenced, and it is expected that this will be expanded in the next reporting period.

- Williams, J.A., & Antoine, J. (2020) Evaluation of the elemental pollution status of Jamaican surface sediments using enrichment factor, geoaccumulation index, ecological risk and potential ecological risk index. Marine Pollution Bulletin (157) 111288. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2020.111288>

- Hoo Fung, L.A. (2021). Quantification of Total Mercury in Bauxite Effluent and Bauxite Residue: Recommendations for Meeting Jamaica's Obligations Under the Minamata Convention on Mercury. International Centre for Environmental and Nuclear Sciences; Kingston, Jamaica

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)

Jamaica, like many other small-island developing states, is in need of capacity-building and technical assistance to generate data and information necessary to inform reports required under this and other chemicals and waste conventions.

In addition, the Party would benefit from resource mobilisation to support the development and implementation of projects and programmes to regulate mercury-added products (MAPs), mercury emissions, waste MAPs and interim storage.

▼ SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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

{Empty}