

FIRST FULL NATIONAL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY 2021



* Questions 3.3 and 11.2 amended by Kuwait on 25 August 2022

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.

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

Kuwait

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

3 December 2015

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

16 August 2017

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution

Environment Public Authority

Title of National Focal Point

Dr.

Name of National Focal Point

Meshaal Alebrahim

Mailing address

Industrial Shuwaikh, block 1, street 14, building 900001

Telephone number

00965-99037872

Fax number

{Empty}

E-mail

m.alebrahim@epa.org.kw

Second E-mail

m.alebrahim@epa.org.kw

Web page

{Empty}

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

Kuwait does not have any mines.

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.

The following authorities have been contacted: Kuwait Municipality, Ministry of Electricity and Water, Public Authority for Industry, Federation of Kuwaiti Industries, Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kuwait University, Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, The Central Administration of Statistics, the General Administration of Customs, the Waste Department of the Environment Public Authority, and the International Cloud Company. The responses revealed that mercury stocks in the State of Kuwait do not exceed 50 metric tons, and there are no sources of mercury supply that generate more than 10 metric tons per year, according to the responses of the state authorities.

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

The State of Kuwait does not export mercury or mercury-added products.

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

All shipments containing mercury were rejected and not entered the State of Kuwait.

▼ 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.

– A decision was taken to ban mercury, its compounds and containing products, noting that the Ministry of Health reported the issuance of Circular No. (ATN 1190) dated 10/2/2019 – which stipulates the prohibition of registering products containing mercury.

– The Ministry of Electricity and Water also reported the suspension of the supply of mercury-containing lamps (fluorescent lamps) by the Street Lighting Department.

The ban on the manufacture, import or export of mercury contained in Annex (A) has been circulated to each of the following authorities: the Ministry of Health, the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the General Administration of Customs, and the Ministry of Electricity and Water.

A questionnaire was made for the first part of Annex (A) for the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation.

The manufacture, import and export of the following products were prohibited:

- mercury-added batteries
- circuit breakers and relays
- fluorescent lamps
- Lamps that operate at high pressure of mercury vapor for the purpose of universal illumination
- Cosmetics containing mercury except eye area cosmetics
- Pesticides, biocides and topical disinfectants containing mercury
- Mercury measuring devices

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.

Circular No. (ATN 1189) dated 10/2/2019 was issued by the Ministry of Health, which states that the use of dental amalgams containing mercury is prohibited as of January 2020.

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.

A shipment of mercury from FASC Kuwait General Trading and Contracting Company was refused entry. The supply of fluorescent lamps has been stopped by the Ministry of Electricity and Water – Street Lighting Department.

The ban on the manufacture, import or export of mercury contained in Annex (A) has been circulated to each of the following authorities: the Ministry of Health, the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the General Administration of Customs, and the Ministry of Electricity and Water.

A questionnaire was developed for the KPC specifically addressing issues under the first section of Annex A.

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.

A general ban on the manufacture, import or export of mercury has been circulated and effective alternatives have been found for each of the following authorities: Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Kuwait University, Public Authority for Applied Education and Training

, and Environmental Protection Law No. 42 of 2014 obligated the existence of environmental impact studies For projects and industries before their establishment, from which the study is carried out, the use of the materials listed in the agreements is limited, and the latest alternative technologies are used.

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
- ☐ 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}

▼ 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 Environment Public Authority, in cooperation with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, prepared a project to measure mercury levels and their expected sources in the atmospheric air. The studies showed that the levels measured from air samples taken at various test sites around the State of Kuwait were less than the limits set by the WHO.

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?

Thu, 12/12/2019 – 00:00

Please indicate where this inventory is available

Annex to the results of the study to measure the levels of mercury and its sources expected in the air in the State of Kuwait.

Attach

- [KWT_8.3_1.pdf](#)
- [KWT_8.3_2.pdf](#)

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 indicate the measures taken to address releases from relevant sources and the effectiveness of those measures.

The encapsulation method is used to control releases from relevant sources.

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?

2019-12-12

Please indicate where this inventory is available

The releases from relevant sources were known and viewed by the study that was prepared in cooperation with the Environment and Life Sciences Research Center at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (the project to measure mercury levels and their expected sources in the atmosphere) and this report was delivered in December 2019.

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.

Its contents are placed for it and stored in warehouses designated for 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

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

Mercury waste is disposed of through the Shuaiba Waste Station and is handled through the Public Authority for Industry.

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

If yes, if the information is available, how much waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds has been subjected to final disposal under the reporting period? Please specify the method of the final disposal operation/operations.

It has been reported that some medical tools belonging to the station may contain mercury in very small quantities, and they are treated using the capsulation process, and then they are buried at a site for hazardous industrial waste (waste receiving station).

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

Sites contaminated with mercury or its compounds were identified through the project to measure mercury levels and their expected sources in the air, which was carried out by the Environmental and Life Sciences Research Center and in the Mina Abdullah area.

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

The National Emissions Inventory Project and the communications that took place with all parties to provide us with information related to mercury or mercury compounds and urge them to abide by the articles of the Convention.

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

No contribution has been made to the financial resources 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

No financial resources have been provided to assist developing country Parties and/or Parties with economies in transition in implementing the Convention through other bilateral, regional and multilateral sources or channels.

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 State of Qatar was contacted, where they were assisted by providing some educational information about the Convention by answering the questions that were sent by them.

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please specify

No information has been provided.

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 authorities were contacted to find out the number of shipments and quantities of mercury imported to the State of Kuwait, whether for a scientific or other purpose, and to inform them of finding alternative materials to stop the use of mercury or its compounds, and obligating them through environmental impact studies.

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 have been taken by disseminating public awareness information regarding mercury and disseminating it on social media.

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 entry of mercury, estimated at 50 kilograms, into the State of Kuwait was prohibited in accordance with the terms and limits of the Convention and in the interest of the State of Kuwait.

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
Spreading awareness about the dangers of mercury and its compounds to human health.

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 study was prepared to measure mercury levels and their expected sources in the atmosphere in cooperation with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research.

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)

Difficulty in inventory and information sometimes.

The need to develop clear alternatives.

Some countries export mercury and mercury compounds without prior knowledge of the Basel Convention.

▼ SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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

There is none.

Print