

# FIRST FULL NATIONAL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY 2021



\* Questions 4.3, 8.2, Part E of Articles 11, 12 and 18 amended by Latvia on 20 March 2022

\* Question 11.1 and Part E of Article 11 amended by Latvia on 13 January 2023

## REPORTING PERIOD:

*16 August 2017 to 31 December 2020*

### ▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

## 1. Information on the party

**Name of party**

Latvia

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

20 June 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 the Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia

**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

### a3\_subsection

**Full name of the institution**

Ministry of the Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia

**Title of contact officer**

Ms.

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▼ ART. 3: MERCURY SUPPLY SOURCES AND TRADE

**3.1. Does the party have any primary mercury mines that were operating within its territory at the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

**Additional information on this question if needed**

{Empty}

**3.2. Does the party have any primary mercury mines that are now in operation that were not in operation at the time of entry into force of the Convention for the party?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

**3.3. Has the party endeavoured to identify individual stocks of mercury or mercury compounds exceeding 50 metric tons and sources of mercury supply generating stocks exceeding 10 metric tons per year that are located within its territory?**

☐ Yes

☒ No

**If the party answered No above, please explain.**

Within Latvia's territory there is no activities or manufacturing processes using mercury or mercury compounds referred in Article 3 para 1

**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**

In accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury the export of mercury and mercury compounds is prohibited (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32017R0852&from=LV>)

**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.**

In accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury the export, import and manufacturing of the mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annex A is prohibited

#### **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.**

In accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury:

- as from 1 July 2018, the use of dental amalgam is prohibited for dental treatment of (i) deciduous teeth, (ii) of children under 15 years and (iii) of pregnant or breastfeeding women, unless deemed strictly necessary by the dental practitioner on the ground of specific medical needs of the patient;
- as from 1 January 2019, dental practitioners are no longer allowed to use dental amalgam in bulk, but only in pre-dosed encapsulated form so as to prevent exposure of the patient and practitioner;
- as from 1 January 2019, all dental facilities dealing with dental amalgam (use of amalgam and/or removing dental amalgam fillings) must be equipped with amalgam separators ensuring the retention and collection of amalgam particles with a view to preventing their release into wastewater systems;
- Dental practitioners must ensure that their amalgam waste (e.g. amalgam residues, particles, fillings and teeth, or parts thereof, contaminated by dental amalgam) are handled and collected by authorised waste management establishments.

National plan concerning the measures to phase down the use of dental amalgam 2019–2020 was adopted in 2019. In accordance with the National plan following measures were taken:

- measures on dental caries prevention and health promotion, thereby minimizing the need for dental restoration;
- measures to encourage representative professional organizations and dental schools to educate and train dental professionals and students on the use of mercury-free dental restoration alternatives and on promoting best management practices

The assessment of the effectiveness of the measures set out in the national plan on dental amalgam is presented in follow-up report [https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/legal\\_acts/5ce73c0c-474e-4c13-8daf-9cc0a9ec7aa4](https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/legal_acts/5ce73c0c-474e-4c13-8daf-9cc0a9ec7aa4)

The national plan on dental amalgam set out measures in three main areas: the phasing out use of dental amalgam; the promoting of teeth and oral health; the training of dentistry students and dental practitioners on the use of mercury free alternatives as well as public awareness. For example, since 2019 the state health program suspended for use of dental amalgam. As reflected in annual statistics compared to 2018, the reduction of dental amalgam has been achieved by 50.3% in 2019 and by 67.7% in 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.**

The Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury.

#### **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.**

In accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury the manufacturing or placing on market mercury-added products (which were not being manufactured prior to 1 January 2018) is prohibited unless special authorization. There is no a such authorization requested.

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

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### **▼ 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

**Please explain**

There is no new sources.

**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

Regular monitoring of emissions. In accordance with the directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control, recast of Directive 2008/1/EC) <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32010L0075&qid=1647521616667&from=LV> the use of best available techniques and best environmental practices to control emissions, a multi-pollutant control strategy is applicable for the installation with the production of cement clinker in rotary kilns with a production capacity exceeding 500 tonnes per day or in other kilns with a production capacity exceeding 50 tonnes per day. There is a single installation with the production of cement clinker in Latvia and all mentioned measures are in place since the installation started in 2010. Removal rate of mercury in flue gas is 99,90%.

##### Progress

Facility is operated in accordance with permit's requirements

Have the measures for existing sources under paragraph 5 of article 8 been implemented no later than 10 years after the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

8.3. Has the party prepared an inventory of emissions from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the Convention for it?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ Have not been a party for 5 years

**8.4. Has the party chosen to establish criteria to identify relevant sources covered within a source category?**

☐ Yes

☒ No

**8.5. Has the party chosen to prepare a national plan setting out the measures to be taken to control emissions from relevant sources and its expected targets, goals and outcomes?**

☐ Yes

☒ No

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

{Empty}

▼ ART. 9: RELEASES

**9.1. Are there, within the party's territory, relevant sources of releases as defined in paragraph 2 (b) of article 9?**

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ I do not know

**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

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

There is no interim storage of non-waste mercury and mercury compounds

**▼ 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**

Regarding Q11 concerning management of mercury waste it has to be noted that Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury (repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008) as well as directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste (waste framework directive) are in force in Latvia.

Latvian national legal acts contain provisions limiting use of mercury in products, as well as setting out requirements for management of mercury-containing waste in an environmentally sound manner, taking into account the guidelines developed under the Basel Convention and relevant provisions of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury (repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008) as well as directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste (waste framework directive). There are set requirements for interim storage of mercury waste pending its final disposal. Transboundary shipments of mercury waste are allowed only for disposal in accordance with provisions of Basel convention and Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2006 on shipments of waste.

**▼ 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**

Contaminated sites are identified based on national requirements for the identification of contaminated and potentially contaminated sites. Mercury is one amongst other pollutants that are considered when identifying contaminated sites. Concerned sites are identified on the basis of an investigation (systematic screening of potentially polluting activities, including 'historical' industrial sites that made or have been making use of hazardous substances) determining whether environmental quality requirements (limit and target values) have been exceeded and whether the pollution create risk or may create risk to human health or the environment.

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

National regulations on identification of contaminated and potentially contaminated sites are available: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/55895-piesarnoto-un-potenciali-piesarnoto-vietu-apzinasanas-un-registracijas-kartiba>

It has to be noted that relevant data base is available: <http://parissrv.lv/gmc.lv/#viewType=pppvListView&incrementCounter=1>

▼ 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 resources of the implementation of the Convention is incorporated within funding of relevant policies development and implementation (e.g., environmental protection, health protection) at national level.

**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**

Latvia as a European Union's member state supports the European Union's contributions.

**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**

Latvia as a European Union's member state supports the European Union's contributions.

**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**

There is no industry or waste treatment facilities associated with the mercury or mercury-added products.

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

**Please specify**

There is no industry or waste treatment facilities associated with the mercury or mercury-added products.

**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**

There is no industry or waste treatment facilities associated with the mercury or mercury-added products.

**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.**

{Empty}

**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.

{Empty}

**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**

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**▼ 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  
In accordance with the National plan concerning the measures to phase down the use of dental amalgam 2019–2020 information campaigns as well as website for public were developed.

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

The information about information campaigns reflected in the follow-up report of the national plan on dental amalgam is presented in follow-up report [https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/legal\\_acts/5ce73c0c-474e-4c13-8daf-9cc0a9ec7aa4](https://tapportals.mk.gov.lv/legal_acts/5ce73c0c-474e-4c13-8daf-9cc0a9ec7aa4)

**▼ 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

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

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**▼ COMMENTS**

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

{Empty}

**▼ SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

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

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