

MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY 2021

* Question 3.1 amended by Mexico on 21 June 2022

REPORTING PERIOD:

16 August 2017 to 31 December 2020

UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Attachments can be found on the website

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.

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party

Mexico

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

29 September 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

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

Title of National Focal Point

Mr.

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

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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

a) The anticipated date of closure of the mine(s): (month, year) OR

Month

{Empty}

Year

{Empty}

b) The date upon which the mine(s) closed: (month, year)

Month

December

Year

2020

c) *Total amount mined _____ metric tons per year

2016	804.61
2017	442.00
2018	0.50
2019	0.00
2020	0.00
2021	0.00

Additional information on this question if needed

As of the entry into force of the Minamata Convention, the production of mercury reported to the Ministry of Economy (Official Agency in charge of mining production statistics at the national level) decreased and it has been identified that, in the environmental

monitoring campaigns carried out that mercury production persists in various parts of the country, particularly in the Sierra Gorda of the state of Querétaro.

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.

https://www.gob.mx/cms/uploads/attachment/file/604681/80_2020_Informe_FQ-UNAM_Sep_05_.pdf

i. Please attach the results of your endeavor or indicate where it is available on the internet, unless unchanged from a previous reporting round.

- [MEX_3.3.xlsx](#)

ii. Supplemental: Please provide any related information, for example on the use or disposal of mercury from such stocks and sources.

Sites with mining activity whose annual production exceeds 10 metric tons

Chlor-alkali plants in the process of transitioning to mercury-free technology. Its generated waste is recovered to be disposed of in specialized sites.

3.4. Does the party have excess mercury available from the decommissioning of chlor-alkali facilities?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If yes, please explain the measures taken to ensure that the excess mercury was disposed of in accordance with the guidelines for environmentally sound management referred to in paragraph 3 (a) of article 11 using operations that did not lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct re-use or alternative uses.

In 2022, the project "Eliminate the use of mercury and properly manage mercury and mercury waste in the chlor-alkali sector in Mexico" will start, whose objective is to reduce the negative impact of mercury and mercury waste from the chlor-alkali sector alkali on human health and the environment in Mexico. This by changing technology in its production process.

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

ba35_subsection

If yes, a. and the party has submitted copies of the consent forms to the secretariat, then no further information is needed. If the party has not previously provided such copies, it is recommended that it do so.

a. and the party has submitted copies of the consent forms to the secretariat, then no further information is needed.

Otherwise, please provide other suitable information showing that the relevant requirements of paragraph 6 of article 3 have been met.

Regarding imports in the 2017–2020 period, 6 import requests were registered, one for 100,000 kg which was rejected, 4 for quantities equal to or less than 400 kg aimed at dental applications, and one for an amount of 20 mg of mercury.

Regarding the export of mercury, Mexico received in the period from 2017 to 2020, 151 export requests, however, in accordance with the Minamata Convention, the consent of the destination countries was required, receiving the consent to carry out 33 exports, which represented the movement of 296,851 kg.

The countries to which the exports were made are the following: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chad, Cuba, United Arab Emirates, India, Kenya, Nicaragua, Peru and Uruguay.

The documents in PDF format of the available consent requests are attached, according to the log number, which is the control number of this authority.

Supplemental: please provide information on the use of the exported mercury.

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Kindly attach all relevant information

- [MEX_3.5\(2\).pdf](#)

b. If exports were based on a general notification in accordance with article 3, paragraph 7, please indicate, if available, the total amount exported and any relevant terms or conditions in the general notification related to use.

{Empty}

Relevant terms or conditions in the general notification related to use

{Empty}

3.6. Has the party allowed the import of mercury from a non-party?

- ☒ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ The importing party has relied on paragraph 7 of article 3

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

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▼ ART. 4: MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS

4.1. Has the party taken any appropriate measures to not allow the manufacture, import or export of mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annex A of the Convention after the phase-out date specified for those products?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes (implementing paragraph 2 of article 4)

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

Implementing the Official Mexican Standard NOM-212-SCFI-2017, Primary cells and batteries–Maximum permissible limits of mercury and cadmium–Specifications, test methods and labeling, where it is allowed for batteries with the so-called button shape to have a Mercury content not greater than 2% by weight and up to 0.0005% Mercury by weight for the other models

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 addition to the implementation of NOM-212-SCFI-2017, the use of liquid mercury in dental amalgams has been replaced by the use of pre-dosed capsules in the consolidated purchases of the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS), an institution with the largest presence in health care and social protection of Mexicans.

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.

Implementing the Official Mexican Standard NOM-212-SCFI-2017, Primary cells and batteries-Maximum permissible limits of mercury and cadmium-Specifications, test methods and labeling.

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.

The authority responsible for formulating and conducting foreign and domestic trade policies for mercury-containing products in Mexico is the Ministry of Economy, which is currently reviewing mercury products that require modification of the maximum permissible limits in accordance with Annex A of the Convention.

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

If yes, please provide information on measures taken to address emissions and releases of mercury or mercury compounds from such facilities.

It is estimated that during the chlor-alkali production process, 9,093 kg were emitted/released in 2015, associated with two plants that were in operation in 2015, one of which closed operations in May 2016.

If available, please provide information on the number and type of facilities and the estimated annual amount of mercury or mercury compounds used in those facilities.

In Mexico during 2015 two Chlorine-Alkali plants operated: one in Monterrey, Nuevo León and another in Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz. The Monterrey plant ended operations in May 2016, it was replaced by a plant that operates with membrane technology on the outskirts of the city of Monterrey. The Coatzacoalcos plant continues in operation and is the one with the highest production with an installed capacity of 98,000 tons of chlorine per year.

Please provide information on how much mercury (in metric tons) is used in the processes listed in the two first entries of Part II of Annex B in the last year of the reporting period.

It is estimated that as a result of the technological conversion of the chlorine-soda production plant located in Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz, 100 metric tons of mercury will no longer be used

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)

If yes, please provide information on these measures.

Mexico develops the project "Eliminate the use of mercury and adequate management of mercury residues in the chlor-alkali sector in Mexico" whose objective is the technological reconversion of the plant with mercury cells located in Coatzacoalcos, for a plant with cells of membrane. Likewise, proper management of the waste generated by this plant and the Monterrey plant will be carried out.

ACETALDEHYDE PRODUCTION IN WHICH MERCURY OR MERCURY COMPOUNDS ARE USED AS A CATALYST

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

5.3. Are measures in place to restrict the use of mercury or mercury compounds in the processes listed in Part II of Annex B in accordance with the provisions set out therein?

VINYL CHLORIDE MONOMER PRODUCTION

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

SODIUM OR POTASSIUM METHYLATE OR ETHYLATE

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

PRODUCTION OF POLYURETHANE USING MERCURY-CONTAINING CATALYSTS

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ Not applicable (do not have these facilities)

5.4. Is there any use of mercury or mercury compounds in a facility using the manufacturing processes listed in Annex B that did not exist prior to the date of entry into force of the Convention for the party?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

5.5. Is there any facility that has been developed using any other manufacturing process in which mercury or mercury compounds are intentionally used that did not exist prior to the date of entry into force of the Convention?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

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

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▼ ART. 7: ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE GOLD MINING

7.1. Have steps been taken to reduce, and where feasible eliminate, the use of mercury and mercury compounds in, and the emissions and releases to the environment of mercury from, artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing subject to article 7 within your territory?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ There is no artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing subject to article 7 in which mercury amalgamation is used in the territory

If yes, please provide information on the steps.

The development of the project "Development of the National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Mexico (NAP)" has begun with financing from the GEF, the objective of which is to assist Mexico in the development of its National Action Plan, raising national awareness of the Minamata Convention and building initial national capacity for its early implementation.

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

7.3. Has the party developed and implemented a national action plan and submitted it to the secretariat?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ In progress

7.4. Attach your most recent review that must be completed under paragraph 3 (c) of article 7, unless it is not yet due

{Empty}

7.5. Supplemental: Has the party cooperated with other countries or relevant intergovernmental organizations or other entities to achieve the objective of this article?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Please provide information

The "Workshop to share knowledge between Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama and Peru on the implementation of the trade provisions of the Minamata Convention" was held from October 8 to 10, 2019 in La Paz, Bolivia. In this workshop, the possible transboundary movements of mercury for artisanal and small-scale gold mining in Latin America were analyzed.

Please provide information

- [MEX_7.5.pdf](#)

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

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▼ 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 power plants

Simple particulate matter control devices: CIC, DP or PE

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

Waste incineration facilities

Acid gas scrubbers and high efficiency filters or simple particle control and electrostatic precipitators

- ☒ Cement clinker production facilities

Cement clinker production facilities

Dust recycling filters and simple particulate control systems (PE, DP, BF)

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

Simple particulate matter control devices: CIC, DP or PE

Progress

emission control

▼ 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

There is the Mexican Official Standard NOM-098-SEMARNAT-2002 on environmental protection-waste incineration, operating specifications and pollutant emission limits.

This establishes an emission limit of 0.07 mg/m³, with a six-monthly measurement frequency by cold vapor atomic absorption spectrometry method.

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

There is the Official Mexican Standard NOM-040-ECOL-2002 on Environmental Protection-Manufacture of hydraulic cement-Maximum permissible levels of emission into the atmosphere where the maximum value allowed for mercury is 0.07 mg/m³ with annual measurement frequency and semi-annually with detection by Atomic Absorption Spectrometry or equivalent

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

Yes, the regulations to establish the maximum permissible limits of mercury and other pollutants were published prior to the entry into force of the Convention

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, 01/28/2019 – 00:00

Please indicate where this inventory is available

https://www.gob.mx/cms/uploads/attachment/file/493064/EVALUACION_INICIAL_DEL_CONVENIO_DE_MINAMATA_EN_MEXICO_SEP__1_.pdf

Attach

- [MEX_8.3.pdf](#)

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please explain how the criteria for any category include at least 75 percent of the emissions from that category and explain how the party took into account guidance adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

Mexico carried out an inventory of sources in 2015, and is also developing various projects; One of them is focused on primary mercury mining, which is the identified source with the highest number of emissions and releases in the country. It should be noted that this project monitors mercury in the environment and the health of the miners and General population. Another of the projects focuses on the production of chlor-alkali, which also includes monitoring of mercury in the environment that is compared with the maximum permissible limits recommended at the international level.

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please explain

The project "Reducing environmental and global risks through the monitoring and development of alternative livelihoods for the primary mercury mining sector in Mexico, whose objective is to prevent the risk to the environment and human health from mercury through the establishment of a comprehensive strategy to control primary mercury mining and enable good alternative economic, environmental and social activities in the State of Querétaro, since it has one of the largest mercury reserves at the national level.

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

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▼ ART. 9: RELEASES

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

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I do not know

Please indicate the measures taken to address releases from relevant sources and the effectiveness of those measures.
Monitoring has been carried out with laboratory studies to quantify the amount of mercury that is present in the soil. Concentrations of up to 13,000 mg/kg have been found at sites in the Sierra Gorda in the state of Querétaro, indicating high concentrations of mercury.

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?

2019-01-28

Please indicate where this inventory is available

https://www.gob.mx/cms/uploads/attachment/file/493064/EVALUACION_INICIAL_DEL_CONVENIO_DE_MINAMATA_EN_MEXICO_SEP_11.pdf

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.

Within the project under development "Eliminate the use of mercury and adequately manage mercury and mercury waste in the chlor-alkali sector in Mexico", different objectives have been established, among which the introduction of BPA during and after the dismantling and conversion of the plants, as well as the stabilization treatment and disposal of contaminated waste.

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

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▼ 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.

The measures that the country has adopted in the reporting period (August 16, 2017 to December 31, 2020) for the management of mercury waste have been carried out based on the General Law for Comprehensive Waste Management, and its Regulations, which

consist of regulating mercury waste through authorized companies that recycle waste to recover mercury contained in amalgams and fluorescent tubes, energy-saving light bulbs, sodium lamps, ultraviolet light tubes, neon gas tubes and all types of lighting that contain mercury; and thermometers, manometers, switches, relays, activated carbon contaminated with mercury, medical equipment containing mercury such as sphygmomanometers, mercuric oxide batteries through thermal processes, and companies that treat (shred) used fluorescent lamps,

The directory of companies authorized for the recycling, treatment, transportation, storage and confinement of hazardous waste can be consulted on the following website <https://www.semarnat.gob.mx/gobmx/transparencia/residuos.html>

There is also a national inventory of generators of hazardous waste, where fluorescent lamps, amalgam waste and others with mercury are included in the current of solids with heavy metals in said inventory since its publication in 2010, it is reported every three months on the website of the Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) with the new generators that are being integrated, the link to access is: <https://www.semarnat.gob.mx/gobmx/transparencia/residuos.html>.

Although there are companies that recycle and treat the aforementioned waste, firstly, there is no certainty that the technologies applied are the most appropriate, since the most recent and innovative ones are unknown, secondly, the waste that is recycled and treated they do not include all mercury waste, since a list of waste generators consisting of elemental mercury and waste containing mercury or contaminated by it is lacking. There is no traceability of mercury management that is recovered in its recycling case. For mercury waste that is treated by regulation, it must be sent to controlled landfills for hazardous waste.

The export of used fluorescent lamps to the United States of America has been authorized for handling, with the prior consent of the destination country.

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.

The country has three authorized facilities for the final disposal of hazardous waste in controlled landfills. The directory of companies authorized for the confinement of hazardous waste can be consulted on the following website <https://www.semarnat.gob.mx/gobmx/transparencia/residuos.html>.

There is no information available on how many wastes consisting of mercury or mercury compounds have been submitted to final disposal in the reporting period, since the authorized companies have an annual operating capacity, which includes all the waste that was authorized.

It is expected that the waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds that have been sent to final disposal, in controlled landfills, will be subjected to stabilization and solidification by means of encapsulation prior to being sent to the final disposal cells.

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

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▼ 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

Field work has been carried out, visiting active and inactive mines where soil samples were collected and mercury vapor in ambient air was monitored, finding concentrations of up to 130 ug/m3 in air and 13416 mg/kg in soil.

Likewise, on November 5 this year, the National Program for the Remediation of Contaminated Sites (PNRSC) was published, which contributes to fulfilling the commitments assumed by the Mexican State in international agreements, including the Minamata agreement. In particular for the identification and evaluation of sites contaminated with mercury, the PNRSC establishes as its first priority objective Strengthening the National Inventory of Contaminated Sites, which is an instrument available to SEMARNAT through the DGGIMAR, for which various agencies were contacted that, due to their competence, have information on contaminated sites, so that they provide the corresponding information and the sites can be registered with the INSC.

On the other hand, given that the lack of data hinders effective actions to solve contamination, in the implementation of this program, the review of information on potentially contaminated sites located in rural and urban areas was considered as a priority strategy to determine if there is contamination and define the remediation priorities. This review will consist of obtaining information both in documents and in the field.

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

The term potentially contaminated site refers to that site for which an environmental problem is presumed, but no characterization or study has been carried out to verify its contamination. On the other hand, the concept of contaminated site is defined by the LGPGIR as: "place, space, soil, body of water, facility or any combination of these that has been contaminated with materials or waste that, due to their quantities and characteristics, may represent a risk to human health, to living organisms and the use of people's goods or properties".

▼ 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

Work has been done on the implementation of official standards that establish maximum permissible limits for mercury concentration in processes and products, in order to move towards the use of mercury-free technology.

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

Mexico has not provided funds to the financing 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

Technical support has been given with the dissemination of data and knowledge generated from national experiences to other parties with which there is a commercial link.

Please provide comments, 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. 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

Through SEMARNAT and INECC, Mexico has participated in workshops to disseminate results and experiences with other parties. Within these meetings, links have been established to share quantitative data on common problems.

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

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Please specify

It has worked together with the Global Environment Facility and the United Nations Environment Programme for the development of projects such as "Reducing environmental and global risks through the monitoring and development of alternative livelihoods for the primary mercury mining sector in Mexico", " Alternatives for the mercury mining sector in Querétaro"

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 cooperation with the company CYDSA-IQUISA, a producer of chlorine-soda in Mexico with mercury technology, who are in the process of changing their technology towards a mercury-free process. Participating in monitoring the environmental quality of its facilities.

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.

The document "Identification of risks to health and the environment associated with primary mercury mining in the Sierra Gorda de Querétaro" was published in 2019, finding exposure doses by ingestion of up to 0.002 mg/kg-day in miners, concentrations inhalations up to 0.04 mg/kg-day

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 substitution of elemental mercury for pre-dosed capsules in dental amalgams has been promoted, which reduces the risk for oral health professionals and the patient, and also reduces mercury releases into the environment.

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

Several studies related to the Minamata Convention have been published, such as:

- Development of the Initial Evaluation of the Minamata Convention in Mexico
- Identification of the risks to health and the environment associated with primary mercury mining in the Sierra Gorda de Querétaro
- Evaluation of the relevant regulation for the management, use and trade of mercury in Mexico
- Development of a roadmap for the implementation of alternative activities to artisanal and small-scale mercury mining with a gender perspective approach
- Evaluation of the main sources in the primary mining sector in Querétaro and development of the inventory of sites
- Evaluation of the feasibility of implementing alternative economic activities to mercury mining in the Sierra Gorda of Querétaro
- Integration of meteorological information of the Sierra Gorda of Querétaro
- Qualification of the proposal for economic alternatives of the Sierra Gorda of Querétaro
- Evaluation of the baseline of mining activities in Sierra Gorda de Querétaro
- Elimination of the use of mercury and proper management of mercury and mercury residues in the chlor-alkali sector in Mexico
- Preliminary monitoring of mercury in air
- Determination of the baseline basis for the development of the National Action Plan for artisanal and small-scale gold mining in Mexico
- Estimation of emissions and releases of mercury to the environment due to artisanal and small-scale gold mining in Mexico
- Determination of the meteorology and transport of pollutants in the air in sites with artisanal and small-scale gold mining in Mexico

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

Each of the studies carried out are found on Internet sites with free public access, in addition to being disseminated on social networks to achieve a greater reach in the population and generate a greater impact.

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

Infographics have been made where the objective of the Minamata Convention is explained in colloquial language, the products in which the use of mercury is found and how the population can reduce its exposure to this substance.

▼ 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

The concentration of mercury vapors in the air has been monitored in different areas of the country:

- Mining areas such as Sierra Gorda de Querétaro and Cananea

- Industrial areas such as Coatzacoalcos and Monterrey
- Areas of final waste disposal sites such as Minatitlán and Villa Allende

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

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