

MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY 2021



* Questions 3.3, 4.1, 7.2, 8.2, and 10.1 amended by North Macedonia on 7 February 2022

REPORTING PERIOD:

16 August 2017 to 31 December 2020

Attachments can be found on the website

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party

North Macedonia

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

12 March 2020

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

10 June 2020

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution

Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning

Title of National Focal Point

Ms.

Name of National Focal Point

Suzana Andonova

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3. Information about the contact officer submitting the reporting format if different from the above

Focal Point is submitting the national report

- ☒ Information is submitted by the national focal point
- ☐ Information is submitted through the national focal point by the contact officer

▼ ART. 3: MERCURY SUPPLY SOURCES AND TRADE

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

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Additional information on this question if needed
{Empty}

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

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

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

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

ba34_subsection

*If the party answered Yes to Question 3 above:

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

https://www.mercuryconvention.org/sites/default/files/documents/minamata_initial_assessment/North-Macedonia-MIA-2018.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.

- [MKD_3.3.doc](#)

ii. Supplemental: Please provide any related information, for example on the use or disposal of mercury

from such stocks and sources.

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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.

No measures has been taken yet 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

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

{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.

The Republic of North Macedonia has started the transposition of the EU legislation in the national legislation since 2005. Until today all legislation related to the environment (IPPC, EIA, SEA, waste management, water and waste water management, air quality, chemicals, nature protection, etc.) is transposed in the national legislation but it needs more efforts for its implementation. According to the existing national legislation manufacturing, import, export of mercury added products is banned. Please see: https://www.mercuryconvention.org/sites/default/files/documents/minamata_initial_assessment/North-Macedonia-MIA-2018.pdf.

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

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

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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

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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

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

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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

{Empty}

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 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

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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

The two coal-fired power plants are equipped with electrostatic precipitators for the collection of the exhaust gaseous and the particles generated during the coal combustion in the boilers. The electrostatic precipitators collect 99.84% and 98.5% of the generated fly ash. The fly ash is deposited in a depot located within the premises of the power plants. One part of the fly ash is sold as a raw material for the cement production to a cement plant. Additional information at: <http://www.slv.esnik.com.mk/Issues/317E73837B0E7D4F97E14CC8710D19F5.pdf#page=12>

Progress

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▼ 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

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▼ 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

Ban issued to the Waste incineration facility Drisla, by the State Environmental Inspectorate to cease the acceptance and incineration of certain number of categories of waste including mercury.

Progress

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▼ CEMENT CLINKER PRODUCTION FACILITIES

- ☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Emission limit values for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources
- ☒ Use of BAT/BEP to control emissions from relevant sources
- ☐ Multi-pollutant control strategy that would deliver co-benefits for control of mercury emissions
- ☐ Alternative measures to reduce emissions from relevant sources

Measures

The cement plant is equipped with an electrostatic precipitator and bag filters for the collection of the exhaust gaseous and the particles generated during the clinker production. The dust collected from the filtering systems is reintroduced back in the raw materials used for the clinker production.

Law on Environment, Rulebook on substances for which the limit values of the emission in the Integrated Environmental Permit <https://www.moepp.gov.mk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Pravilnik%20za%20opasnite%20supstancii.pdf>

Progress

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Have not been a party for 5 years

If yes, when was the inventory last updated?

Fri, 12/01/2017 – 00:00

Please indicate where this inventory is available

The inventory is uploaded in this report

Attach

- [MKD_8.3.doc](#)

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.

There are lack of funds for such actions.

in the frames of the MIA Project the country have chosen criteria defined in the UNEP Toolkit for mercury inventory of releases and emissions

However, the country will put efforts on development of strategy for identification of mercury contaminated sites in the frames of the newly approved project funded by SIP Trust fund.

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

In the frames of the the newly approved project funded by SIP Trust fund there will be a segment dedicated to the National Implementation Plan that would help the country to identify the key national priorities and define the actions according to which the Government would mobilize funds for promotion and/or development of up-to date environmentally sound alternative technologies that will reduce or eliminate the emissions of mercury

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

9.2. Has the party established an inventory of releases from relevant sources within 5 years of entry into force of the convention for it?

☐ Yes

☒ Relevant sources do not exist in the territory

☐ Have not been a party for 5 years

☐ No

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

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▼ ART. 10: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND INTERIM STORAGE OF MERCURY, OTHER THAN WASTE MERCURY

10.1. Has the party taken measures to ensure that the interim storage of non-waste mercury and mercury compounds intended for a use allowed to a party under the Convention is undertaken in an environmentally sound manner?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I do not know

Please indicate the measures taken to ensure that such interim storage is undertaken in an environmentally sound manner and the effectiveness of those measures.

National legislation in force. Law on battery and battery management and waste batteries and batteries (In force since 11 August 2021); Prohibition of the presence of heavy metals in batteries and accumulators Article 9, see <https://www.slvesnik.com.mk/Issues/bd28a7c3a75e46e88680344867ba826b.pdf>

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

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

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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

There are activities foreseen to be undertaken in the frames of recently approved SIP project within which the country will develop strategy for identifying and assessing sites contaminated by mercury or mercury compounds

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

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▼ ART. 13: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISM

13.1. Has the party undertaken to provide, within its capabilities, resources in respect of those national activities that are intended to implement the Convention in accordance with its national policies, priorities, plans and programmes?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please specify

The country is putting lot of efforts to mobilize funds from the international sources due to lack of funds that would be used for such activities.

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

Republic of North Macedonia is among the countries with economy in transition, thus it is still lacking available funds for contributing to 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

Republic of North Macedonia is among the countries with economy in transition, thus it is still lacking funds for contributing to mechanism.

Please provide comments, if any.

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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

There where no opportunities for such action

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please specify

In the frames of the Special program project funded by Special program Trust Fund , the Republic of Macedonia took the opportunity for institutional strengthening and to build its capacities for synergistic implementation of the chemical BRS Conventions but at the same time with inclusion of Minamata Convention in the quadruple synergy scheme.

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 are lack of funds for such actions. However, the country will put efforts on development of strategy for identification of mercury contaminated sites in the frames of the newly approved project funded by SIP Trust fund.

There will be a segment dedicated to the National Implementation Plan that would help the country to identify the key national priorities and define the actions according to which the Government would mobilize funds for promotion and/or development of up-to date environmentally sound alternative technologies that will reduce or eliminate the emissions of mercury

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

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▼ 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.

Creation and dissemination of brochures for raising awareness of the professionals and the general public on the health aspects and mercury exposure

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 Ministry of Health and its Sector for Chemicals is responsible for the implementation of the Law on Chemicals and its by-laws including the List of prohibitions and restrictions on the use of chemicals and products. In addition, the Ministry of Health carries out medical surveillance of workers at risk of exposure to mercury and mercury compounds through 45 authorized institutions. Its work is defined by appropriate legislation and regularly monitored by the State Sanitary and Health Inspectorate.

On-site control of chemicals management in the field of environmental protection and implementation of the legal provisions for the management of chemicals. Institute of Public Health Detection of the impact of

chemicals, specifically mercury and other heavy metals on human health including mercury analyzes in human samples and other media that potentially affect health.

Phytosanitary administration is responsible for analyzes of pesticide residues, heavy metals in primary agricultural products upon harvesting. Plant protection, seeds and new

forms of reproduction, and has the authority to prevent and control nitrate and other chemicals contamination, including pesticides that are applied in the agricultural industry

Food and Veterinary Agency is responsible for Monitoring program for residues from pesticides and heavy metals in food and products

Raising awareness of the professionals and the general public on the health aspects and mercury exposure.

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

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▼ 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

Creation and dissemination of the Initial Assessment report on Mercury among the professionals sharing the findings on the situation with mercury in the country, potential sources of emissions and releases

Permanent communication among the responsible institutions to exchange information on the reduction or elimination of use, trade, emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds;

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

Creation and dissemination of the Initial Assessment report on Mercury among the professionals

Creation and dissemination of brochures for raising awareness of the public on the health aspects

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

<https://ipen.org/sites/default/files/documents/Eco-Sense%20Managing%20Small%20Mercury%20Spills%20MK.pdf>

▼ 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

In the frames of the Enacon feasibility study in 2009 conducted on one of the Hot spots in the country Organic Chemicals Industry OHIS, there were number of air, soil and ground water sampling near the electrolysis plant that identified mercury contamination

In the frames of the MIA Project on the Initial Assessment on Mercury certain investigations were undertaken to confirm the applicability of the emission factors provided in the Toolkit for emissions and releases inventory

The Institute of Chemistry Under the Faculty of Nature and Mathematics conducted sampling and analyses of the samples from several potential sources of mercury in the country. The results are available in the National inventory of mercury emissions and releases developed during the Project on Initial Assessment on mercury

▼ COMMENTS

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

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▼ SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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

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