

FIRST FULL NATIONAL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY 2021



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

Philippines

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

8 July 2020

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

6 October 2020

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution

Environmental Management Bureau

Title of National Focal Point

Engineer

Name of National Focal Point

William P. Cuñado

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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.

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

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

{Empty}

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

{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

#3.3 under DAO 2019–20 (Revising Chemical Control Order for Mercury and Mercury Compounds (Revising DAO 1997–38)), users are required to report the amount of Mercury and Mercury Compounds used in their facility. Majority of the registered users under the CCO are laboratory users except for one company that uses Mercury to manufacture lamps. The information on the amount is a rough estimate based on the one time registration done by the companies.

▼ 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.

Cosmetics – Pursuant to the ASEAN Cosmetic Directive (ACD), adopted by the Philippine Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 2005, Mercury is a substance which must not form part of the composition of cosmetic products. The manufacture, Importation, Distribution and Selling of cosmetic products which contain mercury is prohibited.

Pesticides – FPA Circular No 04 series of 1989 – Ban on Mercuric Fungicides, issuance of MC on the banning of all mercuric pesticides in the Philippines.

MAPs – DAO 2019–20 – Revising CCO for Hg and Hg compounds (DAO 1997–38)) issued in 2019 has scheduled the phase out date on 2022 after which the manufacture and import of the listed MAPs is no longer allowed.

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.

The Department of Health issued DAO 2020-0020, "Guidelines on the Phase-Out of Mercury Use in Dental Restorative Procedure" which covers the guidelines in the phasing out on the importation, distribution, manufacture, storage, transport, handling, use (including dental schools and research) and disposal of dental amalgam.

An immediate ban upon effectivity of the DAO is the importation of liquid mercury for use in dental restorative procedures and dental amalgam and its capsules; and ban on the use of dental amalgams and its capsules for children 14 years old and below, pregnant women and nursing mothers.

Three (3) years upon the effectivity of the DAO is the ban on the use of existing dental amalgams / capsules for dental restoration procedures in dental clinics and schools shall be carried out.

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 Bureau of Product Standards (BPS) of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is drafting a regulation concerning the mandatory product certification of mercury-added products as listed in the DAO 2019-20 (Revising CCO for Hg and Hg compounds)

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)

If yes, please provide information on these measures.

DAO 2019–20, Chemical Control Order for Mercury and Mercury Compounds, has scheduled the phase out of Mercury and Mercury Compounds for Chlor-alkali production by 2025. Incidentally, the only company that has Chlor-alkali production has phased out the use of Mercury in their process in the 1990s.

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

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

If yes, please provide information on these measures.

DAO 2019–20, Chemical Control Order for Mercury and Mercury Compounds, has scheduled the phase out of Acetaldehyde production in which mercury or mercury compounds are used as a catalyst by 2018. The Party has no Acetaldehyde production.

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 use of mercury in small scale mining is strictly prohibited per Section 11 of Executive Order No. 79 (Institutionalizing and Implementing Reforms in the Philippine Mining Sector providing policies and guidelines to ensure environmental protection and responsible mining in the Utilization of mineral resources).

The formalized small-scale mining sectors are compliant with this policy. However, the use of mercury is rampant to the informal small-scale mining sectors. Enforcement of the policy shall be heightened.

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 Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) cooperated with planet GOLD (Global Opportunities for the long-term development of the Artisanal and Small-scale gold mining sector) Philippines project and officially launched, "Contribution toward the elimination of Mercury in the Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining Sector: From miners to refiners".

The said project was funded from GEF and being implemented by the UNIDO and UN environment, wherein it is a 5 year project designed to address key issues linked to continued mercury use in artisanal and small scale gold mining communities.

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

Please explain

no new sources of mercury identified for source categories under Annex D

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

{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

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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

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

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

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

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, 12/31/2018 – 00:00

Please indicate where this inventory is available

Minamata Initial Assessment Report (2018) submitted to UNEP

Attach

- [PHL_8.3.pdf](#)

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

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

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

- ☐ Yes

☒ No

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

#8.2 prior to entry into force, the Environmental Management Bureau has implemented measures for existing sources under Republic Act 8749, Clean Air Act of 1999

#8.4 need more guidance in answering the establishment of criteria

#8.5 the Environmental Management Bureau has existing programs/plans for the monitoring of Hg sources as part of its mandate to Republic Act 8749, Clean Air Act of 1999.

▼ 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

Please explain

Regional office data submission for water body monitoring does not include mercury. Submissions done by Regions are only for Primary Parameters. Mercury data are for special cases wherein the parameter will be sampled by request.

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.

Proper storage and handling procedures is a requirement under DAO 2019-20 Revising Chemical Control Order for Mercury and Mercury Compounds (Revising DAO 1997-38).

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.

Even prior to becoming a Signatory to the Convention in 2013 and a Party in 2020 (last year), the Philippines has already in place its National and Legislative Framework for the management of toxic chemicals and hazardous wastes which is the Republic Act (RA) 6969 or the "Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Waste Control Act of 1990". One of its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) issued is the Department Administrative Order (DAO) 2013-22 or the "Revised Standards and Procedures on the Management of Hazardous Wastes (Revising DAO 200-36)" prescribes the detailed requirements and procedures for the management of hazardous wastes that includes mercury containing and mercury contaminated materials and wastes, respectively. This policy or IRR helps significantly the Philippines in fulfilling its obligations and commitments to the Convention particularly on the environmentally sound management (ESM) of mercury wastes from generation up to its disposal. Any establishments that generate hazardous wastes, including mercury wastes, shall or must register as Generator and currently done through our Online Hazardous Waste Management System. Permit to Transport (PTT) must be secured online by the Generator prior to any transport by a registered Transporter and once the PTT has approved by the concerned Regional Office having jurisdiction over the duly registered Treatment, Storage and Disposal (TSD) facility, the Transporter can now commence the transport of the hazardous waste. The transport should always be accompanied by the chain of custody document (manifest) that must be acknowledged by the TSD facility to ensure receipt of the wastes and as basis for the issuance of the Certificate of Treatment (COT) that must be issued by the TSD within forty-five (45) days upon receipt of the waste,.

The Philippines is exporting waste containing or consisting of mercury or mercury compounds to a country that is Party to the Basel Convention for final disposal due to lack of local facility for such purpose. As such, the Generator shall secure an Export Clearance (EC) from the Bureau prior to the shipment of the wastes and it will only be issued once the Consents from the country destination (importer) as well as from the transit countries have been received in compliance to the Notification-Consent requirements and procedures of the Basel Convention. Pursuant to RA 6969, mercury wastes are not allowed or prohibited to be imported for disposal into the Philippines.

Although the legal framework is existing and its IRR, updating of which is required to cope up with and strengthen the Philippine obligations to the different Articles of the Convention. At present, proposed amendments have been drafted or formulated and being reviewed specifically on the definition and classification of mercury wastes under the Basel and Minamata Conventions to comprehensively come up with the inventory of the said wastes.

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

The Bureau has already issued Guidelines for Site Characterization (30 June 2017), Guidelines for Site Remediation (30 June 2017) and Guidelines for Site Control (11 March 2020) for the environmentally sound management of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) contaminated sites. However, the said issuances are not regulatory in nature but guidance documents. The said Guidelines may be adopted in the future or strengthened to include sites contaminated with mercury and mercury compounds. (link: <https://emb.gov.ph/hazardouswastemanagementsection/>)

In 2017, the Bureau implemented the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) project through the UNEP-IETC, which is an enabling activity supported by the GEF, which aims to (1) strengthen the national decision-making toward the ratification of the Convention and (2) build national capacities toward implementation of future obligation to the Convention. Under the Component 3 of the project, "Development of an inventory using the UNEP mercury toolkit and strategies to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites", a report on national strategies for mercury contaminated sites was submitted and reviewed for the inclusion in the final MIA report. Based on consultations conducted with the Regional Offices and other stakeholders during the project implementation, there are several suspected contaminated sites identified that will be further surveyed and monitored as part of the Bureau's key result area.

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

Existing manpower and resources at the national level as part of their mandate.

Please provide comments, if any.

{Empty}

13.2. Supplemental: Has the party, within its capabilities, contributed to the mechanism referred to in paragraph 5 of article 13?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please specify

No financial capability to contribute to the 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

No financial capability to assist developing-country parties and/or parties with economies in transition in the implementation of the Convention.

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

Party has not cooperated to provide capacity-building or technical assistance to another party

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please specify

1. Mercury Governance Project (2018–2021) – International Union for Conservation of Nature – National Committee of the Netherlands – Research study on illicit mercury flows used in Mindanao, where most of the mercury is sourced from by ASGM communities in the Philippines. Assesses the factors that contribute to lack of capacity to monitor and address illicit mercury trade.
2. Creating Local Engagements in ASGM communities through research and capacity-building (2017–2018) – USAID – Provided capacity-building for local government units in Camarines Norte to increase capacity to monitor and manage ASGM sector and reduce mercury emissions and illegal gold trading.

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

Party has not yet promoted and facilitated the development, transfer and diffusion of and access to, up-to-date environmentally sound alternative technologies

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.

Health warnings against the purchase and use of products tested and found to contain toxic mercury levels through issuance of advisories posted at the FDA Website and Facebook Page. Dissemination of information on the possible adverse health effects as a result of the use of the mercury containing cosmetic products through interviews using social media and television platform.

Conduct of Regional Awareness Raising Activity to public High School Teachers on Mercury and Minamata Convention

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 FDA of DOH conducts continuous market monitoring and product collection subject to laboratory testing, and conduct of inventory, seizure and confiscation of violative products. Dissemination of IEC materials on the health effects of mercury.
Provision of a 24 hour hotline service for institutions requiring assistance and instruction on mercury poisoning cases

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

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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. 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

Trainings/forum have been conducted in dental clinics/schools on dental amalgams

A national poisoning prevention week is held, wherein Mercury and its health effects are discussed/presented.

On-going BAN Toxics (an NGO) called, Toxics-Free Schools Program, aimed at developing and integrating toxics-related knowledge (including mercury) in the curriculum of partner schools to ensure that children are knowledgeable on toxics-related issues and risks. The program has partner schools in mining provinces such as South Cotabato, Camarines Norte, etc., as well as non-mining provinces such as Bulacan and Metro Manila.

Under the Mercury Governance Project, the development of a publicly available documentary detailing the impacts of mercury use in ASGM communities in the Philippines and highlights the call of ASGM communities to support their formalization and their desire to transition to mercury-free processes.

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

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▼ 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

1. Development of a national inventory on MCMMDs in healthcare facilities through the Development of Capacity for the Substitution and the Environmentally-Sound Management of Mercury-Containing Medical Measuring Devices (2021) funded by Japan ASEAN Integration Fund
2. Research study on illicit mercury flows used in Mindanao, where most of the mercury is sourced from by ASGM communities in the Philippines. Assesses the factors that contribute to lack of capacity to monitor and address illicit mercury trade under the Mercury Governance Project (2018–2021) funded by International Union for Conservation of Nature – National Committee of the Netherlands
3. Development of inventories for batteries and lamps as well as an assessment of available beauty products in the market which contain mercury funded by European Environmental Bureau
4. Research on mercury emissions in the ASGM sector as well as their impacts on the environment and human health through the development of an ASGM baseline research document with International Labour Organization
5. Development of a baseline study on emissions of mercury and social and environmental impacts of ASGM in Southern Leyte funded by USAID
6. Development of a mercury inventory of ASGM in the Southeast Asia region funded by US Department of State
7. Assessment of mercury use and emissions in ASGM communities and identification of key needs and issues in the sector by the Foundation for Philippine Environment

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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