

## REPORTING PERIOD:

16 August 2017 to 31 December 2020

### ▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

## 1. Information on the party

**Name of party**

Republic of Korea

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

22 November 2019

**Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party**

20 February 2020

## 2. Information on the national focal point

**Full name of the institution**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Title of National Focal Point**

Ms.

**Name of National Focal Point**

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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

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Title of contact officer

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#### ▼ ART. 3: MERCURY SUPPLY SOURCES AND TRADE

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

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

**Additional information on this question if needed**

In 1976, a mercury mining (in Ulsan) was registered. But as it failed to be developed, its registration was cancelled in 1983.

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

- ☐ Yes  
☒ No

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

- ☐ Yes  
☒ No

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

Mercury distributed in Korea does not exceed 10 tons.

**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**

There is no export of mercury from Korea.

**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**

There is no chlor-alkali facility using mercury in Korea, which means there is no chlor-alkyl facility decommissioned.

Korea's import of mercury was 30kg from Japan for manufacturing industrial high pressure lamp.

▼ 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.**

Measures about mercury-added products are as follows:

Regarding "batteries, except for button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content  $< 2\%$  and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content  $< 2\%$ ", the Electrical Appliances and Consumer Products Safety Control Act operated by the Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS) controls mercury content equal to or less than 1 mg/kg for cylindrical or button primary battery (i.e. manganese-alkali battery, manganese battery). ※ "primary battery" means single-use battery that is not rechargeable.

Regarding "switches and relays, except very high accuracy capacitance and loss measurement bridges and high frequency radio frequency switches and relays in monitoring and control instruments with a maximum mercury content of 20mg per bridge, switch or relay", the Act on Resource Circulation of Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Vehicles operated by the Ministry of Environment (MOE) controls mercury content equal to or less than 0.1% by weight in same substance, for electrical and electronic equipment and parts of vehicles. ※ "same substance" means that is not separated in a physical way.

Regarding "compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) for general lighting purposes that are  $\leq 30$  watts with a mercury content exceeding 5mg per lamp burner", the Industrial Standardization Act operated by KATS manages that Korea's Industrial Standards (KS) are updated equal to the Convention. Under the Electrical Appliances and Consumer Products Safety Control Act operated by the Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS), Korean Safety Standards (KC) for electrical appliances limits the content of mercury in ballast stabilizer-embedded lamp (fluorescent lamp).

Regarding "Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes:

a. Triband phosphor  $< 60$  watts with a mercury content exceeding 5mg per lamp;  
b. Halophosphate phosphor  $\leq 40$  watts with a mercury content exceeding 10mg per lamp",  
the Industrial Standardization Act operated by KATS manages that Korea's Industrial Standards (KS) are updated equal to the Convention. Under the Electrical Appliances and Consumer Products Safety Control Act operated by the Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS), Korean Safety Standards (KC) for electrical appliances limits the content of mercury in fluorescent lamp.

Regarding "high pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes", under the Industrial Standardization Act operated by KATS, Korea prohibits high pressure mercury lamps for indoor use by setting relevant Korean Industrial Standards (KS), so that such lamps can be used outdoors only. Under the Electrical Appliances and Consumer Products Safety Control Act operated by the Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS), Korean Safety Standards (KC) for electrical appliances ban indoor high pressure mercury lamp.

Regarding "Mercury in cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays:

- (a) short length ( $\leq 500\text{mm}$ ) with mercury content exceeding 3.5mg per lamp  
(b) medium length ( $> 500\text{mm}$  and  $\leq 1500\text{mm}$ ) with mercury content exceeding 5mg per lamp  
(c) long length ( $> 1500\text{mm}$ ) with mercury content exceeding 13mg per lamp",



the Act on Resource Circulation of Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Vehicles operated by MOE manages that Korea's relevant standards are updated equal to the Convention, for fluorescent lamp of electrical and electronic equipment and vehicles.

※ Except discharge lamps for headlight, and fluorescent lamps for dashboard display, in case of vehicles that were issued or changed their first specification management number before 1 July 2012, and components and parts thereof to repair such vehicles.

Regarding "cosmetics (with mercury content above 1ppm), including skin lightening soaps and creams, and not including eye area cosmetics where mercury is used as a preservative and no effective and safe substitute preservatives are available", under the Cosmetics Act operated by the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS), Korea prohibits to contain mercury in cosmetics.

Regarding "pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics", under the Daily-use Consumer Products and Biocides Safety Control Act operated by MOE, the Pharmaceutical Affairs Act operated by MFDS, the Pesticide Control Act operated by the Rural Development Administration, Korea prohibits to contain mercury in these product types.

Regarding "the following non-electronic measuring devices except non-electronic measuring devices installed in large-scale equipment or those used for high precision measurement, where no suitable mercury-free alternative is available:

- (a) barometers;
- (b) hygrometers;
- (c) manometers;
- (d) thermometers;
- (e) sphygmomanometers",

Under the Medical Devices Act operated by MFDS, Korea prohibits manufacture, import/export and sale of mercury-containing medical devices such as thermometers and sphygmomanometers since January 2015.

In addition, under the Persistent Pollutants Act operated by MOE, Korea prohibits manufacture, import/export and use, including use for product manufacturing, of mercury and mercury compounds for thermometers, manometers, barometers and hygrometers.

#### **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.**

Korea takes two measures.

2) Minimize the need of dental restoration.

Korea omitted "mercury provided as a bulk" from the list of national medical device standards to reduce mercury use for dental restoration in August 2016.

(i.e. Korean Ministry of Food and Drug Safety's Public Notice on standards of medical devices)

8) Korea restricted the use of dental amalgam to its encapsulated form in April 2020. (i.e. Korean Ministry of Food and Drug Safety's Public Notice on standards of medical devices)

#### **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.**

Korea took measures in November 2020 in accordance with Article 9 of Enforcement Rule of Act on Resource Circulation of Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Vehicles. Mercury content in electrical and electronic equipment and vehicles shall be equal to or lower than 0.1% by weight in same substance.

**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**

There is no case in Korea that manufacture or distribution of mercury-added products not covered by any known use is suspended.

**▼ 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

There is no facility using mercury or mercury compounds.

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

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

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

**7.2. Has the party determined and notified the secretariat that artisanal and small-scale gold mining and processing within its territory is more than insignificant?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

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

There is no gold mining using mercury in Korea.

#### ▼ 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

The Clean Air Conservation Act groups mercury compounds-emitting facilities into five categories, and regulates them to comply with acceptable emission limit of each category. Since 1 January 2020, the

acceptable emissions limits are strengthened.

☒ Coal-fired industrial boilers

**Coal-fired industrial boilers**

The Clean Air Conservation Act groups mercury compounds-emitting facilities into five categories, and regulates them to comply with acceptable emission limit of each category. Since 1 January 2020, the acceptable emissions limits are strengthened.

☒ Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals

**Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals**

The Clean Air Conservation Act groups mercury compounds-emitting facilities into five categories, and regulates them to comply with acceptable emission limit of each category. Since 1 January 2020, the acceptable emissions limits are strengthened.

☒ Waste incineration facilities

**Waste incineration facilities**

The Clean Air Conservation Act groups mercury compounds-emitting facilities into five categories, and regulates them to comply with acceptable emission limit of each category. Since 1 January 2020, the acceptable emissions limits are strengthened.

☒ Cement clinker production facilities

**Cement clinker production facilities**

The Clean Air Conservation Act groups mercury compounds-emitting facilities into five categories, and regulates them to comply with acceptable emission limit of each category. Since 1 January 2020, the acceptable emissions limits are strengthened.

**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**

Korea developed acceptable emission limit of emission source to reduce mercury emissions, and such limits shall be complied with. However, Korea does not establish a specific quantified goals to control and reduce emission sources.

**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

Korea developed acceptable emission limit of emission source to reduce mercury emissions, and such limits shall be complied with. However, Korea does not establish a specific quantified goals to control and reduce emission sources.

#### 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

Korea developed acceptable emission limit of emission source to reduce mercury emissions, and such limits shall be complied with. However, Korea does not establish a specific quantified goals to control and reduce emission sources.

#### 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

Korea developed acceptable emission limit of emission source to reduce mercury emissions, and such limits shall be complied with. However, Korea does not establish a specific quantified goals to control and reduce emission sources.

#### Progress

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### ▼ 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

Korea developed acceptable emission limit of emission source to reduce mercury emissions, and such limits shall be complied with. However, Korea does not establish a specific quantified goals to control and reduce emission sources.

#### 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**

Korea developed acceptable emission limit of emission source to reduce mercury emissions, and such limits shall be complied with. However, Korea does not establish a specific quantified goals to control and reduce emission sources.

**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

**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**

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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.**

In Korea, export of mercury is only possible for the uses allowed to a party under the Convention or for interim storage in an environmentally sound manner. Even in these cases, it is required to obtain a written consent from importing country.

**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.**

Matters related to environmentally sound disposal of mercury wastes are clearly identified in the Wastes Control Act, which came into effect in July 2021.

### 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.

For wastes consisting of mercury or mercury compounds, Korea regulates that such wastes shall be kept in mercury-specific container permanently pursuant to MOE Public Notice on standards for mercury-specific container & Attachment 5(3) of Enforcement Rule of the Chemicals Control Act.

### 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 Soil Environment Conservation Act states criteria of mercury-contaminated soil, aiming at appropriate management and conservation of soil (e.g. remediating contaminated soil).

### 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**

Korea does not set any priorities in financial resources to regulate use, manufacture, export and import of mercury-containing products.

But, Korea secures financial resources to develop and operate legally-binding regulations to implement the Convention.

**Please provide comments, if any.**

{Empty}

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

**Please specify**

Korea secures financial resources to establish and operate legally-binding regulations to implement the Convention, and uses the financial resources for national mercury monitoring, public awareness, participation into international conferences, etc. Korea does not secure specific financial resources to assist developing parties or parties with economies in transition to implement the Convention.

**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**

Korea secures financial resources to establish and operate legally-binding regulations to implement the Convention, and uses the financial resources for national mercury monitoring, public awareness, participation into international conferences, etc.

Korea does not secure specific financial resources to assist developing parties or parties with economies in transition to implement 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**

Korea secures financial resources to establish and operate legally-binding regulations to implement the Convention, and uses the financial resources for national mercury monitoring, public awareness, participation into international conferences, etc.

Korea does not cooperate with other parties to provide them with capacity-building or technical assistance.

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

**Please specify**

Korea secures financial resources to establish and operate legally-binding regulations to implement the Convention, and uses the financial resources for national mercury monitoring, public awareness, participation into international conferences, etc.

Korea does not receive capacity-building or technical assistance from other parties.

**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**

Korea carries out researches to provide BAT and BEP for calculating and reducing mercury released from mercury wastes.

**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.**

Korea has been monitoring mercury level in human body (i.e. blood serum, urine), and then makes the results available to the public every three years.

In addition, the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS) published a guidance for safe intake of fish to provide mercury-related intake information to the public. In March 2021, MFDS also published on its website along with press release the results of integrated risk assessment in which human body's exposure level to mercury is analyzed given various exposure resources, including food.

It also provided the results of risk assessment that was conducted to re-evaluate acceptable mercury limits in food.

## 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.**

In Korea, business operators who handle mercury shall install equipment to prevent exposure to mercury, and ensure that workers must wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

In addition, the Korean National Environmental Health Survey (KoNEHS) is conducted to monitor mercury level in human blood since 2009. For mercury level in the environment (i.e. air, water), Korea operates a monitoring network across the country.

In 2016, the Korean government hosted an exhibition in the Eco-Expo Korea to inform risks of mercury to the public.

Plus, Korea operates a national integrated management system for mercury-related information.

## 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**

{Empty}

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

{Empty}

**▼ ART. 18: PUBLIC INFORMATION, AWARENESS AND EDUCATION**

**18.1. Have measures been taken to promote and facilitate the provision to the public of the kinds of information listed in article 18, paragraph 1?**

☒ Yes

☐ No

**If yes, please indicate the measures that have been taken and the effectiveness of those measures**

Korean Ministry of Environment facilitates mercury-related information-sharing with the public through various websites such as the Chemicals Information System ([www.http://ncis.nier.go.kr](http://ncis.nier.go.kr)), the Air Korea (<http://www.airkorea.or.kr>), the Water Environment Information System (<http://water.nier.go.kr>), the Soil and Ground Water Information System (<http://sgis.nier.go.kr>), etc.

**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**

Korea carries out a monitoring on mercury level in human body and the environment through "KoNEHS" and a national monitoring network for mercury, etc.

In addition, Korea conducted a monitoring on mercury level through a total diet study (TDS) to synthetically evaluate the impact of human exposure to mercury caused by diet.

**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**

{Empty}