

REPORTING PERIOD:

16 August 2017 to 31 December 2020

▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

1. Information on the party

Name of party

Samoa

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

24 September 2015

Date of entry into force of the Convention for the party

16 August 2017

2. Information on the national focal point

Full name of the institution

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Title of National Focal Point

Chief Executive Officer

Name of National Focal Point

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

Focal Point is submitting the national report

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

a3_subsection

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Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

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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

Samoa doesn't have primary mercury mines.

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.

Samoa does not have the main sources for mercury besides it can be emitted by natural form. While Samoa received/imported various mercury-related products for different purposes and use, there is limited capacity available in-country to identify individual stocks of mercury that exceeds 10 to 50 metric tones.

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

Currently there are no transboundary movement of mercury and mercury added compounds applications/notification received.

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

☒ No

☐ Yes

☐ The importing party has relied on paragraph 7 of article 3

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

{Empty}

▼ **ART. 4: MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS**

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

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

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

Samoa's National Waste Management Act 2010 in Section 12–Obligations to deal with certain wastes which bound regulations made to impose requirements in relation to certain wastes having adverse impacts on the environment or human health by:

* imposing prohibitions in relation to the importation, exportation, manufacture, use, storage, or transportation of certain objects, substances, or things that may become wastes.

Samoa's Minamata Initial Assessment Report 2018

– Skin lightening Creams and Soaps with Mercury Chemicals – A search for mercury as an ingredient on the labels on soaps, cosmetics, hair treatment products was conducted in 20 shops. The selected shops are the prime wholesales and retail outlets in Samoa. The search did not find the word 'mercury' or words associated with mercury (mercurous chloride, calomel, mercuric, mercurio), on any of the soaps or skin lightener labels.

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.

A National Mercury Initial Assessment Report 2018 was developed and launched where plans and priorities were identified in phasing down dental amalgam use.

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 development of both the National Waste Management Act 2010 and the National Minamata Initial Assessment Report 2018 for Samoa.

4.5. Has the party discouraged the manufacture and the distribution in commerce of mercury-added products not covered by any known use in accordance with article 4, paragraph 6?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please provide information on the measures.

Samoa do not manufacture mercury-added products and plans are now underway to implement Samoa's MIA to reduce reliance on mercury-related products but utilize the available alternatives that are already in use in other countries.

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

To fully meet our obligations under the Minamata Convention, a range of actions need to undertake to effectively implement the Treaty. These actions include developing necessary regulatory and administrative arrangements for the proper working of the convention at the national level; prohibiting the importation of mercury-added products and working to manage and phase down the products that have already been established and use for the intentional alternative use of available safe resources.

Within the Samoa MIA 2018, plans were made and set out to implement priority concepts covered in the Convention Framework and obligations so Samoa can be free of any mercury-related threats.

▼ 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

Samoa does not have manufacture facilities nor the capacity and capability to do so and therefore this section is not applicable to our situation.

▼ 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

Article 7 is of no relevance to our situation.

▼ 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

Waste incineration facilities

Ministry of Health Waste Incinerators. Plans are underway to work with the Ministry of Health to develop a National Plan for emission control.

- ☐ 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
{Empty}

8.2. Identify any Annex D source categories for which there are existing sources of emissions of mercury or mercury compounds as defined in paragraph 2 (e) of article 8.

For each of those source categories, select and provide details on the measures implemented under paragraph 5 of article 8 and explain the progress that these applied measures have achieved in reducing emissions over time in your territory:

▼ COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS

- ☐ A quantified goal for controlling and, where feasible, reducing emissions from relevant sources

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

Measures

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

▼ COAL-FIRED INDUSTRIAL BOILERS

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

Measures

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

▼ SMELTING AND ROASTING PROCESSES USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF NON-FERROUS METALS

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

Measures

{Empty}

Progress

{Empty}

▼ WASTE INCINERATION FACILITIES

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

Measures

Filtration method

Progress

In operational and in good progress

▼ 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?

Wed, 02/01/2017 – 00:00

Please indicate where this inventory is available

This is the first inventory conducted as part of the development of Samoa's first Minamata Initial Assessment Report. The inventory was prepared in February 2017 with the training conducted for the participants involved. The results and summary findings (report) is available on the Minamata Webpage.

Attach

{Empty}

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

Samoa does not have coal-fired power plants or industrial boilers. It has no nonferrous metal processing and no cement clinker production.

Plans are now underway for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ministry of Health to develop a national plan to set out measures to be taken to control emissions from medical waste incinerators.

▼ 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

Identification of relevant point source categories as Paragraph 4 is not relevant for Samoa. Releases, as identified to date, arising from the use of mercury-added products and in particular for the management and disposal at the end of life of these products.

▼ 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 with services operational procedures in terms of safe storage and use are in place at the Ministry of Health for mercury-related products.

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

The interim storage as mentioned above is to allow proper management of non-mercury waste products when not in use.

▼ 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

Samoa will consider how best to reduce emissions and releases from the waste sector, in particular through the improved management of end-of-life mercury-added products including proper safe disposal.

▼ 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

An Integrated Waste Management Strategy 2019 has been developed to include monitoring and assessments on the two landfills sites at Tafaigata (Upolu Island) and Vaiaata (Savaii Island). The two mentioned sites are the most likely contaminated sites as identified in the National MIA report.

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

Samoa has few industrial and commercial sites and none is known to be subject to mercury contamination due to open landfill type. Landfill sites are the most likely contaminated sites where all wastes collected are managed and disposed of.

▼ 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

Although the budgetary support is small given the financial constraints as a SIDS country, we manage to include monitoring programs for the health care waste management including other monitoring programs at the national level.

Please provide comments, if any.

{Empty}

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please specify

Samoa was part of the Global Minamata Initial Assessment program to conduct and develop its first MIA. In-kind contribution provided through the overall coordination of the project activities including the use of staff time and other resources eg. office use and vehicles.

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

Samoa do not have available financial resources to assist other countries with economies in transition.

Please provide comments, if any.

{Empty}

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

{Empty}

▼ **ART. 14: CAPACITY-BUILDING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**

14.1. Has the party cooperated to provide capacity-building or technical assistance, pursuant to article 14, to another party to the Convention?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Please specify

We have insufficient knowledge and no technical skills in proper management of mercury management (ie. handling, collection, and disposal).

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please specify

Inventory training was conducted for the responsible staff involved in the inventory. There was no other capacity-building provided.

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

This is not relevant to our situation given there are no alternative technologies available for use and further have limited financial capacity to do so.

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

More training and capacity building is required for Samoa's technical staff in order to implement the measures necessary to meet Samoa's obligations.

▼ 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.

Awareness materials have been developed and general public awareness programs at schools

16.2. Have any other measures been taken to protect human health in accordance with article 16?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Supplemental: If yes, describe the measures that have been taken.

{Empty}

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

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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

Samoa's MIA report with detailed mercury-related assessment information for Samoa was shared for records and information of other Parties and to assist with their own process.

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

Samoa will benefit from any information shared between parties and relevant intergovernmental organizations and others in respect to mercury-added products and their replacement and available alternatives, mercury waste management and environmentally-sound disposal, emissions and release reduction as well as ecotoxicological and epidemiological information relevant to the health impacts of mercury.

▼ 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

Awareness programs through promotional materials were developed to promote the health and environmental effects of mercury and mercury compound at the national and local level.

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

There is a need to provide further information on mercury-related and to raise more public awareness of the health and environmental effects of mercury in order to implement actions in relation to Articles 4, 8, 11, 12 and 16

There is also a need to develop a system to collect, maintain, interpret and report the information highlighted in paragraph 2.

▼ 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

Samoa was able to conduct inventory of use, consumption and anthropogenic emissions to air and releases to water and land of mercury and mercury compounds.

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

Samoa supports national and regional research and development of models and other geographical representative available to monitor the levels of mercury and mercury compounds existed.

▼ COMMENTS

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

Challenges:

- sharing of information for reporting purposes
- financial resources assistance to assist Parties to fulfill obligations
- technical capacity to implement provisions of the Convention.

▼ SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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

The reporting format is clear and detailed as per Articles of the Convention provisions. Questions were straight forward and the template is easy to follow through to fill, review and amend where possible at any time.

Perhaps it is required to have more training to ensure the correct information to use as required for each Article.