

# 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

Seychelles

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

13 January 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 Agriculture Climate Change and Environment

### Title of National Focal Point

Mrs.

### Name of National Focal Point

Nanette Laure

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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

If the party answered No above, please explain.

Currently the country does not produce mercury. Mercury into the country is only by means of importation through products. Therefore the stocks exceeds the amount currently in the territory.

**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**

{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)

### **4.2. If yes (implementing paragraph 2 of article 4):**

**Has the party reported to the Conference of the Parties at the first opportunity a description of the measures or strategies implemented, including a quantification of the reductions achieved?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

**Has the party implemented measures or strategies to reduce the use of mercury in any products listed in Part I of Annex A for which a de minimis value has not yet been obtained?**

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

**If yes, please provide information on the measures.**

Measures have been outline in the first Mercury Initial Assessment which was produced in 2015. The assessment recommends a list of measures to be implemented. An assessment of the Institutional Capacity was made, where the key stakeholder for each article has been identified and an assessment is made to the existing capacity for implementation of the corresponding Article, as well as opportunity

for capacity enhancement required.

The country launched a campaign on the ban incandescent light bulbs to be replaced by energy efficient bulbs.

**Has the party considered additional measures to achieve further reductions?**

☐ Yes

☒ No

**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.**

Dental amalgam is being phased out, most private dental clinics are now making use of alternatives to dental amalgam.

Ongoing discussion with the Ministry responsible for Health for provisions to be made during budget preparation for public dental clinics to consider the use of alternatives to dental amalgam.

**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**

{Empty}

**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

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

{Empty}

### ▼ 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

There is yet to be emission limit values consistent with the application of best available techniques set up within the country. However, with new power plants to be set up and consultation with the relevant authority limits will have to be set and agreed and be regulated.

☒ Coal-fired industrial boilers

##### Coal-fired industrial boilers

There is yet to be emission limit values consistent with the application of best available techniques set up within the country. However, with the new plants to be set up and consultation with the relevant authority limits will have to be set and agreed and be regulated.

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

☒ Waste incineration facilities

##### Waste incineration facilities

There is yet to be emission limit values consistent with the application of best available techniques set up within the country. However, with the new plants to be set up and consultation with the relevant authority limits will have to be set and agreed and be regulated.

☒ Cement clinker production facilities

##### Cement clinker production facilities

Not applicable for Seychelles as it does not produce cement but imports same.

**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

The country is yet to request support in order to apply the best available techniques or the best environmental practices BAT/BEP in order to control and reduce emissions of mercury no later than 5

years. However, in consultations with stakeholders and the priority of developing environmental quality and standards this will be considered as a priority.

**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

There is yet to be emission limit values consistent with the application of best available techniques set up within the country. However, with the new plants to be set up and consultation with the relevant authority limits will have to be set and agreed and be regulated.

#### 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

There is yet to be emission limit values consistent with the application of best available techniques set up within the country. However, with the new plants to be set up and consultation with the relevant authority limits will have to be set and agreed and be regulated.

**Progress**

{Empty}

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

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

**Measures**

{Empty}

**Progress**

{Empty}

**▼ WASTE INCINERATION FACILITIES**

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

**Measures**

There is yet to be emission limit values consistent with the application of best available techniques set up within the country. However, with the new plants to be set up and consultation with the relevant authority limits will have to be set and agreed and be regulated.

**Progress**

{Empty}

**▼ CEMENT CLINKER PRODUCTION FACILITIES**

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

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

#### Measures

Not applicable for Seychelles as it does not produce cement but imports same.

#### Progress

{Empty}

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

#### Please explain

Seychelles only ratified the Convention in 2015.

**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, 03/15/2017 – 00:00

**Please indicate where this inventory is available**

The inventory report is available on the Ministry of Agriculture Climate Change and Environment website.

#### Attach

- [SYC\\_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

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**

AS part of the Mercury Initial Assessment an action plan was prepared for different components/topic of the assessment.

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

{Empty}

▼ 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

**When was the inventory last updated?**

2017-03-15

**Please indicate where this inventory is available**

Can be available in the Mercury initial Assessment Report dated March 2017 on the Convention's website

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

{Empty}

▼ 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 view that the country is also party to the Basel Convention there is already in place measures for hazardous waste that follows the Basel Convention classification. Therefore, notification procedure applies and approval is required for transportation, storage and disposal. Such procedure also includes mercury wastes

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

{Empty}

▼ 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.**

Being Party to the Basel Convention there is already in place procedures relating to the transportation and disposal of hazardous waste including mercury. Therefore, approval must be received from the competent Authority through prior Notification procedure. The procedure is effective as there is a sense of awareness within the population on the procedure. It further provides overall control and a means of monitoring of the transportation and disposal of hazardous waste, and it also shows the country's commitment towards waste management mercury waste and also proves that there exists institutional capacity. Such system further helps the Authority in obtaining data.

**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**

{Empty}

**▼ 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 no known mercury mines or industrial activity using mercury and accidents sites within the country. The main contaminated sites in the country are the landfills on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue as most of mercury-containing products are disposed there. However, the Authority can in the near future try to identify sites containing mercury

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

{Empty}

**▼ 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**

Request are made during budgetary planning. A number of activities nationally will also be included during the implementation of the ISLANDS Chemicals and Waste Project which was officially launched this year during the BRS COP.

**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**

Yes, Seychelles is a member of the constituency including other countries such as Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda. Seychelles ensure that financial assistance for the implementation of projects through the mechanism is fully utilized. It also provides in kind contribution to the mechanism within the country for the implementation of projects.

**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, it is yet to provide financial resources to assist other country parties.

**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**

No cooperation has been made yet with other countries.

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

**Please specify**

Building the capacity of the country through training to implement the Convention especially with regards to reporting.

Through donor funding projects such as GEF.

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**

Yet to develop cooperation with developed countries in the area of mercury management

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

{Empty}

▼ **ART. 16: HEALTH ASPECTS**

**16.1. Have measures been taken to provide information to the public on exposure to mercury in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 16?**

☒ Yes

☐ No

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

The Seychelles Fishing Authority currently have information on mercury levels in different fish species which is available to the public. That information can be disseminated to the public. However, better dissemination of information needs to be adopted in order for more people to be educated on the matter.

Scientific research papers have been published on the levels of mercury in fish and its impacts on human health. A study which was coordinated by the Department of Health.

**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.**

Mercury-containing medical equipment are being phased out as a policy of the Ministry of Health. Thermometers containing mercury has already been banned.

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

{Empty}

▼ ART. 17: INFORMATION EXCHANGE

**17.1. Has the party facilitated the exchange of information referred to in article 17, paragraph 1?**

☒ Yes

☐ No

**Please provide more information, if any**

There exists an Environment Education Division within the Structure of the Ministry responsible for Environment. The Division is responsible to disseminate information and raise awareness on issues relating to Environment. Different activities are organized targeting different age groups within the community. Waste Management is one of the priority topics whereby educational activities are organized.

As part of different projects relating to waste management there is an education and awareness component which enable exchange of information whereby different entities are given responsibility to execute specific activities and exchange of information.

**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**

The Ministry already has a dedicated Division, the Environment Education Division responsible to raise awareness and information dissemination on environmental topics.

National wide campaign has also been held example promoting the widespread use of more energy-efficient light technologies to replace energy inefficient ones, particularly the traditional incandescent light.

The Ministry of Health and the Seychelles Fishing Authority have undertaken the study on the impacts of mercury in fish in child development. The results of the study have been published.

Different research sections e.g. Ministry of Health, The University of Seychelles have been formed with technical capacity to carry out research

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

{Empty}

▼ ART. 19: RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING

**19.1. Has the party undertaken any research, development and monitoring in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 19?**

☒ Yes

☐ No

**If yes, please describe these actions**

The Seychelles Fishing Authority in collaboration with the Department of Health has carried out research to study the levels of mercury levels in different fish species and the effect on Health (child development).

**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)**

There is a need to build capacity within the country to be able to implement the Convention fully at the National Level. therefore, the Secretariat must ensure that the training needs to the Small Island states are considered as priority.

Financial commitment and assistance

Delays in view of long National procedure in place

▼ SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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

The reporting format is user friendly as the work can be saved as draft and one can continue to work on it at different times.