

# FIRST FULL NATIONAL REPORTS OF THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY 2021



## REPORTING PERIOD:

16 August 2017 to 31 December 2020

### ▼ INFORMATION ON THE PARTY

## 1. Information on the party

#### Name of party

Tuvalu

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

7 June 2019

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

5 September 2019

## 2. Information on the national focal point

#### Full name of the institution

Department of Environment

#### Title of National Focal Point

Mr.

#### Name of National Focal Point

Soseala Saosaoa Tinilau

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#### Telephone number

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#### Fax number

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#### Web page

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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

Full name of the institution

Department of Environment

Title of contact officer

Ms.

Name of contact officer

Tilia Tima

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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

{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.

mercury stocks found in Tuvalu do not posed the particular amount

**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**

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**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 no, has the party registered for an exemption pursuant to article 6?**

- ☐ 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

**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**

Tuvalu do not house any manufacture facilities

### ▼ 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 industrial boilers
- ☐ Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of non-ferrous metals
- ☒ Waste incineration facilities

##### Waste incineration facilities

Tuvalu do not have proper 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

Lack of capacity building with regards to carrying out environmental practices in reducing and eliminating mercury emissions

##### 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

{Empty}

##### 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

{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

##### Please explain

As Tuvalu recently signed to this Convention, it will need data first especially inventory of all types of mercury present in country before it could look at developing proper plans to be successfully implemented.

**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**

Tuvalu is in the process of developing its first ever data report on mercury. At the meantime, there is a draft available and is circulated to counterparts SPREP and BRI for review and comments. Once the report is complete, all activities that contributes to eliminating and reducing mercury products and emissions will be implemented, this includes proper consultations with the public for a better understanding about the objective of the Convention and its obligation. One of the main challenge is the fact that the Convention is quite technical and its quite difficult to translate technical terms to local language for better understanding.

**▼ 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

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

Once Tuvalu's national report is complete and undergo proper endorsement, then proper measures will be implemented.

**▼ 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**

{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 were no contaminated sites posed by mercury ever reported

**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**

No resources and policies has been made to date.

**Please provide comments, if any.**

Tuvalu has sought assistance with donor partners, and is looking at developing national policies and programs.

**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**

The Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) on Mercury Compounds Project was developed earlier in 2021 with a duration of 1 year. However, the Department of Environment is now responsible to complete all outstanding tasks/activities of the project that were on-hold due to the pandemic. These includes; completing of the Tuvalu National Report, Capacity building, Awareness and proper national endorsement of the National Report.

**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**

Inception meeting about the MIA project

**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**

Tuvalu also need more capacity building

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

☒ Yes

☐ No

**Please specify**

During inception for the MIA project, yet, Tuvalu still needs more capacity building about implementing its obligations under the Convention

**Please provide comments, if any.**

With the limited capacity within Tuvalu to implement the Minamata Convention, it will highly rely on technical expertise from other countries and counterparts. Hence a priority now is to train the trainers especially on how to obtain the data (types of methodology commonly use) and especially on interpreting the data and sharing it for wider information.

**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**

No activities has ever been made with regards to the said matter

**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

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

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

**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**

Only through informal conversations with colleagues and friends

**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  
During the MIA Project validation workshop that was held in mid-2021

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

Consultation was carried out twice but as there was more technical words– we could see that participants were not keen to listen.

I guess more consultation needs to be carried out at the community level

▼ 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

Inventory about the amount of mercury products each particular organization (Hospital, Fuel Suppliers and etc.) holds

**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)**

Challenges that Tuvalu face(d) to meet its obligation mandated in the Convention are;

- Lack of Knowledge with regards to eliminating and reducing mercury products
- Lack of proper facilities for disposing mercury waste
- No proper records of mercury products being imported within the country
- technical terms is quite difficult to translate to local language

▼ SUPPLEMENTAL – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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

Agree with this format as it is very simple and easy to attempt.