

Note from the Secretariat

This is an extract from the Draft Reporting Guidance prepared for COP-4 as document [UNEP/MC/COP.4/17](#). The document is made available in the six UN languages.

Parties are invited to make use of the Draft Reporting Guidance in preparing for their second short report, which is due by December 31, 2023.

To note is that a revised version of the Draft Reporting Guidance will be submitted for consideration and possible adoption at COP-5.

Question 11.2: *Are there facilities for final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds in the Party's territory?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Do not know (*please explain*)

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.

NOTES: Question 11.2 seeks the identification of facilities for final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds. It does not seek information on disposal of waste containing mercury or mercury compounds or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds.

In decision MC-3/5, the Conference of the Parties decided that the waste listed in table 1 of the annex to that decision would be regarded as waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds.

Paragraph 3 (a) of Article 11 requires the Conference of the Parties to adopt an annex with requirements for environmentally sound management of mercury waste. Pending the adoption of such an annex, Parties can report on facilities that are using the techniques outlined in the Basel Convention's technical guidelines¹ on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with mercury or mercury compounds. The technical guidelines describe physico-chemical treatment using stabilization and solidification processes, to meet the acceptance criteria of disposal facilities. As final disposal operations, the technical guidelines describe methods for disposal in, for example, specifically engineered landfills and permanent storage (underground facilities), together with measures to be taken to prevent releases and methylation of mercury from stabilized compounds, prevent fires and conduct long-term monitoring.

Information on facilities for final disposal of mercury or mercury compounds could be found in reporting under national laws governing hazardous waste management and hazardous substance control, from the development of a Minamata Initial Assessment or in an implementation plan developed pursuant to Article 20 of the Convention. It should be noted that the question seeks the identification of facilities.

SUGGESTED APPROACH FOR RESPONSE:

- ☐ If the Party has facilities for final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds in its territory, it would reply "**yes**" and report on the amount (in metric tons) of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds that has been subject to final disposal for each year of the reporting period, as well as the method of such final disposal.

¹ Basel Convention's "Technical Guidelines on the Environmentally Sound Management of Wastes Consisting of, Containing or Contaminated with Mercury or Mercury Compounds", available at <http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Convention/Formsandguidance/tabid/5527/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

- ☐ If the Party does not have facilities for final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds in its territory, it would reply **"no"**.
- ☐ If the Party has not determined whether it has facilities for final disposal of waste consisting of mercury or mercury compounds in its territory but is in the process of doing so (through the development of its Minamata Initial Assessment or implementation plan), the Party would reply **"do not know"** and provide an explanation.