

## ZMWG COP2 statement on effectiveness evaluation Monday 19 November 2018, Geneva

The Zero Mercury Working Group generally supports the report of the ad hoc working group and urges its use as basis for further development of the effectiveness evaluation framework and monitoring arrangements. In particular, we agree with its recognition that these existing data will need to be enhanced, particularly in the developing world, in order for the COP to undertake a scientifically credible evaluation of Convention effectiveness. We also commend its development of a reasonable initial framework for the effectiveness evaluation, based on a robust set of information. Finally, we also appreciate the recommendation for ongoing participation of civil society and other groups as observers to the process, consistent with the open spirit of Minamata.

Now that this initial work has been accomplished, the next step should be more detailed assessment of existing monitoring data and systems, including clear criteria for inclusion and methods for use of existing data, as well as specific recommendations for targeted, cost-effectiveness enhancements that would be needed to fill gaps. In parallel, there should be ongoing refinement of the overall framework, for which monitoring is just one input. As this work will require detailed scientific assessment, it is not feasible to complete this work in the context of a large group meeting. Rather, we urge the COP to make arrangements for preparation of an initial expert report covering these scientific details and recommendations prior to a face-to-face meeting of the larger Ad Hoc Committee.