

# TOWARDS DEVELOPING A ROADMAP FOR PHASING OUT MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS UNDER THE MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

(revised December 2023)

COUNTRY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

The Minamata Convention on Mercury represents a major milestone in global efforts to reduce the adverse impacts of mercury. Under Article 4 of the Convention, Parties are not allowed to manufacture, import or export a prescribed list of mercury-added products after 2020. The covered list of products is provided in Annex A of the Convention, see: <http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Convention>. In addition, Parties must discourage the manufacture and sales of new types of mercury-added products.

Countries may wish to consider the following checklist<sup>1</sup> when planning activities to meet Article 4 Convention obligations:

## **STEP 1. Development and implementation of a stakeholder engagement strategy**

- Identify relevant ministries and stakeholders, and form a structure to facilitate project input and coordination, such as a Products Advisory Committee (PAC)
- Determine roles, responsibilities, timeline, etc. for moving forward between the ministries with jurisdiction over relevant Article 4 obligations (i.e., Ministries of Environment, Health, Trade, etc.)
- Hold PAC inception meeting, *identify* significant implementation issues and data needs, set project goals, specify the sequence and timing of project milestones, and establish mechanisms for conducting outreach and obtaining input as project progresses
- Secure financial, technical and informational cooperation as needed from relevant agencies/organizations and stakeholders
- Facilitate stakeholder review and input on significant project work products

### **1.A Describe steps to engage stakeholders in your country.**

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### **1B. Identify/list gaps/challenges in relation to engaging stakeholders.**

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## **Step 2. National Situation assessment**

For each section you need to:

### **1. Assess the national situation**

*Note: Start from the MIA , other documents, projects you may have developed in relation to MAPs since the MIA. You don't need to repeat what is in the MIA, , but if this is still valid , you can refer to the MIA, summarise the present situation and focus on (2)*

### **2. Identify/List the gaps /challenges in relation to the national situation.**

*Note: Identify the gaps/challenges for each area e.g. Institutional framework, legal gaps in the legislation , etc. **List/number the challenges**, because then in step 3 – you will need to identify a solution/action/measure for EACH of the challenges identified above.*

Examples of elements to look at and consider:

- Obtain available data on manufacture and trade, as needed (see resources)
- Assess availability of mercury-free or Convention compliant products/devices by 2020 (see resources)
- Assess existing institutional capacity to support mercury-added product phase-out activities, in areas such as information reporting and data platforms, product testing and compliance evaluation, trade monitoring, training of relevant officials, and enforcement
- Conduct legal gaps analysis for addressing mercury-added products (see resources)
- Create information platform as needed to implement the strategy and meet Convention reporting obligations
- Identify laboratory testing needs for strategy implementation and secure financial/technical assistance as needed
- Training of personnel (e.g. Customs)
- Identify target populations for strategy implementation and improve hazard and risk communication initiatives
- Improve occupational health and safety standards and practices for handling mercury
- Foster data gathering, management and information sharing on mercury-free products
- Establish method for determining mercury levels in products, calibration, validation, etc.
- Promote reduction in illegal transboundary trade in mercury-added products

## **Institutional Framework Assessment**

### **1. Assess the national situation**

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### **2. Identify the gaps /challenges in relation to the national situation. List/number the challenges.**

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### Legislative Assessment

1. Assess the national situation

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2. Identify the gaps /challenges in relation to the national situation. List/number the challenges.

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### Infrastructural Assessment

1. Assess the national situation

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2. Identify the gaps /challenges in relation to the national situation. List/number the challenges.

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### Data on MAPs and their mercury free alternatives

1. Assess the national situation

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2. Identify the gaps /challenges in relation to the national situation. List/number the challenges.

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### Capacity Building Assessment

1. Assess the national situation

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2. Identify the gaps /challenges in relation to the national situation. List/number the challenges.

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## Public Awareness and knowledge sharing assessment.

1. Assess the national situation

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2. Identify the gaps /challenges in relation to the national situation. List/number the challenges.

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## Step 3. Proposed Actions to each challenge identified above

Identify the actions necessary to address the challenges identified above.

Eg.

- o Definition of roles and responsibilities of relevant ministries in the implementation of Article 4 obligations
- o Development of new legal authorities as needed, reflecting the alignment of implementation responsibilities for each of the relevant ministries
- o Identification of priorities for filling institutional gaps and capacity needs, and sources of potential technical and financial support available to fill the gaps
- o Identification of target populations for hazard and risk communication initiatives related to priority products of concern in the country
- o Improvement of occupational health and safety standards and practices for handling mercury, as needed

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## Step 4. Draft National Action Plan

List the actions described above under (3), indicate lead agency, timeline, and resources necessary. Table shows an overview of the elements comprising the National Action Plan of COUNTRY, for the phasing out of mercury-added products (MAPs).

	Actions to be taken	Lead Agency	Resources necessary	Timeframe short/medium/long
<b>A. Institutional</b>				
1.				
2.				
3.				
<b>B. Legislative</b>				
4.				
5.				
6.				
<b>C. Infrastructure</b>				
7.				
8.				
9.				
<b>D. Data</b>				
10.				
11.				
12.				
<b>E. Capacity Building</b>				
13.				
14.				
15.				
<b>F. Public Awareness</b>				
16.				
17.				
18.				

## Resources

UNEP Global Mercury Partnership – Mercury Reduction in Products

<http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/global-mercury-partnership/mercury-reduction-products>

"Toolkit for identification and quantification of mercury releases"

<http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/what-we-do/technology-and-metals/mercury/toolkit-identification-and-quantification-mercury-releases>

ZMWG – Minamata Convention on Mercury, Ratification and Implementation Manual (June 2016)

[http://www.zeromercury.org/phocadownload/Developments\\_at\\_UNEP\\_level/minamata-convention-on-mercury-manual.pdf](http://www.zeromercury.org/phocadownload/Developments_at_UNEP_level/minamata-convention-on-mercury-manual.pdf)

NRDC – Guide to Checklist of Minamata Convention on Mercury obligations which may require new legal authority

<https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/guide-checklist-minamata-obligations.pdf>

NEWMOA- Mercury added product factsheets <http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/imerc/factsheets/>

Revised Discussion Document, Mercury Education and Reduction Model Act, Prepared by the Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (USA),

[http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/final\\_model\\_legislation.htm](http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/final_model_legislation.htm)

UNEP Mercury in Products and Waste & Healthcare Settings and Dentistry Modules, (MPP),

[http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/AwarenessPack/English/UNEP\\_Mod1\\_UK\\_Web.pdf](http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/Portals/9/Mercury/AwarenessPack/English/UNEP_Mod1_UK_Web.pdf)

2015 Step-by-step Guidance on Phasing Out Mercury Thermometers and Sphygmomanometers, WHO.

[http://www.who.int/ipcs/assessment/public\\_health/WHOGuidanceReportonMercury2015.pdf?ua=1](http://www.who.int/ipcs/assessment/public_health/WHOGuidanceReportonMercury2015.pdf?ua=1)

Replacement of Mercury Thermometers and Sphygmomanometers in Health Care

[http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/publications/2011/mercury\\_thermometers/en/](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/2011/mercury_thermometers/en/)

Mauritius National Action Plan on Mercury (2015-2020), Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, February 2014, supported by SAICM, UNEP and UNDP,

<http://africainstitute.info/download/mauritius-national-action-plan-on-mercury/>

Restrictions on products containing mercury, EC,

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/mercury/restriction\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/mercury/restriction_en.htm)

National Action Plan on Mercury and Mercury-containing Wastes Management (Philippines),

[http://www.unep.org/hazardoussubstances/Portals/9/Mercury/Waste%20management/Annex%205\\_PHL\\_National%20Action%20Plan%20on%20Mercury%20&%20Mercury-Contai.pdf](http://www.unep.org/hazardoussubstances/Portals/9/Mercury/Waste%20management/Annex%205_PHL_National%20Action%20Plan%20on%20Mercury%20&%20Mercury-Contai.pdf)

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<sup>i</sup> The checklist was developed in 2017 by the EEB/ZMWG product project team (MPP, NRDC, EEB, gW, SRADev, PANEM) in the framework of the project “**Contributing to the preparation/implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, with a focus on developing strategies for phasing out mercury-added products and on reducing mercury use in Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining through development of National Action Plans, in four African countries**”, funded by the European Commission via the Food and Agriculture Organisation, under the ‘Capacity Building related to Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in Africa, Caribbean and Pacific countries’ Phase 2 (ACP/MEAs Phase 2). It has been revised by EEB/ZMWG in 2023, in the framework of the third phase of the programme, ACP MEAs 3 and under the project “**Contributing to the implementation/enforcement of the Minamata Convention on mercury, with a focus on developing strategies for phasing out mercury-added products and on reducing mercury use in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining**”.