

Call for submission of information by Governments and others in response to the requests from the seventh session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury (INC7)

Article 7 - Artisanal and small-scale gold mining

Governments and others are encouraged to submit to the interim secretariat their comments to improve the “draft guidance on developing a national action plan to reduce and, where feasible, eliminate mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining” as contained in document UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.7/17 available at:

www.mercuryconvention.org/Negotiations/INC7/tabid/4506/Default.aspx

The draft guidance will be amended based on the comments received and presented for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting.

Governments and others are reminded of the request by WHO for input to its work on the development of public health strategies on artisanal and small-scale gold mining, which once finalized will be integrated into the draft guidance. Further information may be found in document UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.7/INF/7 available at:

www.mercuryconvention.org/Negotiations/INC7/tabid/4506/Default.aspx

Article 10 - Environmentally sound interim storage of mercury, other than waste mercury

Governments and others are reminded of the deadline of 30 April 2016 for the nomination of experts to participate in the development of guidelines on the environmentally sound interim storage of mercury and mercury compounds, other than waste mercury.

They are further invited to submit to the interim secretariat information that would contribute to the development of such guidelines. Information relating to sound mercury interim storage practices adopted and successfully implemented by countries submitted in follow up to INC6, compiled in document UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.7/18 and available at <http://mercuryconvention.org/Negotiations/INC7/INC7submissions/tabid/4754/Default.aspx> would be taken into consideration in drafting the guidelines and do not need to be resubmitted.

Nominated experts and stakeholders would be invited to provide comments on an initial draft of the guidelines in July 2016, as well as on a revised draft of the guidelines in December 2016.

Article 11 - Mercury wastes

Governments and others are invited to provide to the interim secretariat additional information on the use of mercury waste thresholds.

Information received will be compiled by the interim secretariat and presented for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting.

Information submitted will also support the work carried out in response to the agreement by INC7 for informal efforts to propose appropriate thresholds to be pursued by those with the relevant expertise.

Article 12 - Contaminated sites

Governments and others are invited to provide to the interim secretariat input on guidance documents or recommendations in relation to the management of sites contaminated with mercury.

The interim secretariat will prepare a compilation to be used as a basis for a draft guidance document on the management of mercury-contaminated sites, and an outline of its structure and content together with a roadmap for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting, using the submitted documents as the basis of its work and including the elements described in paragraph 3 of Article 12 and taking also into account paragraph 4 of Article 12.

Article 22 - Effectiveness evaluation

Governments, regional and subregional monitoring programmes and partnerships, the World Health Organization, regional representatives, regional and national institutions, academia, industry, civil society and others as appropriate are invited to submit to the interim secretariat information on existing monitoring programmes and how they can contribute to an overall monitoring approach, including availability of baseline information.

Submissions that would complement the information provided by Governments and relevant organizations in follow up to INC6, compiled in document UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.7/12 and available at <http://mercuryconvention.org/Negotiations/INC7/INC7submissions/tabid/4754/Default.aspx>, are particularly encouraged.

They are further invited to provide contact details for any individual whom they would designate to participate in consultations conducted via electronic means for the development of a roadmap as well as a report on effectiveness evaluation.