



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



Email: mercury.chemicals@unep.org

Ref: Minamata Convention/JD

Date: 22 April 2016

Subject: Call for submission of information and nomination of experts 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

Dear Sir/Madam,

The seventh session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury (INC7) was held at the Dead Sea, Jordan, from 10 to 15 March 2016. At this meeting, agreement was reached in a number of key areas required for the effective implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, in particular guidance on the forms to be used in relation to mercury trade and guidance on identifying stocks of mercury and mercury compounds and sources of mercury supply (Article 3) as well as guidance on artisanal and small-scale gold mining (Article 7) and guidance in relation to emissions of mercury (Article 8). Significant progress was also made in relation to other areas, including financial resources and mechanism (Article 13), reporting (Article 21) and effectiveness evaluation (Article 22).

INC7 requested the interim secretariat to seek information from Governments and others in relation to certain articles of the Convention, in order to contribute to the further work required in preparation for the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention. Based on this request, I kindly seek the submission of the relevant information as set out in the attachment to this letter.

In order to facilitate the preparations of the required analyses and meeting documents, the interim secretariat would appreciate receiving the submission of information no later than 15 September 2016. Information should be submitted to:

The Principal Coordinator
Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
Chemicals and Waste Branch
Division of Technology, Industry and Economics
United Nations Environment Programme
11 - 13 chemin des Anémones
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To: SAICM Focal Points

Cc: Permanent Missions to UNEP
Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva
INC7 participants

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In addition, on the issue of environmentally sound interim storage of mercury, other than waste mercury (Article 10), INC7 agreed to a roadmap for the development of guidelines to be submitted for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting. Amongst others, the roadmap provides for the nomination of relevant experts to participate in the process to develop such guidelines. Participation will be via electronic means, with nominated experts and stakeholders invited to comment on an initial draft of the guidelines in July 2016, and on a revised draft of the guidelines in December 2016. As per the timeframe established in the agreed upon roadmap, the interim secretariat would like to remind Governments and others of the deadline of 30 April 2016 for the nomination of experts.

We look forward to the receipt of your contributions on the above matters, and thank you for your support to the further work on the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Yours sincerely,

Jacob Duer
Principal Coordinator
Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
Chemicals and Waste Branch
Division of Technology, Industry and Economics

Attachment: 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)