This briefing on comments to the Indicators for the Effectiveness Evaluation takes place on Wednesday, 16 November 2022 from 13:00 to 14:00 CET.

In decision MC-4/11, the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury at its fourth meeting agreed to begin the first effectiveness evaluation. COP-4 adopted the framework for evaluating the effectiveness of the Convention and established the open-ended scientific group which has already begun its work.

COP-4 also requested the secretariat to support an intersessional process to refine the list of indicators to be used in the effectiveness evaluation process, with a view to providing a final list of indicators for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting.

This session serves to provide information on the invitation for comments to the indicators for the effectiveness evaluation for the preparation of the documentation for COP-5 consideration.
COP-4 in decision MC-4/11 on “The first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury”, requested the Secretariat:

Para 7: To support an intersessional process to refine the list of indicators to be used in the effectiveness evaluation process, with a view to providing a final list of indicators for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting.

Overview of decision MC-4/11 on "The first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury"

Background on the development of indicators for the effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Introduction of the draft refined list of indicators prepared by the Secretariat for comment

Information on the online workspace for indicators

Open Floor for any clarifications or any other information to support the preparation of comments for submittal by 31 January 2023.
Overview of decision
MC-4/11
Decision MC-4/11: The first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Four preambular paragraphs, and eight operative paragraphs:

1. Agreed to begin the first effectiveness evaluation.
2. Decided to adopt the framework for the effectiveness evaluation.
3. Decided to continue consideration of the effectiveness evaluation group at its fifth meeting.
4. + 5. Established an open-ended scientific group and requested to call for nominations to the group.
6. Requested the secretariat to support the work of the effectiveness evaluation.
7. Requested the secretariat to support an intersessional process to refine the list of indicators to be used in the effectiveness evaluation process, with a view to providing a final list of indicators for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting.
8. Encouraged parties to undertake, continue or expand upon their efforts with regards to Article 14 and Article 19 for Article 22.

Please see link to the decision for the exact language.
Framework for the evaluation of the effectiveness of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Annex I

(1) Plans and products will be shared for review as they become available.
(2) Article 15 report, and reports and other relevant information on articles 13 and 14.
(3) Including mercury waste flows and stocks.
(4) Taking into consideration the monitoring guidance.
(5) The terms of reference of the effectiveness evaluation group (EEG), as set out in an annex to the conference room paper circulated at the resumed fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, were the outcome of the work of the contact group on effectiveness evaluation at that meeting. That text is reproduced in annex B to the report of the in-person segment of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/MGC/COP.4/28/Add.1). All the elements of the terms of reference of the EEG were agreed upon, except for its membership.
(6) Considering indicators, without prejudice to the final agreement of the Conference of the Parties.
Annex II to decision MC-4/11

Terms of reference for the Open-ended Scientific Group

A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties decides to establish an Open-ended Scientific Group, to provide the Conference of the Parties with an expert scientific modality as described in paragraph 3 below.

2. The Open-ended Scientific Group will start its work following the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and will conclude its term at the end of the first effectiveness evaluation cycle.

B. Tasks

3. The Open-ended Scientific Group will develop a scientific report in which it will compile, analyse and synthesize comparable mercury monitoring data on changes in mercury concentrations in environmental media, biotic media and the human population, including vulnerable populations over time, the availability of scientific information on mercury levels in the environment and human populations, and the interactions between scientific data and financial assistance, technology transfer, and capacity-building; evaluate the impact on mercury levels in the environment and humans of the measures taken under the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and draw conclusions thereon for the consideration of the Effectiveness Evaluation Group.

4. The scientific report will be composed of the following elements, built in a two-stage process: the plan for the monitoring data compilation and summary, and the plan for data analysis consistent with the monitoring guidance (stage 1); the monitoring data compilation and summary, and the data analysis addressing the guiding questions outlined in the monitoring guidance (stage 2).

5. In addition, the Open-ended Scientific Group will provide an analysis of data gaps, including the identification of existing gaps as well as potential scientific actions to address identified gaps in information and knowledge related to monitoring, and lessons learned, to be submitted to the Effectiveness Evaluation Group.

6. The Open-ended Scientific Group, with the support of the secretariat, will develop a plan and a summary of available emissions and releases data, including available emissions and releases data from national inventories, and estimates of emissions and releases data not available from national inventories.
Background on the development of indicators for the effectiveness evaluation
Art 21 and Art 22 to support the achievement of the objective of the Minamata Convention (Art 1)

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Each Party shall report to the COP on the measures taken to implement the provisions of the Convention and on the effectiveness of such measures and the possible challenges in meeting the objective of the Convention.

MC-1/8
Short reports – 4 questions
Full reports – 43 questions

Art 15: Implementation and Compliance Committee

The COP shall evaluate the effectiveness of this Convention [... and] initiate the establishment of arrangements for providing itself with comparable monitoring data on the presence and movement of mercury [... in the environment as well as trends in levels of mercury [... observed in biotic media and vulnerable populations. [...

The evaluation shall be conducted on the basis of available information, including (a) [... monitoring information ..., (b) Reports submitted for Art. 21, ... and (d) other relevant information ...
Art. 1 The objective of the Convention is to protect the human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds.

Control Measures

- Reduce the use and presence of mercury in the economy, industry and society
  - Art. 3.5 (a): Stocks
  - Art. 3.5 (b): Excess mercury from decommissioned chlor-alkali facilities
  - Art. 3.6 – 3.10: Trade of mercury
  - Art. 4: Mercury-added Products
  - Art. 5: Manufacturing Processes
  - Art. 7: ASGM
  - Art. 10: Interim Storage
  - Art. 11: Mercury wastes
  - Art. 12: Contaminated sites
- Reduce mercury to the environment
- Keep mercury underground
  - Art. 3.3: No new primary mines
  - Art. 3.4: Existing mines - 15 years

Enabling / Supportive Context

Art. 13: Financial Mechanism
Art. 14: Capacity-building, technical assistance and technical transfer
Art. 15: Implementation and Compliance Committee
Art. 16: Health aspects
Art. 17: Information Exchange
Art. 18: Public information, awareness and education
Art. 19: Research, development and monitoring
Art. 20: Implementation plans
Art. 21: Reporting
Art. 22: Effectiveness evaluation
Art. 23: Conference of the Parties
Art. 24: Secretariat
Arts. 25-35: Various procedural articles
Sources of Information for the Evaluation

Art.21 National Reports Timeline

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First short reports
16 Aug 2017 to 31 Dec 2018

First full reports
16 Aug 2017 to 31 Dec 2020

Submit by 31 Dec 2019

Second short reports (2 years)
1 Jan 2021 to 31 Dec 2022

Submit by 31 Dec 2023

Second full reports (4 years)
1 Jan 2021 to 31 Dec 2024

Submit by 31 Dec 2025

Art.22 Effectiveness Evaluation

The COP is to evaluate the effectiveness of the Convention, beginning no later than six years after the date of the entry into force. COP-4 decided to begin the first effectiveness evaluation.

The effectiveness evaluation is to be conducted based on available information and using performance indicators. Art.21 Reports are one ongoing source of available information to the COP.
Background on the development of the Indicators

COP-3
❖ Decision MC-3/10
❖ Decision MC-3/10, annex I

COP-3 invited Parties to **submit views** on the indicators set out in annex I and requested the Secretariat to **compile** those views in advance of COP-4.

**Consultations on the Indicators in advance of COP-4**

To support Parties in the presentation of their submission of views, the Secretariat facilitated four online information, exchange and consultation sessions between 2020 and 2022.

Subsequent to that and the submissions received two documents were prepared for COP-4 specific on indicators:

❖ UNEP/MC/COP.4.18/Add.1: Giving effect to article 22 of the Minamata Convention on Mercury: effectiveness evaluation – Indicators
❖ UNEP/MC/COP.4/INF/11: Compilation of views on the proposed indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

COP-4
❖ Decision MC-4/11

COP-4 requested the Secretariat to support an intersessional process to **refine the list of indicators** to be used in the effectiveness evaluation process, with a view to providing a **final list of indicators** for consideration and possible adoption by COP-5.
Introduction of the draft refined list of indicators prepared by the Secretariat for comment
display draft refined list of indicators for comment
Observations by the Secretariat regarding the draft refined list of indicators

1. The indicators in the draft refined list use Art 21 reporting as a source for information.
2. Indicators can be linked to specific questions in the Art 21 national reporting format.
3. This is a shorter list than the original list, incorporating the views expressed in submissions and during the exchanges and consultations, including the requests for simplification, avoidance of duplication, and focus on relevance of the indicators as a tool for the effectiveness evaluation process and the objective of the Convention.
4. The language for the indicators was checked against the Convention text, and the wording of the congruent Art 21 national reporting question.
5. In three instances, the Secretariat has offered a “Secretariat note” rather than language on the indicator.
6. Monitoring matters for the effectiveness evaluation process are being dealt with in the Open-Ended Scientific Group (OESG).
Information on the online workspace for indicators
The presentation and video recording of this session will be made available here.

Draft refined list of indicators for comment.
Open Floor for clarifications on comments for submittal by Tuesday, 31 January 2023.
MINAMATA ONLINE

SEASON 3 - 2022
PHASE I

COP-5 PREPARATION

IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW AND SUPPORT

MERCURY SCIENCE

Tentative calendar. Geneva time. Last update: 4 October 2022
Thank you for your attention

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