

MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

24 to 29 September 2017, Geneva - Switzerland

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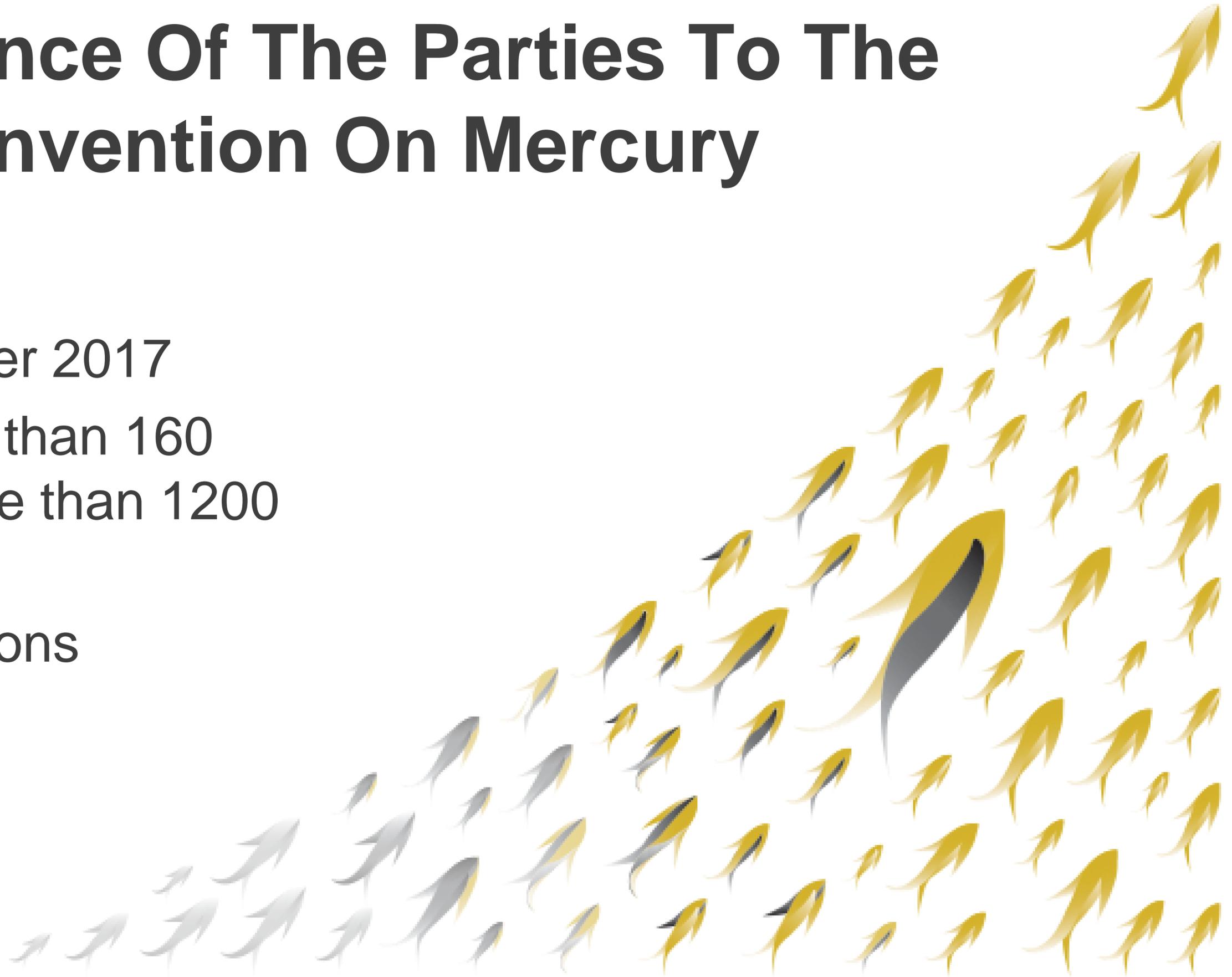
Outcomes of the First Meeting Of The Conference Of The Parties To The Minamata Convention On Mercury

Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
mercury.chemicals@unep.org



First Conference Of The Parties To The Minamata Convention On Mercury

- 24 to 29 September 2017
- Attended by more than 160 countries and more than 1200 representatives
- Adopted 21 decisions



Forms and guidance adopted by the COP

Art 3	Forms and guidance in relation to mercury supply sources and trade
Art 6	Forms and guidance in relation to exemptions available to a party upon request
Art 7	Guidance on developing a national action plan to reduce, and where feasible, eliminate mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining
Art 8	Guidance in relation to emissions (BAT/BEP)



Decisions on technical issues

Further work mandated on:

- Guidelines on the environmentally sound interim storage of mercury and mercury compounds (article 10)
- Mercury waste thresholds (article 11)
- Development of guidance on the management of contaminated sites (article 12)
- Effectiveness evaluation (article 22)
- Mercury emissions resulting from the open burning of waste
 - Experts to be nominated for effectiveness evaluation, waste and contaminated sites
 - Reporting timing and format agreed



Decisions on issues related to support for implementation

The Conference of the Parties adopted decisions on:

- Guidance to the Global Environment Facility
- The Specific International Programme
- Capacity building, technical assistance and technology transfer on the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- Membership of the Implementation and Compliance Committee
- Secretariat
- Programme of Work and Budget for the Secretariat



HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT *“Make Mercury History”*

Key Take Home Messages from the HLS:

- Need for a life-cycle approach, integrated into public health and environment strategies, which must be strengthened and established (where lacking)
- Close work with stakeholders, particularly through partnerships with civil society and the private sector.
- Need to enhance visibility of Minamata and adverse effects of mercury
- Support for implementation (both financial and technical) is essential to ensure success



NEXT STEPS – TECHNICAL ISSUES

- Effectiveness evaluation – face to face meeting to be held in March 2018
- Guidelines on interim storage – to be revised by secretariat with input from relevant experts
- Waste – further work involving experts
- Contaminated sites – to be drafted by secretariat with input from relevant experts.

Storage, waste and contaminated sites are open-ended groups of experts, and participation by regional centres is encouraged.

Effectiveness evaluation has a more limited number of experts and observers. Regional centre representatives with appropriate expertise may be able to be included.



Effectiveness evaluation group

- 25 government designated experts – 5 per region
- Each region to nominate at least 3 experts with monitoring experience, and at least 1 expert with experience on effectiveness evaluation
- 10 observer experts from civil society, indigenous communities, industry and UNEP Global Mercury Partnership
- Group can also invite input from governments, IGOs, indigenous communities, industry and civil society organisation.
- Group will meet in March 2018
- Output – draft report including outline, plan and elements of the effectiveness evaluation framework to be prepared and forwarded to the second Conference of the Parties



NEXT STEPS – SUPPORT ISSUES

Establishment of the Specific International Programme:

- collect nominations of members of the Governing Board (through Bureau members)
- seek submissions of proposals for activities under the SIP
- assess and approve submission
- operationalize the programme and distribute funding

Develop programme of capacity building, technical assistance and technology transfer activities, including supporting ongoing implementation activities

Implementation and Compliance Committee activities

Planning for COP 2



www.mercuryconvention.org
E-mail: mercury.chemicals@un.org
@minamataMEA
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