



# Update on the Minamata Convention Monitoring and Effectiveness Evaluation

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# Minamata Convention on Mercury

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## Objectives of the convention

To protect the human health and environment from anthropogenic emissions and release of mercury and mercury compounds

In October 2013, the Minamata Convention on Mercury (led by the United Nations Environment Programme) was opened for signature and has been signed by 128 governments

- ✓ 28 countries have ratified the convention
- ✓ 50 countries required to come into force
- ✓ Expectation of a spring 2017 ratification
- ✓ First Conference of Parties meeting fall 2017

# Article 19: Research, Development and Monitoring

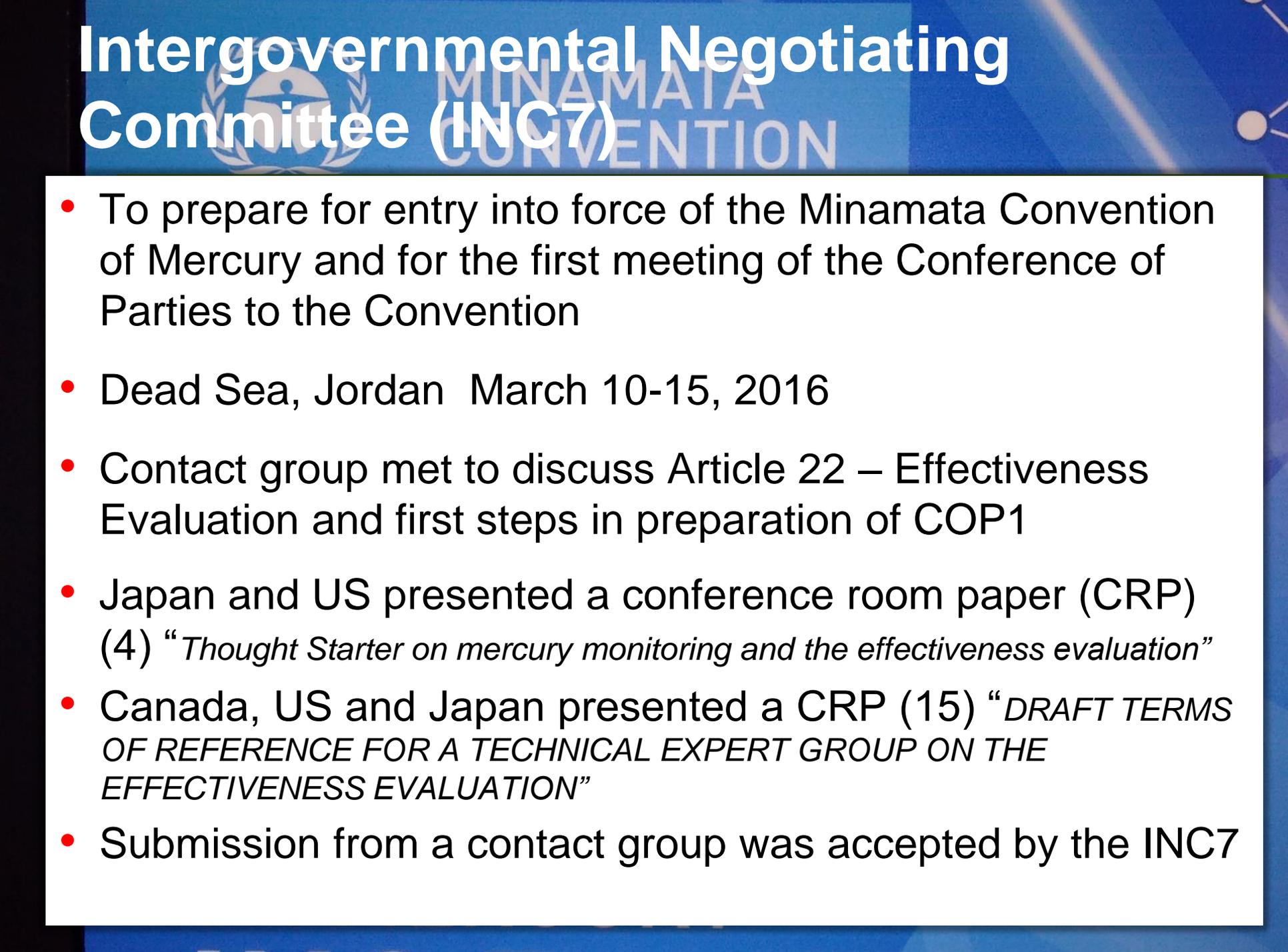
1. Parties shall endeavour to cooperate to develop and improve...
  - b) Modelling and **geographically representative monitoring of levels of mercury and mercury compounds** in vulnerable populations and in environmental media...
  - c) Assessments of the impact of mercury and mercury compounds on human health and the environment...
  - d) **Harmonized methodologies for the activities** ....
  - e) **Information on the environmental cycle, transport (including long-range transport and deposition), transformation and fate of mercury and mercury compounds in a range of ecosystems**
2. Parties should, where appropriate, **build on existing monitoring networks and research programmes** in undertaking the activities...

# Article 22: Effectiveness evaluation

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1. The Conference of Parties (COP) **shall evaluate the effectiveness of this convention**, beginning no later than six years after the date of entry into force of the Convention...
2. To facilitate the evaluation the COP shall, at its first meeting, initiate the establishment of the arrangements for providing itself with **comparable monitoring data** on the presence and movement of mercury and mercury compounds in the environment as well as trends in levels of mercury and mercury compounds observed in biotic media and vulnerable populations.
3. The evaluation **shall be conducted on the basis of available scientific**, environmental, technical, financial and economic **information**...

# Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC7)



- To prepare for entry into force of the Minamata Convention of Mercury and for the first meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention
- Dead Sea, Jordan March 10-15, 2016
- Contact group met to discuss Article 22 – Effectiveness Evaluation and first steps in preparation of COP1
- Japan and US presented a conference room paper (CRP) (4) “*Thought Starter on mercury monitoring and the effectiveness evaluation*”
- Canada, US and Japan presented a CRP (15) “*DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON THE EFFECTIVENESS EVALUATION*”
- Submission from a contact group was accepted by the INC7

# Outcomes from contact group

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**Submitted to INC7 by the co-chairs on reporting and effectiveness evaluation in relation to effectiveness evaluation:**

**A plan to assist the Conference of the Parties** in initiating the establishment of arrangements for **providing comparable monitoring data to facilitate the effectiveness evaluation**

*Mindful that the effectiveness evaluation includes all elements covered in paragraph 3 of article 22, the intergovernmental negotiating committee requests the secretariat, in consultation with national 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, to:*

# Outcomes from contact group (cont...)

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*a) Compile information on existing monitoring programmes and how they can contribute to an overall monitoring approach, including availability of baseline information*

Each country has been asked by the UNEP Secretariat to provide this information for compilation



# Outcomes from contact group (cont...)

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- b) Develop a draft road map to include but not be limited to:*
- (i) Development of an outline of types of data that could be comparable on a regional basis, as well as their availability;*
  - (ii) Creation of a draft framework for a global monitoring approach to integrate comparable results of future monitoring that countries and stakeholders may choose to undertake;*
  - (iii) Development of a draft strategy for incorporating reports and other monitoring information that can be considered for evaluation of the Convention's effectiveness.*



# Outcomes from contact group (cont...)

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c) **Draft a report with recommendations on the establishment of arrangements for providing comparable monitoring data** on the presence and movement of mercury and mercury compounds in the environment as well as trends in levels of mercury and mercury compounds observed in biotic media and vulnerable populations, as provided for in paragraph 2 of article 22, including references for assessing baselines.

# UNEP Secretariat request

**Received April 28, 2016**

**Submissions requested September 15, 2016**

## **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.**

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.

# Where can APMMN fit into EE for Minamata?

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- ✓ Regional representation
  - ✓ Regional monitoring and data
  - ✓ Technical expert group to define and shape EE plans
  
- ✓ Effectiveness will likely include measurement of decreases in environmental media based on reductions of anthropogenic emissions – monitoring Hg in air
  - ✓ Use this as a platform to build on
  - ✓ Data comparability
  - ✓ Data availability
  - ✓ Monitoring/research
  - ✓ Capacity building

# Moving forward

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- UNEP secretariat does not currently have the mandate for a full consultation process at this time, they will develop a very high level roadmap on EE for discussion at COP-1
  - Provide input to UNEP on roadmap
- Need to establish a mandate at COP-1 for a technical expert group
- Work together on data comparability and network integration in preparation for an EE plan
- Global Mercury Assessment underway
  - Have regional input into the document
  - Assess what baselines can be used for what media and time frame

**Thank you!**



UNEP

MINAMATA  
CONVENTION  
ON MERCURY

10 to 15 March 2016  
Dead Sea, Jordan

SEVENTH SESSION OF THE  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
NEGOTIATING  
COMMITTEE  
ON MERCURY