

_____ on the review and amendment of annexes A and B to the Minamata Convention on Mercury. The decision, inter alia, amended Annex A to the Convention by adding eight new mercury-added products whose manufacture, import or export is to be phased out by parties by 2025.

Another major development was the adoption [decision MC-4/4](#) on artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) where COP-4 adopted the updated guidance on developing a national action plan to reduce and, where feasible, eliminate mercury use in ASGM, and called upon parties to engage indigenous peoples, local communities and other relevant stakeholders in the development and implementation of national action plans.

Finally, [decision MC-4/11](#) on the first effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury established an Open-Ended Scientific Group under the Convention. The task of Group is to develop a scientific report which (i) compiles, analyses and synthesizes comparable mercury monitoring data on changes in mercury concentrations in environmental media, biotic media and human population, including vulnerable populations over time, and (ii) evaluates the impact on mercury levels in the environment and humans of the measures taken under the Convention.

I believe that the above-mentioned developments are particularly relevant to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 76/72 considering the importance of regulating mercury-added products and ASGM as major sources of mercury pollution released into the environment, including marine and coastal areas.

In paragraph 252 of resolution 76/72,



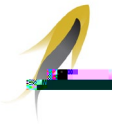
Yours sincerely,



Monika Stankiewicz
Executive Secretary

To: Mr. Miguel de Serpa Soares
Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel
Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea
Office for Legal Affairs, United Nations
doalos@un.org; ruth.valenzuela-hijar@un.org

Att: Translations into French and Spanish of Minamata Convention contribution to the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea



Translation of Minamata Convention contribution into French

