

Reference: Minamata/COP3/Nov 2019

20 June 2019

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the pleasure to invite your Organization to the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury. The Conference is scheduled to take place in Geneva, from 25 to 29 November 2019, as decided by the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The meeting will be preceded on 24 November 2019 by meetings of the regional and other groups.

The third meeting of the Conference of the Parties will play a key role in advancing the implementation of the Convention. The meeting will, inter alia, consider the results of the significant intersessional work established by the second meeting and adopt decisions to advance this further, as well as provide additional guidance to the secretariat. This is particularly important for maintaining the momentum of the Convention given that following the third meeting, the fourth and future meetings of the Conference will take place every two years.

The working languages of the Conference will be Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Official documents and information on practical arrangements will be posted on the Convention website mercuryconvention.org as they become available.

As per paragraph 6 of Article 23 of the Minamata Convention, any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, that is qualified in matters covered by the Convention and has informed the secretariat of its wish to be represented at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties as an observer may be admitted unless at least one third of the Parties present object.

If your Organization wishes to attend the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties, pre-registration for each participant should be submitted at your earliest convenience and no later than 30 September 2019. An online platform for pre-registration will be made available in July 2019 at mercuryconvention.org.

Organizations who were approved to participate in the first and second meetings of the Conference of the Parties do not need to resubmit their application for admission (the list of these organizations can be found in documents UNEP/MC/COP.1/INF/16 and UNEP/MC/COP.2/INF/19 available at mercuryconvention.org).

Other Organizations should submit to the secretariat by e-mail: MEA-MinamataMeetings@un.org, at least two months prior to the opening of the meeting, an application for admission as an observer at meetings of the Conference of the Parties, including information demonstrating it is qualified in matters covered by the Convention. The secretariat will screen the applications to check their completeness and conformity with the requirements of the Convention. Successful applications will be submitted to the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Further information with regard to the participation of observers in meetings of the Conference of the Parties may be found at: mercuryconvention.org/Meetings/Observers.

To: Non-governmental organizations having participated in the first and second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

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Please note that the secretariat is not in a position to provide funding to support participation of observer organizations in the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

For further information on the meeting, please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat by e-mail at MEA-MinamataMeetings@un.org or consult the website mercuryconvention.org.

We look forward to the participation of your Organization in this meeting and to your continued support to the work of the Convention in order to make Mercury history.

Sincerely,

Rossana Silva Repetto
Executive Secretary