



Economy Division

Guidance for commenting on draft Technical Background Report for the Global Mercury Assessment 2018

UN Environment is currently developing a Global Mercury Assessment (GMA) to be finalized by the end of 2018, updating the 2013 report, as requested by the Governing Council of the UN Environment Programme (now UN Environment Assembly) (Decision 27/12: Chemicals and waste management, 2013).

The work will be presented in two reports;

1. A Technical Background Report, a fully referenced scientific report (prepared in cooperation with the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP), and a
2. Summary report for policy makers (the UN Environment's GMA report to UN Environment Assembly)

Scientists from all over the world are participating in the work to prepare the GMA. The Technical Background Report consists of 8 chapters each covering a specific topic. The report is built on best available scientific information. The emission and release estimates are built on recent scientific publications as well as information on country level activity data, data on mercury in raw materials and fuels, and knowledge on control technologies/levels, etc. In this context, the work has been closely coordinated with work on Minamata Initial Assessments (MIAs) including discussions of preliminary inventory results with coordinators of MIA projects to compare data and improve estimates and calculation methods, etc.

The DRAFT Technical Background Report is now available for review on the website <http://www.unep.org/chemicalsandwaste/gma-2018-comments>

This review is an open process intended to solicit comments from countries, the scientific community and interested stakeholders. The review materials include the substantially complete drafts of all of the main chapters of the technical background document, although certain sections are still under development and some data will be further refined/checked over the course of the summer/autumn of 2017; where this is the case this is indicated by explanatory notes in the draft.

IMPORTANT: Please note that this is a draft for review purposes only. You are kindly asked to treat it as such and not to cite, copy or otherwise circulate these materials outside of the context of this review.

We would kindly invite you to:

- review data and other information pertaining to your country/sector specifically, and
- provide general comments on the draft document.

All comments are welcome, including additional background information that will enable us to refine the various sections of the report, and in particular the emissions and release inventories.



Economy Division



The drafts are being made available as line numbered PDF files and **you are kindly requested to refer any comments to the line numbers concerned.**

Please note that this report will undergo comprehensive scientific and linguistic editing following the review process, including checking of cross-references and citations. Graphical content will also be improved in the final version. While comments of an editorial nature are welcome, **the main focus of this review should be issues such as the accuracy and correctness of statements made, completeness of information, whether texts are understandable, structure of the report, etc.**

Since the Technical Background Report is developed in English, comments should be submitted in English as well.

The deadline for comments is 15 October 2017. Please note that due to a tight timeline we cannot guarantee that any comments received after this date will be taken into account. If it is possible to receive your comments earlier than the deadline, that would be very much appreciated.

Please send comments to:

- Eisaku Toda, UN Environment, Chemicals and Health Branch, Economy division, email: eisaku.toda@un.org, and
- Simon Wilson, AMAP Secretariat, email: s.wilson@inter.nl.net, and
- John Munthe; IVL Sweden, email: john.munthe@ivl.se

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Toda by telephone: +41 22 917 8187.

For Non-Governmental Organizations, the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN) and The Zero Mercury Working Group (ZMWG) have kindly offered to coordinate comments from their partners. Please contact your affiliated organization if you have comments.

Based on this review process, the Technical Background Report will be revised by the end of 2017 and this will constitute the basis for the Summary report will be drafted and circulated for review in 2018