Guidance for commenting on draft Global Mercury Assessment 2018: Summary for Policy Makers

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 report will include the updated estimates of mercury emissions and releases to the environment, overview of the pathways, transport and fate of mercury in the environment, and review of the levels of mercury in the environment and human populations.

The GMA 2018 work will be presented in two reports;

1. Technical Background Report, a fully referenced scientific report; and
2. Global Mercury Assessment 2018 Report, a summary report for policy makers

These reports are being prepared in close cooperation with the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP), with the participation of scientists from around the world.

The draft Technical Background Report was circulated in autumn 2017 for public review and international peer review by experts in relevant fields. The report has been revised taking into account comments and updated information received. Based on this Technical Background Report, a DRAFT Global Mercury Assessment 2018 Summary Report has been prepared and is now available for public review on the website:


The latest available versions of the substantive chapters of the draft Technical Background Document will also be made available from the same website for reference and to allow checking the basis for statements made in the summary report. It should be noted that the revision to the Technical Background Document is still underway including the chapter numbering and editing, but it is no longer open for commenting.

Countries, the scientific community and interested stakeholders are kindly invited to review and provide comments on the draft Global Mercury Assessment 2018 Summary Report document.

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.

The draft is 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 further editing following the review process. 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, etc.

Since the draft report has been developed in English, comments should be submitted in English as well.

The deadline for comments is Thursday 5 July 2018. 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, email: eisaku.toda@un.org
• 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 Global Mercury Assessment 2018 Summary Report will be revised by the end of 2018 and this will constitute the Global Mercury Assessment 2018 Report that will be delivered to the UN Environment Assembly.