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Latest news from the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership – February 2022

In this edition, learn more about the upcoming twelfth meeting of the Partnership Advisory Group taking place in March, as well as latest news from Partnership Areas, and welcome Zaigham Abbas (Ministry of Climate Change, Pakistan) as new co-lead of the Mercury releases from the cement industry Area. Read about the upcoming second segment of Minamata Convention COP4. Finally, check out latest mercury-related publications, including from ILO and WHO, and meet new members of the Partnership.

With our warm wishes,

The Secretariat of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

HIGHLIGHTS



Partnership Advisory Group 12th meeting (PAG-12) on 11 and 14 March 2022 will amongst others exchange on recent activities and priorities for future work, discuss key findings and next steps for the work on mercury from non-ferrous metals and oil and gas, and feature updates on upcoming COP4.2 and ICMGP15. Partners are welcome to attend as observers.



The second segment of the Minamata Convention Conference of the Parties (COP-4.2) will take place from 21 to 25 March 2022 in Bali, Indonesia. Visit the [Minamata Convention website](#) for more information about the meeting, including supporting documents, and stay tuned for the schedule of pre-COP online side events, to be held during the week of 7 to 11 March.



Industry Area held its annual meeting on 8 December 2021 and designated **Zaigham Abbas (Ministry of Climate Change, Pakistan) new co-lead** with Claude Lorea (Global Cement and Concrete Association - GCCA). The meeting also exchanged on its future priorities. [Read more about the meeting.](#)



The Mercury Cell Chlor-alkali Production Area will hold its annual meeting on **Wednesday 23 February 2022, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. CET**. The meeting will include consultation with the Area members ahead of PAG-12, discussion on future work, and updating of the business plan. To participate or get further insights, visit the [event page](#).

RECENT EVENTS



"Treating Mercury Wastes: Tools and Technologies" webinar organized by the **Mercury Waste Management Area** on 15 February 2022 introduced available resources and technologies for the environmentally sound management of mercury wastes, featuring experience in different parts of the world. Visit [event page](#) to read more and watch recordings.



The Mercury Waste Management Area held its annual meeting on 1 February 2022. The meeting discussed progress of activities, including of newly established working groups on "Resource Development", "Capacity Building" and "Solution Exchange" as well as possible upcoming events. More information can be found on the [meeting page](#).



Gold Mining Area and the **PlanetGold Programme** co-organized an information-sharing session on **best management practices in the use of cyanide** on 25 January 2022, featuring presentations and discussion on newly developed guidance. Visit the event page to watch [presentations and recording](#).



Webinar on phasing-out mercury added lamps, jointly organized by the **Mercury in Products** and **Mercury Waste Management** Areas on 7 December 2021 explored options for an effective transition away from these products, their substitution as well as management and disposal once they become waste. Presentations and recording are available [here](#).



Minamata Online Season 2: Mercury emission from coal

Wednesday, Nov 17 2021 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
(UTC-01:00) Brussels, Copenhagen, Madrid, Paris

Minamata Online session on “Mercury emissions from coal”, co-organized by the **Mercury releases from Coal Combustion Area**, the Minamata Secretariat and the ICMPG on 17 November 2021 focused on Article 8 of the Convention and the challenges of evaluating and reducing emissions. [Watch presentations and recordings](#).



The Mercury from Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining Area co-hosted with the Minamata Secretariat a side event under Minamata COP4.1 on best practices for managing mercury-containing tailings on 3 November 2021, featuring [recommendations](#) included in the [updated NAP guidance](#), and countries' experiences. Event recording and resources are accessible [here](#).



The Mercury Air Transport and Fate Research Area and the Biodiversity Research Institute organized on 4 November 2021 a side event under Minamata COP4.1 on the Guidance on monitoring of mercury and mercury compounds to support the effectiveness evaluation of the Minamata Convention. Read more and access recordings [here](#).

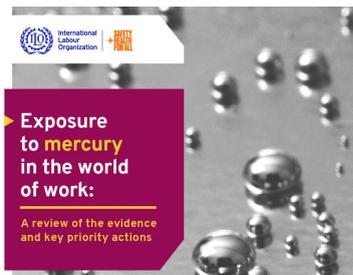
- [CEMBUREAU, the European Cement Association](#)
- [Mekatronika Ambiental](#)
- [Population and Development Initiative](#)
- [University of the West Indies](#)

[INFORMATION ON BECOMING A PARTNER >>](#)

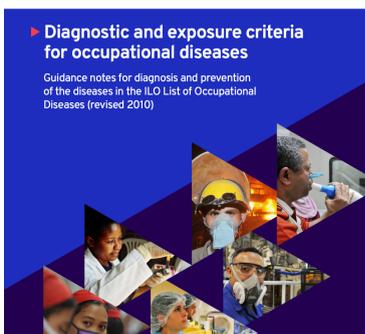
LATEST PUBLICATIONS / RESOURCES



The [PlanetGold Programme](#) released its report on "[Best Management Practices for Cyanide Use in the Small-scale Gold Mining Sector](#)". The guidance provides a detailed overview of cyanidation, as well as recommended best practices for small-scale mining actors.



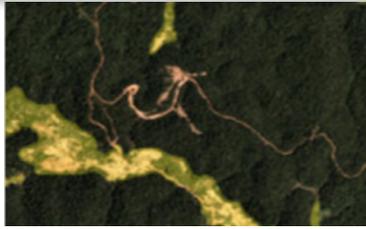
New ILO report "[Exposure to Mercury in the world of work: A review of the evidence and key priority actions](#)" provides a critical review of the current evidence on occupational mercury exposures and health impacts, and highlights key priority areas for action.



ILO's technical resource "[Diagnostic and exposure criteria for occupational diseases](#)" provides guidance notes for diagnosis and prevention of occupational diseases, including diseases caused by mercury or its compounds. The document is a key tool for the identification, diagnosis, reporting, and prevention efforts for diseases caused by mercury.



To raise awareness about health ministries' preparedness and outstanding needs in order to implement health-related articles of the Minamata Convention, WHO's recent "[Review of Minamata Convention Initial Assessment reports: key findings for health](#)" provides a summary of key findings and makes a number of recommendations.



support of Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining policy development, implementation and evaluation", which explores the use of remote sensing and satellite imagery in ASGM policy development, implementation and evaluation.

[VIEW ALL PUBLICATIONS >>](#)

READ MORE ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP AREAS

Artisanal and small-scale gold mining

Mercury releases from coal combustion

Mercury air transport and fate research

Mercury waste management

Mercury cell chlor-alkali production

Mercury supply and storage

Mercury in products

Mercury releases from the cement industry

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