

Für Mensch & Umwelt

TFTEI

Annual Meeting 2017

Rome, Italy

The Minamata Convention in Force

New Challenges and Synergies with the LRTAP Convention?

Katja Kraus

Dpt. for General Aspects of Air Pollution

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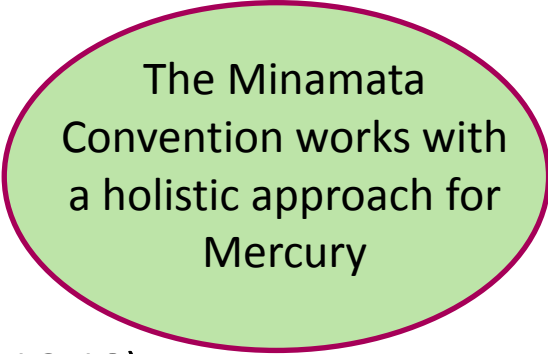


Current Status of the Minamata Convention

- Entry into force on 16 August 2017
- 128 signatories and 83 ratifications
- 1st Conference of the Parties in September 2017 (1300 participants)

The Provisions of the Minamata Convention

- Control Provisions (Articles 3- 12)
 - Supply and trade,
 - Products and processes (exemptions, phase-out dates)
 - ASGM
 - Emissions, releases
 - Storage, waste, contaminated sites
- Support, Awareness raising, Education (Articles 13, 14,16-18)
 - Capacity building, technical assistance, technology transfer
 - Health aspects
 - Information, awareness, education
- Impact and Effectiveness (Articles 15, 19-22)
 - Implementation, compliance
 - Research, development, monitoring
 - Implementation plans, reporting
 - Effectiveness evaluation



The Minamata
Convention works with
a holistic approach for
Mercury

Results of the COP 1 (1)

1. Technical Matters

- Adoption of technical guidance (BAT / BEP for industrial emissions) (art.8)
- Adoption of guidance for export of Hg, supply and trade (art.3)
- Identification of relevant point sources by the Parties (art.9)

2. Financial Matters

- 3 funds (GEF, Special International Programme SIP, fund for Secretariat)
- Guidance to GEF adopted
- SIP hosted by UNEP (voluntary donations, run time 10 years +)

3. Implementation and Compliance

- Committee established
- Development of criteria

4. Provision on Reporting Agreed

- 4 year reporting , first report in 2021 (full report on all Articles)
- Biennial report on stocks and trade (from 2019)

Results of the COP 1 (2)

5. Waste

- Development of guidance for interim storage (10)
- Development of thresholds for waste definitions (11)
- Development of guidance for contaminated sites (12)

6. ASGM

- WHO develops guidance on public health strategies
- Development of NAPs

7. Open Burning

- Open burning is considered bad environmental practice
- Secretariat will compile information from Parties
- Big request for technical support

Results of the COP 1 (3)

8. Effectiveness Evaluation

- Draft roadmap
- Ad hoc expert group for comparable monitoring data and elements of an effectiveness evaluation framework

9. Secretariat

- No agreement on a permanent location
- Interim Secretariat in Geneva (further discussion on COP 2)



High-Level Segment of COP 1

- Two Heads of State and Government
- 80 Ministers
- Recognition of different aspects of the “Mercury Problem”
 - Regional approaches
 - Technical assistance
 - Alternative practices
 - Awareness raising and political will

Marc Chardonens, Vice-minister of Environment :

Mercury management should be integrated into public health and local level pollution strategies and control measures. There is a need for multi-stakeholder participation.

Brief Analysis of the Results of COP 1

- Good progress with regard to most of the technical matters
- Science-based monitoring as basis for an effectiveness evaluation agreed
- Reporting framework
- But still a lot of outstanding issues
 - Seat of the Secretariat
 - Cooperation /partial integration with other „Chemical Conventions“
 - Open questions on financial mechanism
 - No agreement on MoU for GEF
 - SPI relies on voluntary contributions

Where are Synergies ?

Encouragement and stimulation of scientific projects

- Environment treaties are important catalysts for expanded research, monitoring, modelling
- ICMGP (Linking Science and Policy to Support the Implementation of the MC)

Link between Air pollution (LRTAP), Convention on Climate Change and MC

- Conventions profit from the same research projects
- MC will rely on scientific results from other programmes (pioneering role of LRTAP)

Experience made in Saltsjöbaden Workshops

- Explore ways how linkages can be used to create synergistic effects towards better air quality and pollution control and better mercury management

LRTAP experts could take part in ad hoc expert group of MC to develop the framework for the effectiveness evaluation (EMEP expert?).

What are the Challenges?

Analytical challenges in monitoring mercury

- New sampling and analytical methods
- Expansion of existing networks

How do we quantify effectiveness and awareness raising?

- Development of new criteria which reflect the holistic approach of the MC

Strengthening of multinational and multilevel approaches

- Global, national, regional, local governance scale
- **Natural Science and Engineering**
 - Can help to better understand
 - Offer technical solutions
 - Measure effectiveness and impact
 - Can help in the open discussion of a reliable baseline for the MC
 - A lot of new knowledge on mercury species and effects on humans
- **Increasing role of Social Science**
 - Increasing importance to support mercury policy-making and management
 - Awareness raising and education
 - need a comprehensive and long-term approach
 - Tailored to specific local, political, economic, social and environmental context
 - Communicate the results from research to groups affected and concerned

What can we do to bring natural science and social science closer together?

Thank you for your attention

Katja Kraus
Umweltbundesamt
Dpt. for General Aspects of Air Pollution
katja.kraus@uba.de

<http://www.umweltbundesamt.de>