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Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, Department of / Bosbou, Visserye en die Omgewingsake, Departement van
4144 National Environmental Management Act (107/1998): Consultation on the Draft National Regulations for the Management of Mercury in South Africa.

## Government Notices • Goewermentskennisgewings

# DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT 

## NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 <br> (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998)

## CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT NATIONAL REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF MERCURY IN SOUTH AFRICA

[^0]The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment complies with the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013). Comments received and responses thereto will be included in a comments and response report which may be made available to the public. If a commenting party has any objection to his or her name, or the name of the represented company/organization, being made publicly available in any comments and responses report, such objection should be highlighted as part of the comments submitted.

Any enquiries in connection with the draft Notice can be directed to Ms Noluzuko Gwayi at (012) 399 9854 or by email at Ngwayi@dffe.gov.za

Comments received after the closing date may not be considered.


BARBARA DALLAS CREECY
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

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## CHAPTER 1

## DEFINITIONS AND PURPOSE

## 1. Definitions

In these Regulations, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act, has that meaning, and unless the context indicates otherwise-
"Artisanal Small-Scale Gold Mining" (ASGM) means gold mining conducted by individual miners or small enterprises with limited capital investment and production;
"Environmentally Sound Management (ESM)" means taking all practicable steps to ensure that mercury, mercury stocks, mercury added products, dental amalgam, and mercury storage facilities are managed in a manner that protects human health and the environment against the adverse effects which may result from mercury;
"eligible persons" means anyone allowed to use mercury under allowed uses as contained in Annexure A Part 1 to these Regulations;
"export" means to take out, send or transfer goods, or to cause them to be taken out, sent or transferred, from the Republic to a country or territory outside the Republic;
"import" means to land on, bring into or introduce goods, or cause them to be landed on, brought into or introduced, from outside the Republic into the Republic;
"mercury" means metallic mercury (Hg, CAS RN 7439-97-6). It also includes mixtures of mercury with other substances, including alloys of mercury;
"mercury-added product" means a product or product component that contains mercury or a mercury compound that was intentionally added;
"mercury compound" means any substance consisting of atoms of mercury, and one or more atoms of other chemical elements that can be separated into different components only by chemical reactions;
"Mercury Management Plan" means the plan referred to in regulation 13 of these Regulations;
"Mercury Phase-down Plan" means the plan referred to in regulation 12 of these Regulations;
"Mercury Phase-out Plan" means the plan referred to in regulation 11 of these Regulations;
"Minamata Convention on Mercury" means the multilateral environmental agreement that South Africa is a party to, and whose objective is to protect human health and the environment from the anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds;
"mixture" means a combination of two or more substances;
"new manufacturing processes" means manufacturing processes involving the use of mercury or mercury compounds that were not used in such processes prior to 1 April 2025;
"new mercury-added products" means mercury-added products that were not manufactured, imported or exported prior to 1 April 2025;
"party" means a State or a regional economic integration organization, that has consented to be bound by the Minamata Convention and for which the Minamata Convention is in force;
"person" means a natural person and includes a juristic person;
"releases" means releases of mercury or mercury compounds to land or water;
"these Regulations" means the draft Regulations for the Management of Mercury in South Africa, developed in terms of section 25(3) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998);
"trade" means the action of buying and selling goods and services and including for making financial or other forms of gain; and
"the Act" means the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998).

## 2. Purpose of the Regulations

(1) The purpose of these Regulations is to manage and regulate mercury throughout its life cycle and value chain, in order to protect the environment and human health from the anthropogenic releases of mercury and mercury compounds. In particular, the purpose of these Regulations is to -
(a) ensure the environmentally sound management of mercury;
(b) establish measures for the phase-out and phase-down of mercury added products;
(c) regulate the manufacturing processes in which mercury is used; and
(d) regulate the management of mercury stocks.

## 3. Application of the Regulations

(1) These Regulations apply to:
(a) sellers, distributors, importers and exporters of mercury;
(b) manufacturers of mercury-added products;
(c) users of mercury-added products, and
(d) manufacturing processes in which mercury is used.
(2) These Regulations do not apply to:
(a) Mercury emissions;
(b) Mercury waste,
(c) Artisanal Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM), and
(d) The Prior Informed Consent Procedure (PIC) process.

## CHAPTER 2

## MERCURY-ADDED PRODUCTS

## 4. Phasing out mercury-added products

(1) No person may-
(a) Manufacture, distribute, import or export the mercury-added products listed in Part I of Annexure A to these Regulations;
(b) manufacture, import or export, the mercury-added products as set out in Annexure B to these Regulations, except for the following mercury-added products:
(i) products that are essential for military use and for the protection of the local population and;
(ii) products for research, for calibration of instrumentation or for use as a reference standard as set out in Annexure A Part 1;
(c) manufacture, import or export, or sell new mercury-added products;
(d) may possess any form of mercury or mercury compounds except for a use allowed under Annexure A Part I to these Regulations
(2) Development of mercury phase-out plans

A person contemplated in regulations 4,5 and 6 of these Regulations, must submit, through an e-mail (DG@dffe.gov.za), or registered mail (Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, 473 Steve Biko road, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083), a Mercury Phase-out Plan to the Minister for approval, within one year of the commencement of these Regulations, and the DG must acknowledge receipt of the Plan within 14 days after receiving the Plan.
(3) An association may submit a joint Mercury Phase-out Plan for the purposes of an individual persons' compliance with subregulation (1), but this does not remove individual liability and accountability.
(4) A Mercury Phase-out Plan must at least contain the following information:
(a) baseline data;
(b) proposed technically and economically feasible alternatives to the use of mercury or mercury added products in the manufacture of the identified products; and
(c) the time periods within which the manufacturer intends replacing the use of mercury with technically and economically feasible alternatives to mercury or mercury containing materials.
(5) The Minister may, on written application by a person who is required to submit a Mercury Phase-out Plan, grant a once-off extension of 30 days upon request, in respect of the period within which the Plan must be submitted, on good cause shown, with or without conditions attached to such an extension.
(6) After considering any Mercury Phase-out Plan that has been submitted in terms of subregulations (1) or (2) and other relevant information at his or her disposal, the Minister may -
(a) accept the Plan and set conditions for the implementation of such a Plan; or
(b) refer the Plan back for amendment and resubmission, or
(c) reject the plan with reasons provided.

## CHAPTER 3

## DENTAL AMALGAM

## 5. Phasing-down dental amalgam

(1) Dental amalgam may only be used in pre-dosed encapsulated form, but not in bulk form.
(2) Dental facilities in which dental amalgam is used, or where dental amalgam fillings or teeth containing such fillings are removed, must ensure that their facilities are equipped with amalgam separators for the retention and collection of amalgam particles, including those contained in used water.
(3) The dental facilities mentioned in regulation (5) must ensure that amalgam separators in use from 1 April 2025, provide a retention level of at least $95 \%$ of amalgam particles.
(4) Amalgam separators must be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to ensure the highest practicable level of retention.
(5) Dental practitioners may not release amalgam waste directly or indirectly into the environment under any circumstances.
(6) Dental practitioners must develop dental amalgam Phase-down Plans.
(a) Dental associations, companies or individual practitioners must submit a Phase-down Plan to the Director General, through an email (DG@dffe.gov.za), or registered mail (Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083), within one month of their adoption by the Minister and make them available on the internet.
(b) A person contemplated in regulations 4,5 and 6 of these Regulations must submit, through an email (DG@dffe.gov.za), or registered mail (473 Steve Biko road, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083), a Mercury Phase-down Plan to the Minister for approval within one year of the commencement of these Regulations.
(c) An association may submit a joint Mercury Phase-down Plan for the purposes of complying with these Regulations.
(d) A Mercury Phase-down Plan must at least contain the following information:
(i) Baseline data;
(ii) Proposed technically and economically feasible alternatives to the use of mercury or mercury added products in the manufacture of the identified products; and
(iii) The time periods within which the manufacturer intends replacing the use of mercury with technically and economically feasible alternatives to mercury or mercury containing materials.
(e) The Minister may require a person who has submitted a Mercury Phase-down Plan to provide any missing information as required in the Plan and to submit a revised Mercury Phase-down Plan within a 30 days once-off time period indicated by the Minister, or to furnish the Minister with a revised Mercury Phase-down Plan by an independent expert within a time period indicated by the Minister.
(f) The Minister may, on written application by a person who is required to submit a Mercury Phase-down Plan, grant a 30 days once-off extension in respect of the period within which the Plan must be submitted, on good cause shown, with or without conditions attached to such an extension.
(g) After considering any Mercury Phase-down Plan that has been submitted in terms of these Regulations, the Minister may -
(i) accept the Plan and set conditions for the implementation of such a Plan; or
(ii) refer the Plan back for amendment and resubmission, or
(iii) reject the Plan with reasons provided.

## CHAPTER 4

## MERCURY SUPPLY SOURCES AND TRADE

## 6. Export restrictions

(1) No person may export mercury or mercury compounds or mixtures of mercury excluding for a use allowed in regulation 4(1) and Annexure A Part I to these Regulations, except:
(a) for a use allowed by the importing Party under the Minamata Convention;
(b) for environmentally sound interim storage as set out in Article 10 of the Minamata Convention; or
(c) for research or laboratory analysis use of not more than 250 grams per annum.
7. Import restrictions
(1) No person may import mercury or mercury compounds or the mixtures of mercury listed in Annexure A Part I.

## CHAPTER 5

## MANUFACTURING PROCESSES IN WHICH MERCURY OR MERCURY COMPOUNDS ARE USED

## 8. Restriction of mercury in manufacturing processes

(1) No person may use mercury or mercury compounds in the processes listed in Part I of Annexure B to these Regulations in their manufacturing processes after the phase-out date specified in that Annexure.
(2) Eligible persons must take the measures specified in Part II of Annexure B to these Regulations to restrict the use of mercury or mercury compounds in the processes listed in Part Il of Annexure B.
(3) Eligible persons with one or more facilities that use mercury or mercury compounds listed in Annexure $B$ to these Regulations in their manufacturing processes, must take measures to prevent releases of mercury or mercury compounds from those facilities.
(4) No person may use mercury or mercury compounds, except for the uses allowed in in regulation 4(1) and in Annexure A Part I, to these Regulations.
(5) No person may develop any facility using any other manufacturing process in which mercury or mercury compounds are intentionally used that did not exist prior to 01 April 2024, except where the person can demonstrate, by submitting an application for approval to the Minister, that the manufacturing process provides significant environmental and health benefits above the associated risks, and that there are no other technically and economically feasible mercury-free alternatives available providing such benefits.
(6) The use of mercury and mercury compounds in the manufacturing processes listed in Part II of Annexure B to these Regulations may only be allowed by submitting an application to, and subsequent approval by, the Minister.

## CHAPTER 6

## INTERIM STORAGE OF MERCURY, MERCURY COMPOUNDS AND MIXTURES OF MERCURY

9. Environmentally sound interim storage of stocks of mercury, mercury compounds, and mixtures of mercury
(1) Mercury and mercury compounds that are not waste must be stored in accordance with the applicable laws for storage of hazardous chemicals in the country, and must be declared to the Minister within two months of publication of these Regulations, stating their purpose and their quantities.
(2) Persons must take measures to ensure that the interim storage of mercury stocks and mercury compounds is undertaken in an environmentally sound manner.

## CHAPTER 7

## REGISTRATION AND REPORTING

## 10. Registration

(1) A person who undertakes or intends to undertake an activity allowed under regulation 3(1), 5 and 6 of these Regulations, must register the activity with the Minister through the application form contained in Annexure $C$ to these Regulations, within 90 days of the commencement of these Regulations.
(2) As a pre-requisite for registration, and for an application to be processed, the Minister must be satisfied that all the documents submitted in support of the registration and application are complete and correct.
(3) The Minister must issue the applicant with a registration number within 90 days of submission of the application form if all the documents required are submitted to the Minister and approved.
(4) The registered person must display the registration number on all their trading documentation.

## 11. Reporting

(1) A person referred to in regulation 10(1), must before 31 March of every year, submit through e-mail (DG@dffe.gov.za), or registered mail (Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, 473 Steve Biko road), Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083), an annual report to the Director-General, from an external independent auditor commissioned at own expense to audit at least the following information::
(a) The correctness of the information supplied on the registration form in regulation 10;
(b) In the case of identified products, progress made in terms of the Mercury Phase-out Plan provided in terms of these Regulations;
(c) In the case of dental amalgam, progress made in terms of the Mercury Phase-down Plan, and the provisions set out in Part II of Annexure A to these Regulations; and
(d) The person's extent of compliance with these Regulations and other relevant legislation.
(2) A person undertaking activities using mercury-added products referred to in Part I and Part II of Annexure A to these Regulations, must, before 31 March of every year, submit to the Director-General, through e-mail (DG@dffe.gov.za)/registered mail (Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, 473 Steve Biko road, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083), an annual report on the implementation of measures taken related to the Phase-out of mercuryadded products and the Phase-down of the use of dental amalgam.

## CHAPTER 8

## GENERAL MATTERS

## 12. Offences

(1) A person who contravenes regulations $4,5,6,7,8$ or 9 of these Regulations, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine and/or imprisonment as indicated in regulation 13 of these Regulations.
(2) A person who contravenes regulations 10 and 11 of these Regulations, commits an offence and is liable to a fine as indicated in regulation 13(2) of these Regulations.
13. Penalties
(1) A person convicted of an offence under regulations $4,5,6,78$, or 9 of these Regulations, is liable to a maximum fine not exceeding R5 million or/and to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 5 years in the case of a first offence, and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to a fine not exceeding R10 million or/and to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years, and in both instances to both such fine and such imprisonment.
(2) A person convicted of an offence under regulations 9,10 , and 11 of these Regulations, is liable for a fine of up to R500 000 .
14. Short title and commencement

These Regulations are called the Regulations for the Management of Mercury in South Africa and will commence on 1 April 2024.

## ANNEXURE A

## Mercury-added products (MAPs)

1. The following products are excluded from this Annexure:
(a) Products essential for civil protection and military uses;
(b) Products for research, calibration of instrumentation, for use as reference standard;
(c) Where no technically and/or economically feasible mercury-free alternative for replacement is available, switches and relays, cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays, and measuring devices;
(d) Vaccines containing thiomersal as preservatives.
(e) the importation of naturally occurring trace quantities of mercury or mercury compounds present in such products as non-mercury metals, ores, or mineral products, including coal, or products derived from these materials, and unintentional trace quantities in products; and
(f) the importation of up to 250 g of mercury or mercury compounds annually, per research institution, to be used for laboratory-scale research.
2. Part l: Mercury-added products subject to a phase-out:

| Mercury-added products (MAPs) | Date after which the manufacture, import or export of the product must not be allowed (phase-out date) |
| :---: | :---: |
| Batteries, except for button zinc silver oxide batteries with a mercury content < $2 \%$ and button zinc air batteries with a mercury content $<2 \%$ | 1 April 2025 |
| Switches and relays, except very high accuracy capacitance and loss measurement bridges and high frequency radio frequency switches and relays in monitoring and control instruments with a maximum mercury content of 20 mg per bridge, switch or relay | 1 April 2025 |
| Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) for general lighting purposes that are $\leq 30$ watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner | 1 April 2026 |
| Compact fluorescent lamps with an integrated ballast (CFL.i) for general lighting purposes that are $\leq 30$ watts with a mercury content not exceeding 5 mg per lamp burner | 1 April 2026 |
| Linear fluorescent lamps (LFLs) for general lighting purposes: <br> (a) Triband phosphor < 60 watts with a mercury content exceeding 5 mg per lamp; | 1 April 2027 |
| (b) Halophosphate phosphor $\leq 40$ watts with a mercury content exceeding 10 mg per lamp | 1 April 2026 |
| High pressure mercury vapour lamps (HPMV) for general lighting purposes | 1 April 2025 |
| Mercury in cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for electronic displays: | 1 April 2025 |


| (a) short length ( $\leq 500 \mathrm{~mm}$ ) with mercury content exceeding 3.5 mg per lamp. <br> (b) medium length (>500 mm and $\leq 1500 \mathrm{~mm}$ ) with mercury content exceeding <br> 5 mg per lamp |
| :--- |
| (c) long length (> 1500 mm ) with mercury content exceeding 13 mg per lamp. |
| Cold cathode fluorescent lamps (CCFL) and external electrode fluorescent lamps <br> (EEFL) of all lengths for electronic displays, not included in the listing directly <br> above. |
| Cosmetics (with mercury content above 1ppm), including skin lightening soaps 2025 <br> and creams, and not including eye area cosmetics where mercury is used as a <br> preservative and no effective and safe substitute preservatives are available. |
| Pesticides, biocides and topical antiseptics. |

3. Part II: Mercury-added products subject to a phase-down and the measures.

| Mercury-added <br> products | Measures |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dental amalgam | Measures to be taken to phase-down the use of dental amalgam must take <br> into account the domestic circumstances and relevant international guidance <br> and must include more than the two required measures from the following list: <br> i. <br> Setting national objectives aiming at dental caries prevention and <br> health promotion, thereby minimizing the need for dental restoration; <br> Setting national objectives aiming at minimizing its use; |
| ii. |  |
| iii. | Promoting the use of cost-effective and clinically effective <br> mercury-free alternatives for dental restoration; |
| iv.Promoting research and development of quality mercury-free <br> materials for dental restoration; |  |
| v.Encouraging representative professional organizations and dental <br> schools to educate and train dental professionals and students on the <br> use of mercury-free dental restoration alternatives and on promoting <br> best management practices; |  |
| vi.Discouraging insurance policies and programmes that favour dental <br> amalgam use over mercury-free dental restoration; |  |


|  | vii. <br> viii. <br> ix. <br> ix. <br> of quality alternatives to dental amalgam for dental restoration; <br> Restricting the use of dental amalgam to its encapsulated form; and <br> Promoting the use of best environmental practices in dental facilities <br> to reduce releases of mercury and mercury compounds to water and <br> land. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | In addition, Parties must:  <br> (i) Exclude or not allow, by taking measures as appropriate, the use of <br> mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners;  |
| (ii)Exclude or not allow, by taking measures as appropriate, or <br> recommend against the use of dental amalgam for the dental treatment <br> of deciduous teeth, of patients under 15 years and of fregnant and <br> breastfeeding women, except when considered necessary by the <br> dental practitioner based on the needs of the patient. |  |

ANNEXURE B
Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used

1. Part l: Processes subject to a mercury-phase-out plan:

| Manufacturing processes using mercury or mercury compounds | Phase-out date |
| :--- | :--- |
| Chlor-alkali production | 1 April 2025 |
| Acetaldehyde production in which mercury or mercury compounds are used as <br> a catalyst | 1 April 2025 |

2. Part II: Processes subject to a mercury phase-down plan and the measures:

| Mercury using process/uses | Provisions |
| :---: | :---: |
| Vinyl chloride monomer production | Measures to be taken must include a minimum of the following: Reduce the use of mercury in terms of per unit production by 15 per cent by the year 1 April 2025 against 1 April 2021 use; <br> i. Promoting measures to reduce the reliance on mercury from primary mining; <br> ii. Supporting research and development in respect of mercury-free catalysts and processes; <br> iii. Not allowing the use of mercury five years after the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention has established that mercury-free catalysts based on existing processes have become technically and economically feasible; <br> iv. Reporting to the Minister on its efforts to develop and/or identify alternatives and phase out mercury use. |
| - Sodium methylate <br> - Sodium ethylate <br> - Potassium methylate <br> - Potassium ethylate | Measures to be taken must include but not be limited to: <br> i. Measures to reduce the use of mercury aiming at the phase out of this use as fast as possible and within 10 years of the entry into force of the Convention; <br> ii. Prohibiting the use of fresh mercury from primary mining; <br> iii. Supporting research and development in respect of mercury-free processes; <br> iv. Not allowing the use of mercury five years after the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention has established that mercury-free processes have become technically and economically feasible; <br> v. Reporting to the Minister on its efforts to develop and/or identify alternatives and phase out mercury use. |
| Production of polyurethane using mercury containing catalysts | Measures to be taken must include but not be limited to: <br> i. Taking measures to reduce the use of mercury, aiming at the phase out of this use as by 16 August 2027; <br> ii. Taking measures to reduce the reliance on mercury from primary mercury mining; <br> iii. Taking measures to reduce releases of mercury to the environment; <br> iv. Encouraging research and development in respect of mercury-free catalysts and processes; |


|  | v.Reporting to the Minister on its efforts to develop and/or identify <br> alternatives and phase out mercury use in accordance with these <br> Regulations. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

## ANNEXURE C

Registration form in terms of regulation 9 of these Regulations

## A. APPLICANT DETAILS:

| Name of applicant: |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Identity or passport no in the case of an individual: |  |
| Registration number in the case of a juristic person: |  |
| Company registration in case of an international company: |  |
| Tel no: |  |
| Fax no: |  |
| E-mail address: | Physical Address: |
| Postal Address: |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

## B. TYPE OF REGISTRATION APPLIED FOR (Tick off):

| Import, export, sale, manufacture or <br> distribution of an identified product or use of <br> an identified process, as listed in Annexure <br> A (2), Annexure A (3), Annexure B (1) and |  | Import of mercury or mercury waste from a <br> SADC country (that is a party to Minamata <br> Convention on mercury) for the purpose of <br> safe disposal. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Annexure B (2). |  |  |
| Import, storage or use of mercury or <br> mercury added products (MAPs) for <br> research purposes. | Transport of mercury or mercury containing <br> materials |  |

## PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION THAT RELATES TO THE ACTIVITY FOR WHICH REGISTRATION IS APPLIED FOR:

## C. IMPORT, MANUFACTURE OR DISTRIBUTE AN IDENTIFIED PRODUCT

The address where the business is carried on:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
The quantity of identified products that is imported, manufactured, stored or distributed:
Manufactured: $\qquad$
Stored: $\qquad$
Distributed: $\qquad$

## D. TRANSPORT OF MERCURY OR MERCURY ADDED PRODUCTS.

The name and domicile address of the transporter.
Name:
Domicile: $\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
The port of entry and exit, if applicable.
Entry:
Exit:
The type and quantity of mercury or mercury added product(s) usually transported in an average month.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
E. IMPORT, STORAGE OR USE OF MERCURY OR MERCURY ADDED PRODUCTS (MAPs) FOR ALLOWED USE.
The name and domicile of the associated institution.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
The nature and purpose of the use.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

The quantity and type of mercury or mercury added product(s) to be used.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
F. IMPORT OF MERCURY OR MERCURY WASTE FROM SADC COUNTRY (THAT IS A PARTY TO THE MINAMANATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY) FOR THE PURPOSE OF SAFE DISPOSAL

The quantity of mercury or mercury waste that is imported:
The country from which it is imported:
The conditions and period of the contract under which, the mercury is accepted:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$


[^0]:    I, Barbara Dallas Creecy, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, hereby give notice of my intention to publish the Regulations for the Management of Mercury in South Africa, developed in terms of section 25(3), read with section 47(1) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as set out in the Schedule hereto.

    The Regulations for the Management of Mercury in South Africa (draft Mercury Regulations) are intended to manage and regulate mercury in South Africa, and to domesticate the Minamata Convention on Mercury (the Convention), of which South Africa is a party and ratified in 2019. The draft Mercury Regulations are in line with the objectives of the Convention. The purpose of the draft Mercury Regulations is to eliminate the anthropogenic releases of mercury, to manage processes releasing mercury into the environment, to phase out mercury added products, to phase down dental amalgam and to regulate mercury storage facilities, including mercury added products as listed on the annexures of the Minamata Convention.

    The Draft Regulations were published for comments under Government Notice No. 3189, Government Gazette No. 48292 of 24 March 2023, but are being republished due to the number of comments received and the revisions made to them.

    Members of the public are invited to submit, within sixty (60) days of publication of this Notice in the Government Gazette or the newspaper, whichever date is the later date, written comments on the draft Mercury Regulations to the following addresses:

    By post to: The Director-General: Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment
    Attention: Ms Noluzuko Gwayi
    Private Bag X447
    PRETORIA
    0001

    By email to: tsebego@dffe.gov.za
    By hand at: Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, 0083

