

Minamata Convention on Mercury



Background

- The 2013 Minamata Convention on Mercury (Minimata Convention or Convention) is an international treaty with the objective of protecting human health and the environment from mercury and mercury compounds.
- In support of this objective, the provisions of the Convention relate to the entire life cycle of mercury, including controls and reductions across a range of products, processes and industries where mercury is used, released or emitted. The treaty also addresses the direct mining of mercury, its export and import, its safe storage and its disposal once it is deemed waste.
- The Minimata Convention was adopted in 2013 and entered into force in 2017, see below for key provisions of the Convention and milestones in its implementation.

Principles in the Rio Declaration covered by the Minamata Convention include:

- Recalls the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development's reaffirmation of the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including, inter alia, common but differentiated responsibilities, and acknowledging States' respective circumstances and capabilities and the need for global action



This factsheet on the Minamata Convention is included in the comprehensive report: *Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)*, pp. 40–43.