

Template for submission of scientific and technical comments on Appendix 1 of the recommendation adopted by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice for the Resumed Session of its twenty-fourth meeting

TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS

Review comments on Appendix 1 of the present recommendation	
Scope of this template for comments	Template for submitting comments in accordance with recommendation CBD/SBSTTA/REC/24/2, paragraph 2, where the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), under the guidance of the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), invites Parties, other Governments and relevant stakeholders to submit views on Appendix 1 of the recommendation.
Contact information	
Party/Government/Observer	Observer
Party/Government/Observer representative	Minamata Convention on Mercury
Comments	
Please provide any general comments on the Appendix 1.	
<p>The Minamata Convention on Mercury welcomes the inclusion of indicators to track pollutants in air (i.e., “b.4. Air quality index” and “b.5. Air pollution emissions account”). Atmospheric levels of some persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic chemicals are routinely monitored on a global scale, and concentration levels for certain heavy metals and POPs are already included in the ecosystems accounts of some countries through their SEEA EA. However, at target level, the proposed headline indicators fall short of current scientific knowledge. Specifically on Target 7, even if all commitments pledged through the Global Biodiversity Framework are realized and the current draft targets met, human health and the environment will still suffer from dreadful toxic effects of many other pollutants from well-known and well-characterized sources. To be effective, Target 7 headline indicators must include other persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic chemicals, which are harmful to biodiversity, ecosystem functions and human health, and for which there is sufficient data at hand to monitor and measure progress, including heavy metals and POPs. As such, an additional headline indicator for Target 7 that reads “Levels of other persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic chemicals that cause harm to biodiversity, ecosystem functions and human health, including heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants” is proposed.</p>	