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United Nations Environment Programme

Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury First meeting Geneva, 24–29 September 2017

Decision adopted by the first Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

MC-1/4: Guidance in relation to mercury emissions

The Conference of the Parties,

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Recognizing the importance of the control of mercury emissions in achieving the objective of the Minamata Convention on Mercury,

Decides to adopt the guidance with regard to article 8, particularly its paragraphs 8 (a) and (b), on best available techniques and on best environmental practices, taking into account any differences between new and existing sources and the need to minimize cross-media effects, and on support for parties in implementing the measures set out in paragraph 5, in particular in determining goals and in setting emission limit values, as put forward by the intergovernmental negotiating committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury;¹

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Recognizing further that some of the control measures described in the guidance may not be available to all parties for technical or economic reasons,

Noting that paragraph 10 of Article 8 of the convention requires the Conference of the Parties to keep the guidance under review, and update it as appropriate, in order to reflect any circumstances not currently fully covered,

Requests parties with experience in using such guidance to provide the secretariat with information on that experience, and the secretariat to compile such information and, in consultation with parties and others, to update the guidance as necessary.

¹ UNEP/MC/COP.1/7, annexes II and III.