

PROTOCOL TO THE 1979 CONVENTION ON LONG-RANGE  
TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION ON HEAVY METALS

The Parties,

Determined to implement the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution,

Concerned that emissions of certain heavy metals are transported across national boundaries and may cause damage to ecosystems of environmental and economic importance and may have harmful effects on human health,

Considering that combustion and industrial processes are the predominant anthropogenic sources of emissions of heavy metals into the atmosphere,

Acknowledging that heavy metals are natural constituents of the Earth's crust and that many heavy metals in certain forms and appropriate concentrations are essential to life,

Taking into consideration existing scientific and technical data on the emissions, geochemical processes, atmospheric transport and effects on human health and the environment of heavy metals, as well as on abatement techniques and costs,

Aware that techniques and management practices are available to reduce air pollution caused by the emissions of heavy metals,

Recognizing that countries in the region of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) have different economic conditions, and that in certain countries the economies are in transition,

Resolved to take measures to anticipate, prevent or minimize emissions of certain heavy metals and their related compounds, taking into account the application of the precautionary approach, as set forth in principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,

Reaffirming that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and development policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

Mindful that measures to control emissions of heavy metals would also contribute to the protection of the environment and human health in areas outside the UN/ECE region, including the Arctic and international waters,

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Noting that abating the emissions of specific heavy metals may provide additional

benefits for the abatement of emissions of other pollutants,

Aware that further and more effective action to control and reduce emissions of certain heavy metals may be needed and that, for example, effects-based studies may provide a basis for further action,

Noting the important contribution of the private and non-governmental sectors to knowledge of the effects associated with heavy metals, available alternatives and abatement techniques, and their role in assisting in the reduction of emissions of heavy metals,

Bearing in mind the activities related to the control of heavy metals at the national level and in international forums,

Have agreed as follows:

## Article 1

### DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of the present Protocol,

1. AConvention@ means the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, adopted in Geneva on 13 November 1979;
2. AEMEP@ means the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe;
3. AExecutive Body@ means the Executive Body for the Convention constituted under article 10, paragraph 1, of the Convention;
4. ACommission@ means the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe;
5. AParties@ means, unless the context otherwise requires, the Parties to the present Protocol;
6. AGeographical scope of EMEP@ means the area defined in article 1, paragraph 4, of the Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on Long-term Financing of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP), adopted in Geneva on 28 September 1984;
7. AHeavy metals@ means those metals or, in some cases, metalloids which are stable and have a density greater than  $4.5 \text{ g/cm}^3$  and their compounds;
8. AEmission@ means a release from a point or diffuse source into the atmosphere;
9. AStationary source@ means any fixed building, structure, facility, installation, or equipment that emits or may emit a heavy metal listed in annex I directly or indirectly into the

atmosphere;

10. ANew stationary source@ means any stationary source of which the construction or substantial modification is commenced after the expiry of two years from the date of entry into force of: (i) this Protocol; or (ii) an amendment to annex I or II, where the stationary source becomes subject to the provisions of this Protocol only by virtue of that amendment. It shall be a matter for the competent national authorities to decide whether a modification is substantial or not, taking into account such factors as the environmental benefits of the modification;

11. AMajor stationary source category@ means any stationary source category that is listed in annex II and that contributes at least one per cent to a Party's total emissions from stationary sources of a heavy metal listed in annex I for the reference year specified in accordance with annex I.

## Article 2

### OBJECTIVE

The objective of the present Protocol is to control emissions of heavy metals caused by anthropogenic activities that are subject to long-range transboundary atmospheric transport and are likely to have significant adverse effects on human health or the environment, in accordance with the provisions of the following articles.

## Article 3

### BASIC OBLIGATIONS

1. Each Party shall reduce its total annual emissions into the atmosphere of each of the heavy metals listed in annex I from the level of the emission in the reference year set in accordance with that annex by taking effective measures, appropriate to its particular circumstances.

2. Each Party shall, no later than the timescales specified in annex IV, apply:

(a) The best available techniques, taking into consideration annex III, to each new stationary source within a major stationary source category for which annex III identifies best available techniques;

(b) The limit values specified in annex V to each new stationary source within a major stationary source category. A Party may, as an alternative, apply different emission reduction strategies that achieve equivalent overall emission levels;

(c) The best available techniques, taking into consideration annex III, to each existing stationary source within a major stationary source category for which annex III identifies best available techniques. A Party may, as an alternative, apply different emission reduction

strategies that achieve equivalent overall emission reductions;

(d) The limit values specified in annex V to each existing stationary source within a major stationary source category, insofar as this is technically and economically feasible. A Party may, as an alternative, apply different emission reduction strategies that achieve equivalent overall emission reductions.

3. Each Party shall apply product control measures in accordance with the conditions and timescales specified in annex VI.

4. Each Party should consider applying additional product management measures, taking into consideration annex VII.

5. Each Party shall develop and maintain emission inventories for the heavy metals listed in annex I, for those Parties within the geographical scope of EMEP, using as a minimum the methodologies specified by the Steering Body of EMEP, and, for those Parties outside the geographical scope of EMEP, using as guidance the methodologies developed through the work plan of the Executive Body.

6. A Party that, after applying paragraphs 2 and 3 above, cannot achieve the requirements of paragraph 1 above for a heavy metal listed in annex I, shall be exempted from its obligations in paragraph 1 above for that heavy metal.

7. Any Party whose total land area is greater than 6,000,000 km<sup>2</sup> shall be exempted from its obligations in paragraphs 2 (b), (c), and (d) above, if it can demonstrate that, no later than eight years after the date of entry into force of the present Protocol, it will have reduced its total annual emissions of each of the heavy metals listed in annex I from the source categories specified in annex II by at least 50 per cent from the level of emissions from these categories in the reference year specified in accordance with annex I. A Party that intends to act in accordance with this paragraph shall so specify upon signature of, or accession to, the present Protocol.

#### Article 4

##### EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY

1. The Parties shall, in a manner consistent with their laws, regulations and practices, facilitate the exchange of technologies and techniques designed to reduce emissions of heavy metals, including but not limited to exchanges that encourage the development of product management measures and the application of best available techniques, in particular by promoting:

- (a) The commercial exchange of available technology;
- (b) Direct industrial contacts and cooperation, including joint ventures;

- (c) The exchange of information and experience; and
- (d) The provision of technical assistance.

2. In promoting the activities specified in paragraph 1 above, the Parties shall create favourable conditions by facilitating contacts and cooperation among appropriate organizations and individuals in the private and public sectors that are capable of providing technology, design and engineering services, equipment or finance.

#### Article 5

##### STRATEGIES, POLICIES, PROGRAMMES AND MEASURES

1. Each Party shall develop, without undue delay, strategies, policies and programmes to discharge its obligations under the present Protocol.
2. A Party may, in addition:
  - (a) Apply economic instruments to encourage the adoption of cost-effective approaches to the reduction of heavy metal emissions;
  - (b) Develop government/industry covenants and voluntary agreements;
  - (c) Encourage the more efficient use of resources and raw materials;
  - (d) Encourage the use of less polluting energy sources;
  - (e) Take measures to develop and introduce less polluting transport systems;
  - (f) Take measures to phase out certain heavy metal emitting processes where substitute processes are available on an industrial scale;
  - (g) Take measures to develop and employ cleaner processes for the prevention and control of pollution.
3. The Parties may take more stringent measures than those required by the present Protocol.

#### Article 6

##### RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING

The Parties shall encourage research, development, monitoring and cooperation, primarily

focusing on the heavy metals listed in annex I, related, but not limited, to:

- (a) Emissions, long-range transport and deposition levels and their modelling, existing levels in the biotic and abiotic environment, the formulation of procedures for harmonizing relevant methodologies;
- (b) Pollutant pathways and inventories in representative ecosystems;
- (c) Relevant effects on human health and the environment, including quantification of those effects;
- (d) Best available techniques and practices and emission control techniques currently employed by the Parties or under development;
- (e) Collection, recycling and, if necessary, disposal of products or wastes containing one or more heavy metals;
- (f) Methodologies permitting consideration of socio-economic factors in the evaluation of alternative control strategies;
- (g) An effects-based approach which integrates appropriate information, including information obtained under subparagraphs (a) to (f) above, on measured or modelled environmental levels, pathways, and effects on human health and the environment, for the purpose of formulating future optimized control strategies which also take into account economic and technological factors;
- (h) Alternatives to the use of heavy metals in products listed in annexes VI and VII;
- (i) Gathering information on levels of heavy metals in certain products, on the potential for emissions of those metals to occur during the manufacture, processing, distribution in commerce, use, and disposal of the product, and on techniques to reduce such emissions.

## Article 7

### REPORTING

1. Subject to its laws governing the confidentiality of commercial information:

- (a) Each Party shall report, through the Executive Secretary of the Commission, to the Executive Body, on a periodic basis as determined by the Parties meeting within the Executive Body, information on the measures that it has taken to implement the present Protocol;

(b) Each Party within the geographical scope of EMEP shall report, through the Executive Secretary of the Commission, to EMEP, on a periodic basis to be determined by the Steering Body of EMEP and approved by the Parties at a session of the Executive Body, information on the levels of emissions of the heavy metals listed in annex I, using as a minimum the methodologies and the temporal and spatial resolution specified by the Steering Body of EMEP. Parties in areas outside the geographical scope of EMEP shall make available similar information to the Executive Body if requested to do so. In addition, each Party shall, as appropriate, collect and report relevant information relating to its emissions of other heavy metals, taking into account the guidance on the methodologies and the temporal and spatial resolution of the Steering Body of EMEP and the Executive Body.

2. The information to be reported in accordance with paragraph 1 (a) above shall be in conformity with a decision regarding format and content to be adopted by the Parties at a session of the Executive Body. The terms of this decision shall be reviewed as necessary to identify any additional elements regarding the format or the content of the information that is to be included in the reports.

3. In good time before each annual session of the Executive Body, EMEP shall provide information on the long-range transport and deposition of heavy metals.

#### Article 8

#### CALCULATIONS

EMEP shall, using appropriate models and measurements and in good time before each annual session of the Executive Body, provide to the Executive Body calculations of transboundary fluxes and depositions of heavy metals within the geographical scope of EMEP. In areas outside the geographical scope of EMEP, models appropriate to the particular circumstances of Parties to the Convention shall be used.

#### Article 9

#### COMPLIANCE

Compliance by each Party with its obligations under the present Protocol shall be reviewed regularly. The Implementation Committee established by decision 1997/2 of the Executive Body at its fifteenth session shall carry out such reviews and report to the Parties meeting within the Executive Body in accordance with the terms of the annex to that decision, including any amendments thereto.

## Article 10

### REVIEWS BY THE PARTIES AT SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BODY

1. The Parties shall, at sessions of the Executive Body, pursuant to article 10, paragraph 2 (a), of the Convention, review the information supplied by the Parties, EMEP and other subsidiary bodies and the reports of the Implementation Committee referred to in article 9 of the present Protocol.
2. The Parties shall, at sessions of the Executive Body, keep under review the progress made towards meeting the obligations set out in the present Protocol.
3. The Parties shall, at sessions of the Executive Body, review the sufficiency and effectiveness of the obligations set out in the present Protocol.
  - (a) Such reviews will take into account the best available scientific information on the effects of the deposition of heavy metals, assessments of technological developments, and changing economic conditions;
  - (b) Such reviews will, in the light of the research, development, monitoring and cooperation undertaken under the present Protocol:
    - (i) Evaluate progress towards meeting the objective of the present Protocol;
    - (ii) Evaluate whether additional emission reductions beyond the levels required by this Protocol are warranted to reduce further the adverse effects on human health or the environment; and
    - (iii) Take into account the extent to which a satisfactory basis exists for the application of an effects-based approach;
  - (c) The procedures, methods and timing for such reviews shall be specified by the Parties at a session of the Executive Body.
4. The Parties shall, based on the conclusion of the reviews referred to in paragraph 3 above and as soon as practicable after completion of the review, develop a work plan on further steps to reduce emissions into the atmosphere of the heavy metals listed in annex I.



## Article 11

### SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

1. In the event of a dispute between any two or more Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Protocol, the Parties concerned shall seek a settlement of the dispute through negotiation or any other peaceful means of their own choice. The parties to the dispute shall inform the Executive Body of their dispute.

2. When ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the present Protocol, or at any time thereafter, a Party which is not a regional economic integration organization may declare in a written instrument submitted to the Depositary that, in respect of any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the Protocol, it recognizes one or both of the following means of dispute settlement as compulsory ipso facto and without special agreement, in relation to any Party accepting the same obligation:

(a) Submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice;

(b) Arbitration in accordance with procedures to be adopted by the Parties at a session of the Executive Body, as soon as practicable, in an annex on arbitration.

A Party which is a regional economic integration organization may make a declaration with like effect in relation to arbitration in accordance with the procedures referred to in subparagraph (b) above.

3. A declaration made under paragraph 2 above shall remain in force until it expires in accordance with its terms or until three months after written notice of its revocation has been deposited with the Depositary.

4. A new declaration, a notice of revocation or the expiry of a declaration shall not in any way affect proceedings pending before the International Court of Justice or the arbitral tribunal, unless the parties to the dispute agree otherwise.

5. Except in a case where the parties to a dispute have accepted the same means of dispute settlement under paragraph 2, if after twelve months following notification by one Party to another that a dispute exists between them, the Parties concerned have not been able to settle their dispute through the means mentioned in paragraph 1 above, the dispute shall be submitted, at the request of any of the parties to the dispute, to conciliation.

6. For the purpose of paragraph 5, a conciliation commission shall be created. The commission shall be composed of equal numbers of members appointed by each Party concerned or, where the Parties in conciliation share the same interest, by the group sharing that interest, and a chairman chosen jointly by the members so appointed. The commission shall render a recommendatory award, which the Parties shall consider in good faith.

## Article 12

### ANNEXES

The annexes to the present Protocol shall form an integral part of the Protocol. Annexes III and VII are recommendatory in character.

## Article 13

### AMENDMENTS TO THE PROTOCOL

1. Any Party may propose amendments to the present Protocol.
2. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Secretary of the Commission, who shall communicate them to all Parties. The Parties meeting within the Executive Body shall discuss the proposed amendments at its next session, provided that the proposals have been circulated by the Executive Secretary to the Parties at least ninety days in advance.
3. Amendments to the present Protocol and to annexes I, II, IV, V and VI shall be adopted by consensus of the Parties present at a session of the Executive Body, and shall enter into force for the Parties which have accepted them on the ninetieth day after the date on which two thirds of the Parties have deposited with the Depositary their instruments of acceptance thereof. Amendments shall enter into force for any other Party on the ninetieth day after the date on which that Party has deposited its instrument of acceptance thereof.
4. Amendments to annexes III and VII shall be adopted by consensus of the Parties present at a session of the Executive Body. On the expiry of ninety days from the date of its communication to all Parties by the Executive Secretary of the Commission, an amendment to any such annex shall become effective for those Parties which have not submitted to the Depositary a notification in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5 below, provided that at least sixteen Parties have not submitted such a notification.
5. Any Party that is unable to approve an amendment to annex III or VII shall so notify the Depositary in writing within ninety days from the date of the communication of its adoption. The Depositary shall without delay notify all Parties of any such notification received. A Party may at any time substitute an acceptance for its previous notification and, upon deposit of an instrument of acceptance with the Depositary, the amendment to such an annex shall become effective for that Party.

6. In the case of a proposal to amend annex I, VI or VII by adding a heavy metal, a product control measure or a product or product group to the present Protocol:

(a) The proposer shall provide the Executive Body with the information specified in Executive Body decision 1998/1, including any amendments thereto; and

(b) The Parties shall evaluate the proposal in accordance with the procedures set forth in Executive Body decision 1998/1, including any amendments thereto.

7. Any decision to amend Executive Body decision 1998/1 shall be taken by consensus of the Parties meeting within the Executive Body and shall take effect sixty days after the date of adoption.

#### Article 14

##### SIGNATURE

1. The present Protocol shall be open for signature at Aarhus (Denmark) from 24 to 25 June 1998, then at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 21 December 1998 by States members of the Commission as well as States having consultative status with the Commission pursuant to paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 36 (IV) of 28 March 1947, and by regional economic integration organizations, constituted by sovereign States members of the Commission, which have competence in respect of the negotiation, conclusion and application of international agreements in matters covered by the Protocol, provided that the States and organizations concerned are Parties to the Convention.

2. In matters within their competence, such regional economic integration organizations shall, on their own behalf, exercise the rights and fulfil the responsibilities which the present Protocol attributes to their member States. In such cases, the member States of these organizations shall not be entitled to exercise such rights individually.

#### Article 15

##### RATIFICATION, ACCEPTANCE, APPROVAL AND ACCESSION

1. The present Protocol shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by Signatories.

2. The present Protocol shall be open for accession as from 21 December 1998 by the States and organizations that meet the requirements of article 14, paragraph 1.

## Article 16

### DEPOSITARY

The instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who will perform the functions of Depositary.

## Article 17

### ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. The present Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day following the date on which the sixteenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession has been deposited with the Depositary.
2. For each State and organization referred to in article 14, paragraph 1, which ratifies, accepts or approves the present Protocol or accedes thereto after the deposit of the sixteenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day following the date of deposit by such Party of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

## Article 18

### WITHDRAWAL

At any time after five years from the date on which the present Protocol has come into force with respect to a Party, that Party may withdraw from it by giving written notification to the Depositary. Any such withdrawal shall take effect on the ninetieth day following the date of its receipt by the Depositary, or on such later date as may be specified in the notification of the withdrawal.

## Article 19

### AUTHENTIC TEXTS

The original of the present Protocol, of which the English, French and Russian texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed the present Protocol.

Done at Aarhus (Denmark), this twenty-fourth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight.

**Annex I****HEAVY METALS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 3, PARAGRAPH 1,  
AND THE REFERENCE YEAR FOR THE OBLIGATION**

<b>Heavy metal</b>	<b>Reference year</b>
Cadmium (Cd)	1990; or an alternative year from 1985 to 1995 inclusive, specified by a Party upon ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.
Lead (Pb)	1990; or an alternative year from 1985 to 1995 inclusive, specified by a Party upon ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.
Mercury (Hg)	1990; or an alternative year from 1985 to 1995 inclusive, specified by a Party upon ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

**Annex II****STATIONARY SOURCE CATEGORIES****I. INTRODUCTION**

1. Installations or parts of installations for research, development and the testing of new products and processes are not covered by this annex.
2. The threshold values given below generally refer to production capacities or output. Where one operator carries out several activities falling under the same subheading at the same installation or the same site, the capacities of such activities are added together.

**II. LIST OF CATEGORIES**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Description of the category</b>
1	Combustion installations with a net rated thermal input exceeding 50 MW.
2	Metal ore (including sulphide ore) or concentrate roasting or sintering installations with a capacity exceeding 150 tonnes of sinter per day for ferrous ore or concentrate, and 30 tonnes of sinter per day for the roasting of copper, lead or zinc, or any gold and mercury ore treatment.
3	Installations for the production of pig-iron or steel (primary or secondary fusion, including electric arc furnaces) including continuous casting, with a capacity exceeding 2.5 tonnes per hour.
4	Ferrous metal foundries with a production capacity exceeding 20 tonnes per day.
5	Installations for the production of copper, lead and zinc from ore, concentrates or secondary raw materials by metallurgical processes with a capacity exceeding 30 tonnes of metal per day for primary installations and 15 tonnes of metal per day for secondary installations, or for any primary production of mercury.
6	Installations for the smelting (refining, foundry casting, etc.), including the alloying, of copper, lead and zinc, including recovered products, with a melting capacity exceeding 4 tonnes per day for lead or 20 tonnes per day for copper and zinc.
7	Installations for the production of cement clinker in rotary kilns with a production capacity exceeding 500 tonnes per day or in other furnaces with a production capacity exceeding 50 tonnes per day.
8	Installations for the manufacture of glass using lead in the process with a melting capacity exceeding 20 tonnes per day.
9	Installations for chlor-alkali production by electrolysis using the mercury cell process.
10	Installations for the incineration of hazardous or medical waste with a capacity exceeding 1 tonne per hour, or for the co-incineration of hazardous or medical waste specified in accordance with national legislation.
11	Installations for the incineration of municipal waste with a capacity exceeding 3 tonnes per hour, or for the co-incineration of municipal waste specified in accordance with national legislation.

### Annex III

## **BEST AVAILABLE TECHNIQUES FOR CONTROLLING EMISSIONS OF HEAVY METALS AND THEIR COMPOUNDS FROM THE SOURCE CATEGORIES LISTED IN ANNEX II**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

1. This annex aims to provide Parties with guidance on identifying best available techniques for stationary sources to enable them to meet the obligations of the Protocol.

2. **Best available techniques** (BAT) means the most effective and advanced stage in the development of activities and their methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of particular techniques for providing in principle the basis for emission limit values designed to prevent and, where that is not practicable, generally to reduce emissions and their impact on the environment as a whole:

- **Techniques** includes both the technology used and the way in which the installation is designed, built, maintained, operated and decommissioned;
- **Available** techniques means those developed on a scale which allows implementation in the relevant industrial sector, under economically and technically viable conditions, taking into consideration the costs and advantages, whether or not the techniques are used or produced inside the territory of the Party in question, as long as they are reasonably accessible to the operator;
- **Best** means most effective in achieving a high general level of protection of the environment as a whole.

In determining the best available techniques, special consideration should be given, generally or in specific cases, to the factors below, bearing in mind the likely costs and benefits of a measure and the principles of precaution and prevention:

- The use of low-waste technology;
- The use of less hazardous substances;
- The furthering of recovery and recycling of substances generated and used in the process and of waste;
- Comparable processes, facilities or methods of operation which have been tried with success on an industrial scale;
- Technological advances and changes in scientific knowledge and understanding;
- The nature, effects and volume of the emissions concerned;
- The commissioning dates for new or existing installations;
- The time needed to introduce the best available technique;
- The consumption and nature of raw materials (including water) used in the process and its energy efficiency;
- The need to prevent or reduce to a minimum the overall impact of the emissions on the environment and the risks to it;
- The need to prevent accidents and to minimize their consequences for the

environment.

The concept of best available techniques is not aimed at the prescription of any specific technique or technology, but at taking into account the technical characteristics of the installation concerned, its geographical location and the local environmental conditions.

3. The information regarding emission control performance and costs is based on official documentation of the Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies, in particular documents received and reviewed by the Task Force on Heavy Metal Emissions and the Ad Hoc Preparatory Working Group on Heavy Metals. Furthermore, other international information on best available techniques for emission control has been taken into consideration (e.g. the European Community's technical notes on BAT, the PARCOM recommendations for BAT, and information provided directly by experts).

4. Experience with new products and new plants incorporating low-emission techniques, as well as with the retrofitting of existing plants, is growing continuously; this annex may, therefore, need amending and updating.

5. The annex lists a number of measures spanning a range of costs and efficiencies. The choice of measures for any particular case will depend on, and may be limited by, a number of factors, such as economic circumstances, technological infrastructure, any existing emission control device, safety, energy consumption and whether the source is a new or existing one.

6. This annex takes into account the emissions of cadmium, lead and mercury and their compounds, in solid (particle-bound) and/or gaseous form. Speciation of these compounds is, in general, not considered here. Nevertheless, the efficiency of emission control devices with regard to the physical properties of the heavy metal, especially in the case of mercury, has been taken into account.

7. Emission values expressed as  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$  refer to standard conditions (volume at 273.15 K, 101.3 kPa, dry gas) not corrected for oxygen content unless otherwise specified, and are calculated in accordance with draft CEN (Comité européen de normalisation) and, in some cases, national sampling and monitoring techniques.

## **II. GENERAL OPTIONS FOR REDUCING EMISSIONS OF HEAVY METALS AND THEIR COMPOUNDS**

8. There are several possibilities for controlling or preventing heavy metal emissions. Emission reduction measures focus on add-on technologies and process modifications (including maintenance and operating control). The following measures, which may be implemented depending on the wider technical and/or economic conditions, are available:

- (a) Application of low-emission process technologies, in particular in new installations;
- (b) Off-gas cleaning (secondary reduction measures) with filters, scrubbers, absorbers, etc.;



(c) Change or preparation of raw materials, fuels and/or other feed materials (e.g. use of raw materials with low heavy metal content);

(d) Best management practices such as good housekeeping, preventive maintenance programmes, or primary measures such as the enclosure of dust-creating units;

(e) Appropriate environmental management techniques for the use and disposal of certain products containing Cd, Pb, and/or Hg.

9. It is necessary to monitor abatement procedures to ensure that appropriate control measures and practices are properly implemented and achieve an effective emission reduction. Monitoring abatement procedures will include:

(a) Developing an inventory of those reduction measures identified above that have already been implemented;

(b) Comparing actual reductions in Cd, Pb and Hg emissions with the objectives of the Protocol;

(c) Characterizing quantified emissions of Cd, Pb and Hg from relevant sources with appropriate techniques;

(d) Regulatory authorities periodically auditing abatement measures to ensure their continued efficient operation.

10. Emission reduction measures should be cost-efficient. Cost-efficient strategy considerations should be based on total costs per year per unit abated (including capital and operating costs). Emission reduction costs should also be considered with respect to the overall process.

### **III. CONTROL TECHNIQUES**

11. The major categories of available control techniques for Cd, Pb and Hg emission abatement are primary measures such as raw material and/or fuel substitution and low-emission process technologies, and secondary measures such as fugitive emission control and off-gas cleaning. Sector-specific techniques are specified in chapter IV.

12. The data on efficiency are derived from operating experience and are considered to reflect the capabilities of current installations. The overall efficiency of flue gas and fugitive emission reductions depends to a great extent on the evacuation performance of the gas and dust collectors (e.g. suction hoods). Capture/collection efficiencies of over 99% have been demonstrated. In particular cases experience has shown that control measures are able to reduce overall emissions by 90% or more.

13. In the case of particle-bound emissions of Cd, Pb and Hg, the metals can be captured by dust-cleaning devices. Typical dust concentrations after gas cleaning with selected techniques are given in table 1. Most of these measures have generally been applied across sectors. The

minimum expected performance of selected techniques for capturing gaseous mercury is outlined in table 2. The application of these measures depends on the specific processes and is most relevant if concentrations of mercury in the flue gas are high.

**Table 1:** Performance of dust-cleaning devices expressed as hourly average dust concentrations

	Dust concentrations after cleaning (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Fabric filters	< 10
Fabric filters, membrane type	< 1
Dry electrostatic precipitators	< 50
Wet electrostatic precipitators	< 50
High-efficiency scrubbers	< 50

Note: Medium- and low-pressure scrubbers and cyclones generally show lower dust removal efficiencies.

**Table 2:** Minimum expected performance of mercury separators expressed as hourly average mercury concentrations

	Mercury content after cleaning (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Selenium filter	< 0.01
Selenium scrubber	< 0.2
Carbon filter	< 0.01
Carbon injection + dust separator	< 0.05
Odda Norzink chloride process	< 0.1
Lead sulphide process	< 0.05
Bolkem (Thiosulphate) process	< 0.1

14. Care should be taken to ensure that these control techniques do not create other environmental problems. The choice of a specific process because of its low emission into the air should be avoided if it worsens the total environmental impact of the heavy metals-discharge, e.g. due to more water pollution from liquid effluents. The fate of captured dust resulting from improved gas cleaning must also be taken into consideration. A negative environmental impact from the handling of such wastes will reduce the gain from lower process dust and fume emissions into the air.

15. Emission reduction measures can focus on process techniques as well as on off-gas cleaning. The two are not independent of each other; the choice of a specific process might exclude some gas-cleaning methods.

16. The choice of a control technique will depend on such parameters as the pollutant concentration and/or speciation in the raw gas, the gas volume flow, the gas temperature, and others. Therefore, the fields of application may overlap; in that case, the most appropriate technique must be selected according to case-specific conditions.

17. Adequate measures to reduce stack gas emissions in various sectors are described below. Fugitive emissions have to be taken into account. Dust emission control associated with the discharging, handling, and stockpiling of raw materials or by-products, although not relevant to long-range transport, may be important for the local environment. The emissions can be reduced by moving these activities to completely enclosed buildings, which may be equipped with ventilation and dedusting facilities, spray systems or other suitable controls. When stockpiling in unroofed areas, the material surface should be otherwise protected against wind entrainment. Stockpiling areas and roads should be kept clean.

18. The investment/cost figures listed in the tables have been collected from various sources and are highly case-specific. They are expressed in 1990 US\$ (US\$ 1 (1990) = ECU 0.8 (1990)). They depend on such factors as plant capacity, removal efficiency and raw gas concentration, type of technology, and the choice of new installations as opposed to retrofitting.

#### IV. SECTORS

19. This chapter contains a table per relevant sector with the main emission sources, control measures based on the best available techniques, their specific reduction efficiency and the related costs, where available. Unless stated otherwise, the reduction efficiencies in the tables refer to direct stack gas emissions.

##### **Combustion of fossil fuels in utility and industrial boilers** (annex II, category 1)

20. The combustion of coal in utility and industrial boilers is a major source of anthropogenic mercury emissions. The heavy metal content is normally several orders of magnitude higher in coal than in oil or natural gas.

21. Improved energy conversion efficiency and energy conservation measures will result in a decline in the emissions of heavy metals because of reduced fuel requirements. Combusting natural gas or alternative fuels with a low heavy metal content instead of coal would also result in a significant reduction in heavy metal emissions such as mercury. Integrated gasification combined-cycle (IGCC) power plant technology is a new plant technology with a low-emission potential.

22. With the exception of mercury, heavy metals are emitted in solid form in association with fly-ash particles. Different coal combustion technologies show different magnitudes of fly-ash generation: grate-firing boilers 20-40%; fluidized-bed combustion 15%; dry bottom boilers (pulverized coal combustion) 70-100% of total ash. The heavy metal content in the small particle size fraction of the fly-ash has been found to be higher.

23. Beneficiation, e.g. *Awashing*® or *Abio-treatment*®, of coal reduces the heavy metal content associated with the inorganic matter in the coal. However, the degree of heavy metal removal with this technology varies widely.

24. A total dust removal of more than 99.5% can be obtained with electrostatic precipitators (ESP) or fabric filters (FF), achieving dust concentrations of about 20 mg/m<sup>3</sup> in many cases. With the exception of mercury, heavy metal emissions can be reduced by at least 90-99%, the lower figure for the more easily volatilized elements. Low filter temperature helps to reduce the

gaseous mercury off-gas content.

25. The application of techniques to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxide and particulates from the flue gas can also remove heavy metals. Possible cross media impact should be avoided by appropriate waste water treatment.

26. Using the techniques mentioned above, mercury removal efficiencies vary extensively from plant to plant, as seen in table 3. Research is ongoing to develop mercury removal techniques, but until such techniques are available on an industrial scale, no best available technique is identified for the specific purpose of removing mercury.

**Table 3:** Control measures, reduction efficiencies and costs for fossil-fuel combustion emissions

Emission source	Control measure(s)	Reduction efficiency (%)	Abatement costs
Combustion of fuel oil	Switch from fuel oil to gas	Cd, Pb: 100; Hg: 70 - 80	Highly case-specific
Combustion of coal	Switch from coal to fuels with lower heavy metals emissions	Dust: 70 - 100	Highly case-specific
	ESP (cold-side)	Cd, Pb: > 90; Hg: 10 - 40	Specific investment US\$ 5-10/m <sup>3</sup> waste gas per hour (> 200,000 m <sup>3</sup> /h)
	Wet flue-gas desulphurization (FGD) <u>a/</u>	Cd, Pb: > 90; Hg: 10 - 90 <u>b/</u>	..
	Fabric filters (FF)	Cd: > 95; Pb: > 99; Hg: 10 - 60	Specific investment US\$ 8-15/m <sup>3</sup> waste gas per hour (> 200,000 m <sup>3</sup> /h)

a/ Hg removal efficiencies increase with the proportion of ionic mercury. High-dust selective catalytic reduction (SCR) installations facilitate Hg(II) formation.

b/ This is primarily for SO<sub>2</sub> reduction. Reduction in heavy metal emissions is a side benefit. (Specific investment US\$ 60-250/kW<sub>el</sub>.)

### **Primary iron and steel industry** (annex II, category 2)

27. This section deals with emissions from sinter plants, pellet plants, blast furnaces, and steelworks with a basic oxygen furnace (BOF). Emissions of Cd, Pb and Hg occur in association with particulates. The content of the heavy metals of concern in the emitted dust depends on the composition of the raw materials and the types of alloying metals added in steel-making. The most relevant emission reduction measures are outlined in table 4. Fabric filters should be used whenever possible; if conditions make this impossible, electrostatic precipitators and/or high-efficiency scrubbers may be used.

28. When using BAT in the primary iron and steel industry, the total specific emission of dust directly related to the process can be reduced to the following levels:

Sinter plants	40 - 120 g/Mg
Pellet plants	40 g/Mg
Blast furnace	35 - 50 g/Mg
BOF	35 - 70 g/Mg.

29. Purification of gases using fabric filters will reduce the dust content to less than 20 mg/m<sup>3</sup>, whereas electrostatic precipitators and scrubbers will reduce the dust content to 50 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (as an hourly average). However, there are many applications of fabric filters in the primary iron and steel industry that can achieve much lower values.

**Table 4:** Emission sources, control measures, dust reduction efficiencies and costs for the primary iron and steel industry

Emission source	Control measure(s)	Dust reduction efficiency (%)	Abatement costs (total costs US\$)
Sinter plants	Emission optimized sintering	ca. 50	..
	Scrubbers and ESP	> 90	..
	Fabric filters	> 99	..
Pellet plants	ESP + lime reactor + fabric filters	> 99	..
	Scrubbers	> 95	..
Blast furnaces	FF / ESP	> 99	ESP: 0.24-1/Mg pig-iron
Blast furnace gas cleaning	Wet scrubbers	> 99	..
	Wet ESP	> 99	..
BOF	Primary dedusting: wet separator/ESP/FF	> 99	Dry ESP: 2.25/Mg steel
	Secondary dedusting: dry ESP/FF	> 97	FF: 0.26/Mg steel
Fugitive emissions	Closed conveyor belts, enclosure, wetting stored feedstock, cleaning of roads	80 - 99	..

30. Direct reduction and direct smelting are under development and may reduce the need for sinter plants and blast furnaces in the future. The application of these technologies depends on the ore characteristics and requires the resulting product to be processed in an electric arc furnace, which should be equipped with appropriate controls.

### **Secondary iron and steel industry** (annex II, category 3)

31. It is very important to capture all the emissions efficiently. That is possible by installing doghouses or movable hoods or by total building evacuation. The captured emissions must be cleaned. For all dust-emitting processes in the secondary iron and steel industry, dedusting in

fabric filters, which reduces the dust content to less than 20 mg/m<sup>3</sup>, shall be considered as BAT. When BAT is used also for minimizing fugitive emissions, the specific dust emission (including fugitive emission directly related to the process) will not exceed the range of 0.1 to 0.35 kg/Mg steel. There are many examples of clean gas dust content below 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> when fabric filters are used. The specific dust emission in such cases is normally below 0.1 kg/Mg.

32. For the melting of scrap, two different types of furnace are in use: open-hearth furnaces and electric arc furnaces (EAF) where open-hearth furnaces are about to be phased out.

33. The content of the heavy metals of concern in the emitted dust depends on the composition of the iron and steel scrap and the types of alloying metals added in steel-making. Measurements at EAF have shown that 95% of emitted mercury and 25% of cadmium emissions occur as vapour. The most relevant dust emission reduction measures are outlined in table 5.

**Table 5:** Emission sources, control measures, dust reduction efficiencies and costs for the secondary iron and steel industry

Emission source	Control measure(s)	Dust reduction efficiency (%)	Abatement costs (total costs US\$)
EAF	ESP	> 99	..
	FF	> 99.5	FF: 24/Mg steel

### **Iron foundries** (annex II, category 4)

34. It is very important to capture all the emissions efficiently. That is possible by installing doghouses or movable hoods or by total building evacuation. The captured emissions must be cleaned. In iron foundries, cupola furnaces, electric arc furnaces and induction furnaces are operated. Direct particulate and gaseous heavy metal emissions are especially associated with melting and sometimes, to a small extent, with pouring. Fugitive emissions arise from raw material handling, melting, pouring and fettling. The most relevant emission reduction measures are outlined in table 6 with their achievable reduction efficiencies and costs, where available. These measures can reduce dust concentrations to 20 mg/m<sup>3</sup>, or less.

35. The iron foundry industry comprises a very wide range of process sites. For existing smaller installations, the measures listed may not be BAT if they are not economically viable.

**Table 6:** Emission sources, control measures, dust reduction efficiencies and costs for iron foundries

Emission source	Control measure(s)	Dust reduction efficiency (%)	Abatement costs (total costs US\$)

EAF	ESP FF	> 99 > 99.5	.. FF: 24/Mg iron
Induction furnace	FF/dry absorption + FF	> 99	..
Cold blast cupola	Below-the-door take-off: FF	> 98	..
	Above-the-door take-off: FF + pre-dedusting FF + chemisorption	> 97 > 99	8-12/Mg iron 45/Mg iron
Hot blast cupola	FF + pre-dedusting Disintegrator/ venturi scrubber	> 99 > 97	23/Mg iron ..

### **Primary and secondary non-ferrous metal industry** (annex II, categories 5 and 6)

36. This section deals with emissions and emission control of Cd, Pb and Hg in the primary and secondary production of non-ferrous metals like lead, copper, zinc, tin and nickel. Due to the large number of different raw materials used and the various processes applied, nearly all kinds of heavy metals and heavy metal compounds might be emitted from this sector. Given the heavy metals of concern in this annex, the production of copper, lead and zinc are particularly relevant.

37. Mercury ores and concentrates are initially processed by crushing, and sometimes screening. Ore beneficiation techniques are not used extensively, although flotation has been used at some facilities processing low-grade ore. The crushed ore is then heated in either retorts, at small operations, or furnaces, at large operations, to the temperatures at which mercuric sulphide sublimates. The resulting mercury vapour is condensed in a cooling system and collected as mercury metal. Soot from the condensers and settling tanks should be removed, treated with lime and returned to the retort or furnace.

38. For efficient recovery of mercury the following techniques can be used:

- Measures to reduce dust generation during mining and stockpiling, including minimizing the size of stockpiles;
- Indirect heating of the furnace;
- Keeping the ore as dry as possible;
- Bringing the gas temperature entering the condenser to only 10 to 20°C above the dew point;
- Keeping the outlet temperature as low as possible; and
- Passing reaction gases through a post-condensation scrubber and/or a selenium filter.

Dust formation can be kept down by indirect heating, separate processing of fine grain classes of ore, and control of ore water content. Dust should be removed from the hot reaction gas before it enters the mercury condensation unit with cyclones and/or electrostatic precipitators.

39. For gold production by amalgamation, similar strategies as for mercury can be applied. Gold is also produced using techniques other than amalgamation, and these are considered to be

the preferred option for new plants.

40. Non-ferrous metals are mainly produced from sulphitic ores. For technical and product quality reasons, the off-gas must go through a thorough dedusting ( $< 3 \text{ mg/m}^3$ ) and could also require additional mercury removal before being fed to an  $\text{SO}_3$  contact plant, thereby also minimizing heavy metal emissions.

41. Fabric filters should be used when appropriate. A dust content of less than  $10 \text{ mg/m}^3$  can be obtained. The dust of all pyrometallurgical production should be recycled in-plant or off-site, while protecting occupational health.

42. For primary lead production, first experiences indicate that there are interesting new direct smelting reduction technologies without sintering of the concentrates. These processes are examples of a new generation of direct autogenous lead smelting technologies which pollute less and consume less energy.

43. Secondary lead is mainly produced from used car and truck batteries, which are dismantled before being charged to the smelting furnace. This BAT should include one melting operation in a short rotary furnace or shaft furnace. Oxy-fuel burners can reduce waste gas volume and flue dust production by 60%. Cleaning the flue-gas with fabric filters makes it possible to achieve dust concentration levels of  $5 \text{ mg/m}^3$ .

44. Primary zinc production is carried out by means of roast-leach electrowin technology. Pressure leaching may be an alternative to roasting and may be considered as a BAT for new plants depending on the concentrate characteristics. Emissions from pyrometallurgical zinc production in Imperial Smelting (IS) furnaces can be minimized by using a double bell furnace top and cleaning with high-efficiency scrubbers, efficient evacuation and cleaning of gases from slag and lead casting, and thorough cleaning ( $< 10 \text{ mg/m}^3$ ) of the CO-rich furnace off-gases.

45. To recover zinc from oxidized residues these are processed in an IS furnace. Very low-grade residues and flue dust (e.g. from the steel industry) are first treated in rotary furnaces (Waelz-furnaces) in which a high-content zinc oxide is manufactured. Metallic materials are recycled through melting in either induction furnaces or furnaces with direct or indirect heating by natural gas or liquid fuels or in vertical New Jersey retorts, in which a large variety of oxidic and metallic secondary material can be recycled. Zinc can also be recovered from lead furnace slags by a slag fuming process.

**Table 7 (a):** Emission sources, control measures, dust reduction efficiencies and costs for the primary non-ferrous metal industry

Emission source	Control measure(s)	Dust reduction efficiency (%)	Abatement costs (total costs US\$)
Fugitive emissions	Suction hoods, enclosure, etc. off-gas cleaning by FF	> 99	..
Roasting/sintering	Updraught sintering: ESP + scrubbers (prior to double contact sulphuric acid plant) + FF for tail gases	..	7 - 10/Mg $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$
Conventional smelting	Shaft furnace: closed top/ efficient evacuation	..	..



(blast furnace reduction)	of tap holes + FF, covered launders, double bell furnace top		
Imperial smelting	High-efficiency scrubbing	> 95	..
	Venturi scrubbers	..	..
	Double bell furnace top	..	4/Mg metal produced
Pressure leaching	Application depends on leaching characteristics of concentrates	> 99	site-specific
Direct smelting reduction processes	Flash smelting, e.g. Kivcet, Outokumpu and Mitsubishi processes	..	..
	Bath smelting, e.g. top blown rotary converter, Ausmelt, Isasmelt, QSL and Noranda processes	Ausmelt: Pb 77, Cd 97; QSL: Pb 92, Cd 93	QSL: operating costs 60/Mg Pb

**Table 7 (b):** Emission sources, control measures, dust reduction efficiencies and costs for the secondary non-ferrous metal industry

Emission source	Control measure(s)	Dust reduction efficiency (%)	Abatement costs (total costs, US\$)
Lead production	Short rotary furnace: suction hoods for tap holes + FF; tube condenser, oxy-fuel burner	99.9	45/Mg Pb
Zinc production	Imperial smelting	> 95	14/Mg Zn

46. In general, processes should be combined with an effective dust collecting device for both primary gases and fugitive emissions. The most relevant emission reduction measures are outlined in tables 7 (a) and (b). Dust concentrations below 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> have been achieved in some cases using fabric filters.

### **Cement industry** (annex II, category 7)

47. Cement kilns may use secondary fuels such as waste oil or waste tyres. Where waste is used, emission requirements for waste incineration processes may apply, and where hazardous waste is used, depending on the amount used in the plant, emission requirements for hazardous waste incineration processes may apply. However, this section refers to fossil fuel fired kilns.

48. Particulates are emitted at all stages of the cement production process, consisting of material handling, raw material preparation (crushers, dryers), clinker production and cement preparation. Heavy metals are brought into the cement kiln with the raw materials, fossil and waste fuels.

49. For clinker production the following kiln types are available: long wet rotary kiln, long dry rotary kiln, rotary kiln with cyclone preheater, rotary kiln with grate preheater, shaft furnace. In terms of energy demand and emission control opportunities, rotary kilns with cyclone preheaters are preferable.

50. For heat recovery purposes, rotary kiln off-gases are conducted through the preheating

system and the mill dryers (where installed) before being dedusted. The collected dust is returned to the feed material.

51. Less than 0.5% of lead and cadmium entering the kiln is released in exhaust gases. The high alkali content and the scrubbing action in the kiln favour metal retention in the clinker or kiln dust.

52. The emissions of heavy metals into the air can be reduced by, for instance, taking off a bleed stream and stockpiling the collected dust instead of returning it to the raw feed. However, in each case these considerations should be weighed against the consequences of releasing the heavy metals into the waste stockpile. Another possibility is the hot-meal bypass, where calcined hot-meal is in part discharged right in front of the kiln entrance and fed to the cement preparation plant. Alternatively, the dust can be added to the clinker. Another important measure is a very well controlled steady operation of the kiln in order to avoid emergency shut-offs of the electrostatic precipitators. These may be caused by excessive CO concentrations. It is important to avoid high peaks of heavy metal emissions in the event of such an emergency shut-off.

53. The most relevant emission reduction measures are outlined in table 8. To reduce direct dust emissions from crushers, mills, and dryers, fabric filters are mainly used, whereas kiln and clinker cooler waste gases are controlled by electrostatic precipitators. With ESP, dust can be reduced to concentrations below 50 mg/m<sup>3</sup>. When FF are used, the clean gas dust content can be reduced to 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

**Table 8:** Emission sources, control measures, reduction efficiencies and costs for the cement industry

Emission source	Control measure(s)	Reduction efficiency (%)	Abatement costs
Direct emissions from crushers, mills, dryers	FF	Cd, Pb: > 95	..
Direct emissions from rotary kilns, clinker coolers	ESP	Cd, Pb: > 95	..
Direct emissions from rotary kilns	Carbon adsorption	Hg: > 95	..

### **Glass industry** (annex II, category 8)

54. In the glass industry, lead emissions are particularly relevant given the various types of glass in which lead is introduced as raw material (e.g. crystal glass, cathode ray tubes). In the case of soda-lime container glass, lead emissions depend on the quality of the recycled glass used in the process. The lead content in dusts from crystal glass melting is usually about 20-60%.

55. Dust emissions stem mainly from batch mixing, furnaces, diffuse leakages from furnace openings, and finishing and blasting of glass products. They depend notably on the type of fuel used, the furnace type and the type of glass produced. Oxy-fuel burners can reduce waste gas volume and flue dust production by 60%. The lead emissions from electrical heating are considerably lower than from oil/gas-firing.

56. The batch is melted in continuous tanks, day tanks or crucibles. During the melting cycle using discontinuous furnaces, the dust emission varies greatly. The dust emissions from crystal glass tanks (<5 kg/Mg melted glass) are higher than from other tanks (<1 kg/Mg melted soda and potash glass).

57. Some measures to reduce direct metal-containing dust emissions are: pelleting the glass batch, changing the heating system from oil/gas-firing to electrical heating, charging a larger share of glass returns in the batch, and applying a better selection of raw materials (size distribution) and recycled glass (avoiding lead-containing fractions). Exhaust gases can be cleaned in fabric filters, reducing the emissions below 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup>. With electrostatic precipitators 30 mg/m<sup>3</sup> is achieved. The corresponding emission reduction efficiencies are given in table 9.

58. The development of crystal glass without lead compounds is in progress.

**Table 9:** Emission sources, control measures, dust reduction efficiencies and costs for the glass industry

Emission source	Control measure(s)	Dust reduction efficiency (%)	Abatement costs (total costs)
Direct emissions	FF	> 98	..
	ESP	> 90	..

#### **Chlor-alkali industry** (annex II, category 9)

59. In the chlor-alkali industry, Cl<sub>2</sub>, alkali hydroxides and hydrogen are produced through electrolysis of a salt solution. Commonly used in existing plants are the mercury process and the diaphragm process, both of which need the introduction of good practices to avoid environmental problems. The membrane process results in no direct mercury emissions. Moreover, it shows a lower electrolytic energy and higher heat demand for alkali hydroxide concentration (the global energy balance resulting in a slight advantage for membrane cell technology in the range of 10 to 15%) and a more compact cell operation. It is, therefore, considered as the preferred option for new plants. Decision 90/3 of 14 June 1990 of the Commission for the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Land-based Sources (PARCOM) recommends that existing mercury cell chlor-alkali plants should be phased out as soon as practicable with the objective of phasing them out completely by 2010.

60. The specific investment for replacing mercury cells by the membrane process is reported to be in the region of US\$ 700-1000/Mg Cl<sub>2</sub> capacity. Although additional costs may result from, inter alia, higher utility costs and brine purification cost, the operating cost will in most cases decrease. This is due to savings mainly from lower energy consumption, and lower wastewater treatment and waste-disposal costs.

61. The sources of mercury emissions into the environment in the mercury process are: cell room ventilation; process exhausts; products, particularly hydrogen; and waste water. With regard to emissions into air, Hg diffusely emitted from the cells to the cell room are particularly relevant. Preventive measures and control are of great importance and should be prioritized

according to the relative importance of each source at a particular installation. In any case specific control measures are required when mercury is recovered from sludges resulting from the process.

62. The following measures can be taken to reduce emissions from existing mercury process plants:

- Process control and technical measures to optimize cell operation, maintenance and more efficient working methods;
- Coverings, sealings and controlled bleeding-off by suction;
- Cleaning of cell rooms and measures that make it easier to keep them clean; and
- Cleaning of limited gas streams (certain contaminated air streams and hydrogen gas).

63. These measures can cut mercury emissions to values well below 2.0 g/Mg of Cl<sub>2</sub> production capacity, expressed as an annual average. There are examples of plants that achieve emissions well below 1.0 g/Mg of Cl<sub>2</sub> production capacity. As a result of PARCOM decision 90/3, existing mercury-based chlor-alkali plants were required to meet the level of 2 g of Hg/Mg of Cl<sub>2</sub> by 31 December 1996 for emissions covered by the Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Land-based Sources. Since emissions depend to a large extent on good operating practices, the average should depend on and include maintenance periods of one year or less.

#### **Municipal, medical and hazardous waste incineration** (annex II, categories 10 and 11)

64. Emissions of cadmium, lead and mercury result from the incineration of municipal, medical and hazardous waste. Mercury, a substantial part of cadmium and minor parts of lead are volatilized in the process. Particular actions should be taken both before and after incineration to reduce these emissions.

65. The best available technology for dedusting is considered to be fabric filters in combination with dry or wet methods for controlling volatiles. Electrostatic precipitators in combination with wet systems can also be designed to reach low dust emissions, but they offer fewer opportunities than fabric filters especially with pre-coating for adsorption of volatile pollutants.

66. When BAT is used for cleaning the flue gases, the concentration of dust will be reduced to a range of 10 to 20 mg/m<sup>3</sup>; in practice lower concentrations are reached, and in some cases concentrations of less than 1 mg/m<sup>3</sup> have been reported. The concentration of mercury can be reduced to a range of 0.05 to 0.10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (normalized to 11% O<sub>2</sub>).

67. The most relevant secondary emission reduction measures are outlined in table 10. It is difficult to provide generally valid data because the relative costs in US\$/tonne depend on a particularly wide range of site-specific variables, such as waste composition.

68. Heavy metals are found in all fractions of the municipal waste stream (e.g. products, paper, organic materials). Therefore, by reducing the quantity of municipal waste that is incinerated, heavy metal emissions can be reduced. This can be accomplished through various waste management strategies, including recycling programmes and the composting of organic materials. In addition, some UN/ECE countries allow municipal waste to be landfilled. In a properly managed landfill, emissions of cadmium and lead are eliminated and mercury emissions may be lower than with incineration. Research on emissions of mercury from landfills is taking place in several UN/ECE countries.

**Table 10:** Emission sources, control measures, reduction efficiencies and costs for municipal, medical and hazardous waste incineration

<b>Emission source</b>	<b>Control measure(s)</b>	<b>Reduction efficiency (%)</b>	<b>Abatement costs (total costs US\$)</b>
Stack gases	High-efficiency scrubbers	Pb, Cd: > 98; Hg: ca. 50	..
	ESP (3 fields)	Pb, Cd: 80 - 90	10-20/Mg waste
	Wet ESP (1 field)	Pb, Cd: 95 - 99	..
	Fabric filters	Pb, Cd: 95 - 99	15-30/Mg waste
	Carbon injection + FF	Hg: > 85	operating costs: ca. 2-3/Mg waste
	Carbon bed filtration	Hg: > 99	operating costs: ca. 50/Mg waste

#### **Annex IV**

### **TIMESCALES FOR THE APPLICATION OF LIMIT VALUES AND BEST AVAILABLE TECHNIQUES TO NEW AND EXISTING STATIONARY SOURCES**

The timescales for the application of limit values and best available techniques are:

- (a) For new stationary sources: two years after the date of entry into force of the present Protocol;
- (b) For existing stationary sources: eight years after the date of entry into force of the present Protocol. If necessary, this period may be extended for specific existing stationary sources in accordance with the amortization period provided for by national legislation.

## Annex V

### **LIMIT VALUES FOR CONTROLLING EMISSIONS FROM MAJOR STATIONARY SOURCES**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

1. Two types of limit value are important for heavy metal emission control:

- Values for specific heavy metals or groups of heavy metals; and
- Values for emissions of particulate matter in general.

2. In principle, limit values for particulate matter cannot replace specific limit values for cadmium, lead and mercury, because the quantity of metals associated with particulate emissions differs from one process to another. However, compliance with these limits contributes significantly to reducing heavy metal emissions in general. Moreover, monitoring particulate emissions is generally less expensive than monitoring individual species and continuous monitoring of individual heavy metals is in general not feasible. Therefore, particulate limit values are of great practical importance and are also laid down in this annex in most cases to complement or replace specific limit values for cadmium or lead or mercury.

3. Limit values, expressed as  $\text{mg/m}^3$ , refer to standard conditions (volume at 273.15 K, 101.3 kPa, dry gas) and are calculated as an average value of one-hour measurements, covering several hours of operation, as a rule 24 hours. Periods of start-up and shutdown should be excluded. The averaging time may be extended when required to achieve sufficiently precise monitoring results. With regard to the oxygen content of the waste gas, the values given for selected major stationary sources shall apply. Any dilution for the purpose of lowering concentrations of pollutants in waste gases is forbidden. Limit values for heavy metals include the solid, gaseous and vapour form of the metal and its compounds, expressed as the metal. Whenever limit values for total emissions are given, expressed as g/unit of production or capacity respectively, they refer to the sum of stack and fugitive emissions, calculated as an annual value.

4. In cases in which an exceeding of given limit values cannot be excluded, either emissions or a performance parameter that indicates whether a control device is being properly operated and maintained shall be monitored. Monitoring of either emissions or performance indicators should take place continuously if the emitted mass flow of particulates is above 10 kg/h. If emissions are monitored, the concentrations of air pollutants in gas-carrying ducts have to be measured in a representative fashion. If particulate matter is monitored discontinuously, the concentrations should be measured at regular intervals, taking at least three independent readings per check. Sampling and analysis of all pollutants as well as reference measurement methods to calibrate automated measurement systems shall be carried out according to the standards laid down by the Comité européen de normalisation (CEN) or the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). While awaiting the development of the CEN or ISO standards, national standards shall apply. National standards can also be used if they provide equivalent results to CEN or ISO standards.

5. In the case of continuous monitoring, compliance with the limit values is achieved if none of the calculated average 24-hour emission concentrations exceeds the limit value or if the 24-hour average of the monitored parameter does not exceed the correlated value of that parameter that was established during a performance test when the control device was being properly operated and maintained. In the case of discontinuous emission monitoring, compliance is achieved if the average reading per check does not exceed the value of the limit. Compliance with each of the limit values expressed as total emissions per unit of production or total annual emissions is achieved if the monitored value is not exceeded, as described above.

## **II. SPECIFIC LIMIT VALUES FOR SELECTED MAJOR STATIONARY SOURCES**

### Combustion of fossil fuels (annex II, category 1):

6. Limit values refer to 6% O<sub>2</sub> in flue gas for solid fuels and to 3% O<sub>2</sub> for liquid fuels.
7. Limit value for particulate emissions for solid and liquid fuels: 50 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

### Sinter plants (annex II, category 2):

8. Limit value for particulate emissions: 50 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

### Pellet plants (annex II, category 2):

9. Limit value for particulate emissions:
  - (a) Grinding, drying: 25 mg/m<sup>3</sup>; and
  - (b) Pelletizing: 25 mg/m<sup>3</sup>; or
10. Limit value for total particulate emissions: 40 g/Mg of pellets produced.

### Blast furnaces (annex II, category 3):

11. Limit value for particulate emissions: 50 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

### Electric arc furnaces (annex II, category 3):

12. Limit value for particulate emissions: 20 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

### Production of copper and zinc, including Imperial Smelting furnaces (annex II, categories 5 and 6):

13. Limit value for particulate emissions: 20 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.



Production of lead (annex II, categories 5 and 6):

14. Limit value for particulate emissions: 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

Cement industry (annex II, category 7):

15. Limit value for particulate emissions: 50 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

Glass industry (annex II, category 8):

16. Limit values refer to different O<sub>2</sub> concentrations in flue gas depending on furnace type: tank furnaces: 8%; pot furnaces and day tanks: 13%.

17. Limit value for lead emissions: 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

Chlor-alkali industry (annex II, category 9):

18. Limit values refer to the total quantity of mercury released by a plant into the air, regardless of the emission source and expressed as an annual mean value.

19. Limit values for existing chlor-alkali plants shall be evaluated by the Parties meeting within the Executive Body no later than two years after the date of entry into force of the present Protocol.

20. Limit value for new chlor-alkali plants: 0.01 g Hg/Mg Cl<sub>2</sub> production capacity.

Municipal, medical and hazardous waste incineration (annex II, categories 10 and 11):

21. Limit values refer to 11% O<sub>2</sub> concentration in flue gas.

22. Limit value for particulate emissions:

(a) 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for hazardous and medical waste incineration;

(b) 25 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for municipal waste incineration.

23. Limit value for mercury emissions:

(a) 0.05 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for hazardous waste incineration;

(b) 0.08 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for municipal waste incineration;

(c) Limit values for mercury-containing emissions from medical waste incineration shall be evaluated by the Parties meeting within the Executive Body no later than two years after the date of entry into force of the present Protocol.

## Annex VI

### PRODUCT CONTROL MEASURES

1. Except as otherwise provided in this annex, no later than six months after the date of entry into force of the present Protocol, the lead content of marketed petrol intended for on-road vehicles shall not exceed 0.013 g/l. Parties marketing unleaded petrol with a lead content lower than 0.013 g/l shall endeavour to maintain or lower that level.
2. Each Party shall endeavour to ensure that the change to fuels with a lead content as specified in paragraph 1 above results in an overall reduction in the harmful effects on human health and the environment.
3. Where a State determines that limiting the lead content of marketed petrol in accordance with paragraph 1 above would result in severe socio-economic or technical problems for it or would not lead to overall environmental or health benefits because of, inter alia, its climate situation, it may extend the time period given in that paragraph to a period of up to 10 years, during which it may market leaded petrol with a lead content not exceeding 0.15 g/l. In such a case, the State shall specify, in a declaration to be deposited together with its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, that it intends to extend the time period and present to the Executive Body in writing information on the reasons for this.
4. A Party is permitted to market small quantities, up to 0.5 per cent of its total petrol sales, of leaded petrol with a lead content not exceeding 0.15 g/l to be used by old on-road vehicles.
5. Each Party shall, no later than five years, or ten years for countries with economies in transition that state their intention to adopt a ten-year period in a declaration to be deposited with their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, after the date of entry into force of this Protocol, achieve concentration levels which do not exceed:
  - (a) 0.05 per cent of mercury by weight in alkaline manganese batteries for prolonged use in extreme conditions (e.g. temperature below 0°C or above 50°C, exposed to shocks); and
  - (b) 0.025 per cent of mercury by weight in all other alkaline manganese batteries.

The above limits may be exceeded for a new application of a battery technology, or use of a battery in a new product, if reasonable safeguards are taken to ensure that the resulting battery or product without an easily removable battery will be disposed of in an environmentally sound manner. Alkaline manganese button cells and batteries composed of button cells shall also be exempted from this obligation.

## Annex VII

### PRODUCT MANAGEMENT MEASURES

1. This annex aims to provide guidance to Parties on product management measures.
2. The Parties may consider appropriate product management measures such as those listed below, where warranted as a result of the potential risk of adverse effects on human health or the environment from emissions of one or more of the heavy metals listed in annex I, taking into account all relevant risks and benefits of such measures, with a view to ensuring that any changes to products result in an overall reduction of harmful effects on human health and the environment:
  - (a) The substitution of products containing one or more intentionally added heavy metals listed in annex I, if a suitable alternative exists;
  - (b) The minimization or substitution in products of one or more intentionally added heavy metals listed in annex I;
  - (c) The provision of product information including labelling to ensure that users are informed of the content of one or more intentionally added heavy metals listed in annex I and of the need for safe use and waste handling;
  - (d) The use of economic incentives or voluntary agreements to reduce or eliminate the content in products of the heavy metals listed in annex I; and
  - (e) The development and implementation of programmes for the collection, recycling or disposal of products containing one of the heavy metals in annex I in an environmentally sound manner.
3. Each product or product group listed below contains one or more of the heavy metals listed in annex I and is the subject of regulatory or voluntary action by at least one Party to the Convention based for a significant part on the contribution of that product to emissions of one or more of the heavy metals in annex I. However, sufficient information is not yet available to confirm that they are a significant source for all Parties, thereby warranting inclusion in annex VI. Each Party is encouraged to consider available information and, where satisfied of the need to take precautionary measures, to apply product management measures such as those listed in paragraph 2 above to one or more of the products listed below:
  - (a) Mercury-containing electrical components, i.e. devices that contain one or several contacts/sensors for the transfer of electrical current such as relays, thermostats, level switches, pressure switches and other switches (actions taken include a ban on most mercury-containing electrical components; voluntary programmes to replace some mercury switches with electronic or special switches; voluntary recycling programmes for switches; and voluntary recycling programmes for thermostats);
  - (b) Mercury-containing measuring devices such as thermometers, manometers,

barometers, pressure gauges, pressure switches and pressure transmitters (actions taken include a ban on mercury-containing thermometers and ban on measuring instruments);

(c) Mercury-containing fluorescent lamps (actions taken include reductions in mercury content per lamp through both voluntary and regulatory programmes and voluntary recycling programmes);

(d) Mercury-containing dental amalgam (actions taken include voluntary measures and a ban with exemptions on the use of dental amalgams and voluntary programmes to promote capture of dental amalgam before release to water treatment plants from dental surgeries);

(e) Mercury-containing pesticides including seed dressing (actions taken include bans on all mercury pesticides including seed treatments and a ban on mercury use as a disinfectant);

(f) Mercury-containing paint (actions taken include bans on all such paints, bans on such paints for interior use and use on children's toys; and bans on use in antifouling paints); and

(g) Mercury-containing batteries other than those covered in annex VI (actions taken include reductions in mercury content through both voluntary and regulatory programmes and environmental charges and voluntary recycling programmes).

EXECUTIVE BODY DECISION 1998/1 ON THE CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES  
FOR ADDING HEAVY METALS AND PRODUCTS  
TO THE PROTOCOL ON HEAVY METALS

The Executive Body,

Resolved to act as early as possible to develop criteria and procedures for adding heavy metals and products to the forthcoming protocol on heavy metals,

Adopts with reference to article 13, paragraphs 6 and 7 of the protocol, the criteria and procedures for adding heavy metals and products to annexes I, VI, or VII set out below.

CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR ADDING HEAVY METALS AND PRODUCTS  
TO ANNEXES I, VI OR VII TO THE PROTOCOL ON HEAVY METALS

1. A Party submitting a proposal to amend:

- (1) Annex I to add a heavy metal; or
- (2) Annex VI to add a product control measure; or
- (3) Annex VII to add a product or product group

to the protocol in accordance with article 13, paragraph 6, shall provide the Executive Body with information in accordance with paragraphs 2, 3 or 4 below, as appropriate.

2. Proposals to amend annex I to add a heavy metal shall include:

- (1) A risk profile and the following information:
  - (i) Environmental measurement and source apportionment data in areas remote from anthropogenic sources or data on long-range transboundary atmospheric transport modelling, including methodology, for the species that has known adverse effects which demonstrate the potential for long-range transboundary atmospheric transport;
  - (ii) Partitioning in environmental compartments, bioavailability, transformation processes, biomagnification, and accumulation which demonstrate environmental fate at locations remote from anthropogenic sources; and
  - (iii) Toxicity data which demonstrate the potential to cause adverse effects on human health or the environment;
- (b) Information, as available, on:

- (i) Production/use/emissions;
- (ii) Proposed control measures (e.g. technological equipment, process modification, and alternatives);
- (iii) The efficacy, applicability, risks and the quantifiable and non-monetary costs and benefits of the proposed control measures and alternatives; and
- (iv) The handling and disposal of the heavy metal resulting from the control measures.

3. Proposals to amend annex VI to add a product control measure shall include:

- (1) A description of:
  - (i) The product or product group, including its Harmonized Tariff Code, if applicable, to be subject to the control measure; and
  - (ii) The proposed product control measure;
- (2) Information, as available, on:
  - (i) The manufacture, use and disposal of the product or product group to be subject to the control measure;
  - (ii) The contribution of the product or product group to the total emissions of a heavy metal listed in annex I within the territory of the Party to the Convention and the UN/ECE region as a whole prior to any product management measure to reduce such contribution and the methodology used; and
  - (iii) The efficacy, applicability, risks and quantifiable and non-monetary costs and benefits of taking the proposed measure.

4. Proposals to amend annex VII to add a product or product group shall include:

- (1) A description of:
  - (i) The action taken by any Party to the Convention to reduce emissions to the atmosphere from the product or product group; and
  - (ii) The product or product group, including its Harmonized Tariff Code, if applicable, which is subject to the action taken;
- (2) Information, as available, on:

- (i) The contribution of the product or product group to the total emissions of a heavy metal listed in annex I within the territory of the Party to the Convention and the UN/ECE region as a whole prior to any product management measure to reduce such contribution and the methodology used; and
- (ii) The rationale for the action taken, including the perceived risk and the cost or benefit of such a measure and the emission reduction achieved.

5. Upon receipt of a proposal prepared in accordance with paragraph 2, 3, or 4 above, and if the risk profile is deemed acceptable, the Parties shall, at a meeting of the Executive Body and by consensus, ensure that one or more technical reviews of the proposal are conducted if, on the basis of the proposal and any other relevant information submitted to the Executive Body, further consideration of the heavy metal, product, product group or product control measure is determined to be warranted. Any such technical reviews shall be in writing and evaluate:

- (1) For addition of a heavy metal to annex I:
  - (i) The monitoring or equivalent scientific evidence documenting long-range transboundary atmospheric transport from anthropogenic sources;
  - (ii) Whether emissions to the atmosphere of the heavy metal have the potential to lead to a bioavailable form which can accumulate or biomagnify to harmful levels;
  - (iii) Whether sufficient information exists that the levels resulting from the long-range transboundary atmospheric transport of the heavy metal have the potential to cause significant adverse effects on human health or the environment;
  - (iv) Information concerning the sources of the heavy metal in the atmosphere, including the use of products, estimates of the total emissions from these sources and the methodologies used; and
  - (v) Whether measures exist to reduce the risk of adverse effects on human health and/or the environment as a result of its long-range transboundary atmospheric transport, and whether they are technically feasible, as well as their associated effects and costs;
- (2) For addition of a product control measure to annex VI:
  - (i) Whether the product or product group intentionally contains one or more of the heavy metals specified in annex I;

- (ii) Whether atmospheric emissions occurring during manufacture, processing, distribution in commerce, use, and disposal of the product or product group, have the potential to lead to a bioavailable form and, taking into account controls in place at each point of this process, account for a significant contribution to total transboundary atmospheric emissions of a heavy metal specified in annex I within the UN/ECE region that cause adverse effects on human health or the environment; and
  - (iii) The extent to which the proposed measure reduces emissions, and an assessment of its costs, benefits, and, as appropriate, its efficacy and risks or the extent to which suitable alternative measures exist;
- (3) For addition of a product or product group to annex VII:
- (i) Whether it intentionally contains one or more of the heavy metals specified in annex I;
  - (ii) The action taken by any Party to the Convention and its estimated efficiency in reducing emissions to the atmosphere of the heavy metal;
  - (iii) The rationale, emissions reduction, costs and benefits of this action; and
  - (iv) Whether its atmospheric emissions have the potential to lead to a bioavailable form, occurring during its manufacture, processing, distribution in commerce, use, and disposal, and taking into account controls in place at each point of this process, account for a significant contribution to total atmospheric emissions of a heavy metal specified in annex I within the territory of the Party to the Convention that cause adverse effects on human health or the environment.

6. The term risk profile mentioned in paragraphs 2 and 5 above refers to a comprehensive review of the scientific information related to the determination of general human health and environmental risks associated with the uses and releases of a substance. Such a review need not explicitly address risks associated with long-range transboundary air pollution, but must provide suitable information for the assessment of such risk.

7. On the basis of the submission specified in paragraph 2, 3, or 4 above and any technical reviews that may have been prepared in accordance with paragraph 5 above, the Parties shall, at a meeting of the Executive Body, complete their evaluation of the proposal taking into account the objective of the protocol set out in article 2.