



Council of the
European Union

141351/EU XXV. GP
Eingelangt am 28/04/17

Brussels, 28 April 2017
(OR. en)

8499/17

Interinstitutional File:
2016/0021 (NLE)

ENV 384
COMER 60
MI 351
ONU 64
SAN 159
IND 91

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. prev. doc.:	6250/3/17 ENV 127 COMER 21 MI 124 ONU 25 SAN 62 IND 36 REV 3
No. Cion doc.:	5772/16 ENV 42 COMER 8 MI 56 ONU 9 SAN 39 IND 24 - COM(2016) 42 final + ADD 1 + ADD 1 REV 1 (de)
Subject:	Draft Council Decision on the conclusion on behalf of the European Union of the Minamata Convention on Mercury - Adoption

1. On 10 October 2013, the Minamata Convention on Mercury ('the Convention') was adopted in Kumamoto. The Convention provides for a framework for the control and limitation of the use, and of anthropogenic emissions and releases, of mercury and mercury compounds to air, water and land, with a view to protecting human health and the environment.
2. In accordance with the Decision by the Council of 23 September 2013, the Convention was signed on 10 October 2013 on behalf of the European Union, subject to its conclusion at a later date. Swift ratification of the Convention by the Union and its Member States will allow its entry into force and encourage major global mercury users and emitters, which are signatories of the Convention, to ratify and implement it.

3. The Commission submitted a proposal for the abovementioned Decision to Council on 2 February 2016¹, together with a proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council on mercury².
4. After the successful conclusion of the negotiations for a first reading agreement with the European Parliament on the Regulation on mercury, the Council, on 7 March 2017, requested the consent of the European Parliament on the text of the draft Decision as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts (doc. 5925/17), with a view to its later adoption.
5. At its Plenary meeting on 27 April 2017, the European Parliament gave its consent to the Decision.
6. Consequently, the Committee of Permanent Representatives is invited to suggest that the Council
 - as an "A" item at a forthcoming session, adopt its Decision on the conclusion on behalf of the European Union of the Minamata Convention on Mercury as set out in doc. 5925/17 + COR 1, together with the text of the Convention set out in doc. 5925/17 ADD 1 + ADD 1 COR 1 - ADD 1 COR 2 (pt) + ADD 1 REV 1 (sv) and the Declaration of Competence set out in doc. 5925/17 ADD 2 + ADD 2 COR 1 + ADD 2 COR 1 REV 1 (es);
 - decide that the joint statement of DK and UK and the statement of PL in the addendum to this note be entered in the minutes of that meeting.

¹ COM(2016) 42 final - doc. 5772/16 + ADD 1 + ADD 1 REV 1 (de)

² COM(2016) 39 final - doc. 5771/16 + ADD 1-4.