

11 March, 2016

Supply Sources and Trade Intervention by ISACI for INC7

Given by Imogen Ingram, Island Sustainability Alliance (Cook Islands) ISACI

Thank you Mr. Chair

I am speaking on the behalf of Island Sustainability Alliance (Cook Islands) ISACI - a member organization of IPEN.

We support the CRP that was submitted by Switzerland and Norway about completing forms under Article 3, in particular the emphasis on including all the information that countries need to make a decision on import. We view this as right to know for countries.

We also would like to reinforce the need for prior written consent since we believe that transparency is vital to the implementation of the Minamata Convention. Parties should make import forms publicly available as part of efforts under Art. 18 of the Convention on Public Awareness and Education. To fulfil this requirement, all relevant information should be available not just to the Secretariat but also on the Convention website, in order to facilitate analysis by researchers, including academia and other stakeholders.

Limiting mercury supply and trade is key to advancing treaty goals.

Thank you Mr Chairman