



Thank you Mr. Chair,

Mercury trade, export and import plays an important role in this treaty to ensure the convention achieve its goal, that is to protect human health and the environment. We need to be aware that the export bans in some countries will create new dynamics with trade developments in other countries and regions. Since the US and EU enacted the mercury export ban, some new and mostly invisible mercury trade hubs are emerging.

For this reason it is important that not only the importing countries must fill in the prior informed consent form, but equally important is that the exporting countries provide details of the shipments before they send the mercury to other countries.

We would like to support the statement made by the delegate from Egypt, that the exporting countries also provide the information identifying transit countries.

We would like to highlight also the importance of the agreed platform and access to information related to all the export and import notifications submitted to the Secretariat. A quarterly report of notifications, including the corrections notification, needs to be maintained and submitted to secretariat.

Countries also need to share relevant regulations related to mercury import, export and trade in their respective countries through the import and export notification forms.

The notifications submitted to the Secretariat will create a publicly accessible database on mercury imports, including volume and potentially intended use. The data may give an indication that stockpiles greater than 10 metric tons may signal ASGM activity. So, the PIC data can be a valuable tool to convince regulators that actions must be taken immediately.

Thank you Mr. Chair.