

Party: European Union	Pollutant(s): Mercury
Protocol(s): The 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals and its amendment	Sector: waste
Type of strategy, policy or measure and the level of implementation: measure: to be implemented at international level	Method used for the current analysis:
<p>What is the main objective of the strategy, policy or measure? When has it been implemented/or will be implemented?</p> <p>By signing the Minamata Convention on Mercury of 2013 ('the Convention') the Parties to the Minamata Convention committed to its conclusion, transposition and implementation.</p> <p>Waste incineration facilities are identified in the Minamata Convention as one of the major industrial sources of mercury emissions.</p> <p>The Guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices for Waste Incineration Facilities was adopted in September 2017.</p>	
<p>Background and driving forces:</p> <p>The Minamata Convention on Mercury, that was adopted in 2013 and entered into force on 16 August 2017, is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of mercury.</p> <p>Building on the 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals, the Minamata Convention raised the profile of mercury to the global level.</p> <p>One of major highlights of the Minamata Convention include control measures on emissions to air.</p> <p>At the first meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury adopted guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices for preventing and controlling emissions of mercury to air from major industrial sectors (listed in Annex D to the Convention) to assist Parties with its effective implementation.</p>	
<p>Description of the strategy, policy or measure:</p> <p>The environmentally sound design and operation of industrial plants require the use of both best available techniques (BAT) and best environmental practices (BEP), in order to prevent or minimize the emissions of harmful substances like mercury.</p>	
<p>Costs, Funding and Revenue allocation:</p> <p>Measures are funding by industry</p>	
<p>Effect and impacts on air pollution abatement:</p> <p>Reduction of emissions of mercury into air</p>	
<p>References/Further information:</p> <p>http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Portals/11/documents/forms-guidance/English/BATBEP_waste.pdf</p>	

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Party: European Union	Pollutant(s): E.g. SO ₂ , NO _x , dust, heavy metals including mercury, NH ₃
Protocol(s): 1999 Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone and its 2012 amended version The 1998 Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and its amendment The 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals and its amendment	Sector: Industry, energy, waste, agriculture
Type of strategy, policy or measure and the level of implementation: Policy/measure: Implemented at national level in the EU Member States.	Method used for the current analysis: Highly technical, data driven process based on information exchange between stakeholders, Industry and Member States
What is the main objective of the strategy, policy or measure? When has it been implemented/or will be implemented? The Industrial Emission Directive (IED) 2010/75/EU regulates the environmental impacts of approx. 55 000 of largest industrial installations. It establishes an obligation for plants to be issued with a permit based on the use Best Available Techniques (BAT) and setting emission limits specific to the plant based on the BAT. The list and description of BAT and the associated emission levels (BAT-AELs) are set out in a BAT conclusions document. These are adopted as Commission Implementing Decisions. These conclusions are also the conclusions document from large information documents called BAT reference documents (BREFs). Once adopted, MS competent authorities must update installations' permits in line with them, in particular the emission levels they contain, within 4 years. To this end, 14 BAT conclusions are adopted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iron and steel production (IS) • Manufacture of glass (GLS) • Cement, lime and magnesium oxide manufacturing industries (CLM) • Tanning of hides and skins (TAN) • Production of chlor-alkali (CAK) • Production of pulp, paper and board (PP) • Refining of mineral oil and gas (REF) • Wood-based panels production (WBP) • Common waste water and waste gas treatment/management systems in the chemical sector (CWW) • Non-ferrous metals industries (NFM) • Intensive rearing of poultry and pigs (IRPP) • Large combustion plants (LCP) • Large Volume Organic Chemicals (LVOC) • Waste Treatment (WT) During 2019, BAT conclusions for Food Milk and Drink (FDM) and BAT conclusions for incineration of waste are planned to be adopted.	

Background and driving forces:

The IED was adopted on 24 November 2010. It is based on a Commission proposal recasting seven previous Directives (including in particular the IPPC Directive) following an extensive review of the policy. The IED entered into force on 6 January 2011 and had to be transposed by Member States by 7 January 2013.

Air pollution is the prime environmental cause of premature deaths in the EU, for which large industrial installations are one of the main sources. The EU objective to protect human health and the environment can not be met without further reduction in emissions from the industry.

The IED aims to achieve a high level of protection of human health and the environment taken as a whole by reducing harmful industrial emissions across the EU, in particular through application of Best Available Techniques (BAT).

The Clean Air package builds on existing legal requirements in the baseline scenario, but shows that additional measures are needed to achieve the 2030 objectives. As part of this, the BAT conclusions help in supporting Member States achieve their new national emission reduction targets for 2030 under the recently adopted Gothenburg Protocol.

Description of the strategy, policy or measure:

BAT conclusions are very important to ensure a level playing field and for further innovation in pollution prevention and abatement.

The adopted BAT conclusions setting emission levels associated with BAT (BAT-AELs) for key pollutant within installations in its scope.

BAT AELs that are expressed as ranges which in their higher and lower ends reflect the environmental performance of the best available techniques in use in the sector.

The BAT AELs are complemented by an obligation to monitor emissions.

The legislation also sets environmental performance levels for the efficiency of energy and consumption levels.

Costs, Funding and Revenue allocation:

Measures implementing the BAT conclusions are funded by industry

Effect and impacts on air pollution abatement:

Studies on cost benefits of the BAT conclusions: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/36379180-c0a6-4b66-9019-64a5a0229116>

References/Further information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/industry/stationary/ied/legislation.htm>

<http://eippcb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/reference/>

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Additional comments:

The EU BAT process is internationally respected. BREFs and BAT conclusions are used and translated in non EU countries.

Party: European Union	Pollutant(s): E.g. SO ₂ , NO _x , NMVOC, PM _{2.5} and NH ₃
Protocol(s): 1999 Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone and its 2012 amended version	Sector: Multi-sector approach including agriculture, industry, transport, energy.
Type of strategy, policy or measure and the level of implementation: Dialogue: national/EU	Method used for the current analysis: Qualitative assessment
<p>What is the main objective of the strategy, policy or measure? When has it been implemented/or will be implemented?</p> <p>The European Commission's Clean Air Programme for Europe from 2013 states the intent to enhance the means for exchanging best practice both at EU and national level, in order to contribute to reducing emissions and improve air quality as well as contribute to compliance with EU regulations (Air Quality Directive 2008/50/EC and Reduction of National Emissions Directive 2016/2284/EU).</p> <p>To this end, an initiative of Clean Air Dialogues was launched, with the purposes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better understanding the models of implementation in EU Member States. • Exchange of good practices between Member States. • Promote synergies between policies on air and transport, climate/energy, agriculture etc. • Raise awareness in Member States about funding streams available through EU funds. <p>The Clean Air Dialogues aim to support Member States with their implementation efforts. It is also seeking synergies with Energy Union and Climate Change policies, including the Clean Mobility Package, as well as with dialogue initiatives, such as the Platform for Coal Regions in Transition set-up under the 'Clean Energy for All Europeans' framework. The goal is to facilitate full implementation of EU and national air pollution policies across all economic sectors, while raising awareness and allowing citizens to directly engage on the steps being taken to improve their air quality. It should ensure high-level political representation at these dialogues. Member States are invited to make use of these dialogues for developing an integrated approach to addressing the air quality challenge, across levels of governance and across economic sectors.</p> <p>This will also complement existing co-operation which is taking place in the context of the Environmental Implementation Review and the "Peer-to-Peer tool" which were both launched in 2017 to improve implementation of environmental legislation in the EU.</p> <p>The implementation of the initiative started in 2017. To date, six Clean Air Dialogues have taken place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Czech Republic, 7-8 November 2018 • Spain, 8-9 October 2018 • Slovakia, 24-25 April 2018 • Hungary, 3-4 October 2017 • Luxembourg, 29-30 June 2017 • Ireland, 1-2 March 2017 <p>During 2019, Clean Air Dialogues are planned in Italy and the Netherlands.</p>	
<p>Background and driving forces: The European Commission's 2013 Clean Air Programme for Europe set out a roadmap for air</p>	

pollution action across the Community over the next decade and beyond. To follow up on this, in 2015 the Commission presented an orientation paper for the Ambient Air Quality Expert Group, including the proposal to set up bilateral structured Clean Air Country Dialogues to help foster the collaborative approach required to deliver actions for enhancing air quality and reducing air pollution in the future.

This was reiterated in the 2018 Communication “A Europe that protects: Clean air for all” (COM (2018) 330), stating that there is still an urgent need to improve air quality in Europe through the full implementation of the air quality standards agreed by the Member States and the European Parliament. This requires action at all levels (national, regional, local) and the European Commission is supporting such action by means of all the tools at its disposal.

Improving air quality remains a challenge for Europe also in the long-term. This requires a comprehensive approach across different sectors, from transport, energy, to local planning, bringing together all the different actors concerned. The European Commission will continue to support Member States via tools such as the Clean Air Dialogues.

While the EU has a uniform legislative regime for tackling air pollution, the ways in which that is implemented varies greatly between Member States. This raises the need for a supportive and collaborative programme of information exchange – a dialogue – aimed at better understanding the models of implementation, the differences between those models, their successes and challenges and, in time, which elements could be useful in other countries under good practice exchange.

The Clean Air Dialogue also offers an opportunity for bringing all stakeholders to the table for open discussions, mobilising partnerships across sectors and government levels.

Description of the strategy, policy or measure:

The initiative for a jointly organised Clean Air Dialogue comes from the Member State. The Commission and the Member State jointly develop an agenda and agree on the main issues for discussion. The outcome of each Clean Air Dialogue is a joint conclusion document, published on the Commission website.

In order to be successful, the Dialogues are based on a common set of principles:

- The process should be open, supportive and operated on a voluntary basis, with ownership from both Member States and the Commission;
- Dialogues should consider all levels of air pollution management (national, regional and local government and agencies), key stakeholders, and cross border issues;
- The focus of the dialogue should be on how the future situation can be improved;
- The scope should be consistent, but flexible in emphasis and structure to maximise the benefits of the dialogue for each Member State;
- The Clean Air Dialogues are closely coordinated with the Environmental Implementation Review, which pursues the same objectives of improving implementation of EU environmental law and policy, addressing the causes of implementation gaps, and looking for solutions before problems become urgent.

Success criteria include the mobilisation of key emission source sector representatives, e.g. from the agriculture, transport and energy/industry policy sectors.

Costs, Funding and Revenue allocation:

The Member State offers the venue for the Clean Air Dialogue. Travel costs for participants are covered by each organisation.

Effect and impacts on air pollution abatement:

Impacts are not quantified. Outcome from the Clean Air Dialogues include preparations of government resolutions on clean air measures, project proposals for EU funding and new partnerships between participating stakeholders.

References/Further information:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/clean_air/dialogue.htm

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Additional comments:

The Clean Air Dialogues could be replicated also at national or sub-national level as a tool for mobilising a broad section of actors and notably with a cross-sectorial approach.

Party: European Union	Pollutant(s): mercury
Protocol(s): The 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals and its amendment	Sector: Storage, trade, the manufacture and use of mercury and mercury-added products, mercury waste
Type of strategy, policy or measure and the level of implementation: Policy/measure: Implemented at national level in the EU Member States.	Method used for the current analysis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study on EU Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, ICF, COWI, BiPRO, Garrigues (March 2015). • Ratification of the Minamata Convention by the EU - Complementary Assessment of the Mercury Export Ban, COWI, BiPRO (June 2015). • Stakeholder contributions • A public consultation
What is the main objective of the strategy, policy or measure? When has it been implemented/or will be implemented? By signing the Minamata Convention on Mercury of 2013 ('the Convention') the EU committed to its conclusion, transposition and implementation. Regulation (EU) 2017/852 of The European Parliament and of The Council of 17 May 2017 on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008, complements the EU acquis and lays down the provisions that are needed to ensure the complete alignment of the EU acquis with the Convention. The Regulation applies as from 1st January 2018.	
Background and driving forces: The 7 th Environment Action Programme establishes the long-term objective of a non-toxic environment and, for that purpose, stipulates that action is needed to ensure the minimisation of significant adverse effects of chemicals on human health and the environment by 2020. The Community Strategy Concerning Mercury of 28 January 2005 from the European Commission aims at minimising and, where feasible, ultimately eliminating global anthropogenic mercury releases to air, water and land. The Strategy recommends that the negotiation and conclusion of an international legally-binding instrument on mercury should be a priority as EU action alone cannot guarantee effective protection of the citizens of the EU against the negative health effects of mercury.	
Description of the strategy, policy or measure: The Regulation establishes measures and conditions concerning the use and storage of and trade in mercury, mercury compounds and mixtures of mercury, and the manufacture and use of and trade in mercury-added products, and the management of mercury waste, in order to ensure a high level of protection of human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds.	

It covers the full life cycle of mercury and complements a large body of existing EU environmental law on mercury, by inter alia:

- Prohibiting the export of mercury and mercury compounds;
- Prohibiting the manufacture, export and import of a large range of mercury-added products;
- Putting an end to all uses of mercury catalysts and large electrodes in industrial processes;
- Reducing the use of and pollution from dental amalgam, which is the last large use of mercury in the EU, and setting out a process to assess the feasibility of a complete phase out of the use of mercury in dentistry;
- Closing the door to future new uses of mercury in industry and in products;
- Ensuring that mercury waste (liquid mercury) is safely taken out of the economic sphere, stabilised in a less toxic form and stored permanently in environmentally sound conditions.

Costs, Funding and Revenue allocation:

Measures are funding by industry

Effect and impacts on air pollution abatement:

A study on the Assessment of the feasibility of phasing out dental amalgam has been launched. The output of this study will be the basis for report reviewing on the feasibility of the phase-out of dental amalgam.

The Commission has adopted the following Implementing Acts:

- Commission Decision on forms to be used in relation to the import of mercury
- An Inventory of mercury-added products and manufacturing processes using mercury or mercury compounds is available in accordance with Art 8(7) of the Regulation

References/Further information:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/mercury/regulation_en.htm

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