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United Nations Environment Programme

Conference of the Parties to the
Minamata Convention on Mercury
First meeting
Geneva, 24–29 September 2017

Decision adopted by the first Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

MC-1/11: Secretariat

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting that a secretariat has been established pursuant to paragraph 1 of article 24 of the Convention,

Recalling that paragraph 3 of article 24 of the Convention designates the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to perform the secretariat functions for the Convention,

Welcoming the offer of the Government of Switzerland to host the secretariat in Geneva and an annual host country contribution of 1 million Swiss francs,

1. *Decides* that 60 per cent of the host country contribution will be allocated to the General Trust Fund and 40 per cent will be allocated to the Special Trust Fund to support developing country delegate travel;
2. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to perform the secretariat functions initially through a secretariat of the Minamata Convention located in Geneva;
3. *Decides* to review at its second meeting the organizational arrangements, including location and the host country contribution, in accordance with the spirit of the offer of the Government of Switzerland to host the permanent secretariat;¹
4. *Requests* that, in the interim, the secretariat continue to cooperate and coordinate, as appropriate, with other relevant actors, including the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the relevant units of the United Nations Environment Programme in order to make full use of relevant experience and expertise.

¹ See UNEP/MC/COP.1/INF/8.