



Minamata Convention on Mercury



Briefing to Permanent Missions on the “Minamata Convention on Mercury”

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Draft Schedule (as of 5 September)

	Sun. Oct. 6	Mon. October 7 Preparatory Meeting Day 1 (Kumamoto)	Tue. October 8 Preparatory Meeting Day 2 (Kumamoto)	Wed. October 9 Diplomatic Conference Day 1 (Minamata)	Thu. October 10 Diplomatic Conference Day 2 (Kumamoto)	Fri. October 11 Diplomatic Conference Day 3 (Kumamoto)
8:00			Registration*	Bureau meeting		Bureau meeting
9:00		Regional meetings	Regional meetings	Full Day Travel to Minamata (byBus)	Regional meetings	Regional meetings
10:00	Registration		Preparatory meeting	Half Day Travel to Minamata (byShinkansen)	Diplomatic Conference	Diplomatic Conference
11:00				Study tour		
12:00						
13:00		Exhibitions	Exhibitions	Tour (incl. lunch) • Remembrance Floral Tributi • Minamata Disease Municipl Museum • Prefectural Environmental Center • Minamata Disease Archives	Exhibitions	Exhibitions
14:00			Side events		Side events	Side events
15:00						
16:00		Preparatory meeting	Preparatory meeting	Move to ceremony venue	Diplomatic Conference	Diplomatic Conference
17:00				Ceremonial Opening (at Minamata Cultural Hall)		
18:00			Swiss break			
19:00				Reception (at Minamata Moya i Naoshi Center)	Transfer	
20:00					Reception (at Kumamoto Castle)	
21:00				Travel to Kumamoto (byBus)		
22:00						

*Registration counter will be open from 6 October (Sun). It will be open from 8:00 to 18:00 daily, except for 6 October from 10:00 to 20:00 (tbc).

**Other optional tours are planned for 12 October by local organisers.

Minamata tour (Overview (Oct 9))

1. On Wednesday, 9 October 2013, the Government of Japan will organize a one-day 'Minamata Visit' programme, during which participants are able to visit Minamata city, the site of the Minamata disease outbreak caused by contamination from methyl mercury-containing effluent from chemical plants that occurred more than fifty years ago.
2. There are two types of programme, either full-day or half-day. *(The full-day programme has reached maximum enrollment. Registration for the half-day programme is still open.)*

Minamata tour (Overview (Oct 9))

3. Also, there will be an opportunity to learn the history and lessons of Minamata Disease through a visit to some museums.
4. In the evening on 9 October, a Ceremonial Opening of the Diplomatic Conference will be held, where a “Lecture by storyteller” will be performed by Minamata Disease patient. A reception hosted by Japan will follow the Ceremonial Opening.
5. For the full day programme, in addition to the above, participants can visit a small-scale care facility to dialogue with patients or a private museum to learn more about the history of Minamata Disease.

Minamata tour (Ceremonial opening (Oct 9))

**(Organised by the UNEP and Ministry of the Environment,
the Japanese Government)**

17:00 – 17:15 The movie “Outline of Minamata Disease”

17:15 –17:40 Remarks by representatives of UNEP and host
country

17:40 –18:10 Lecture by storyteller of Minamata Disease

18:10 – Walk to the reception place at Moyai-kan

18:30 –19:30 Reception at Moyai-kan

Note!

- During the conference, vehicle access to the venues (Kumamoto and Minamata) will be highly restricted. Delegations are required to register and obtain a vehicle pass in advance from Ministry of the Environment, Japan.
- Pre-registration for participation in the Minamata visit is strongly recommended at the time of pre-registration for the Diplomatic Conference.
- The display of conference badges is mandatory to gain access to the venues in Minamata city. Participants are requested to register and receive their badges at the registration counter in Hotel Nikko Kumamoto before departure to Minamata.
- If the visit is called off due to heavy rain a notice will be displayed by 8 a.m. in the main lobbies of the main hotels.

Kuma-mon

Sales Manager of
Kumamoto Prefecture



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<http://www.env.go.jp/en/chemi/mercury/mcm.html>

For further information please contact followings.

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