



# **The Children's Amendment to the Minamata Convention on Mercury:**

## ***Overview of campaign to implement the Children's Amendment in Africa.***

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Webinar by the Africa Institute for Anglophone Africa, 8 April 2025

## The Children's Amendment to the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Decision MC-4/3: Review of and amendments to annexes A and B to the Minamata Convention

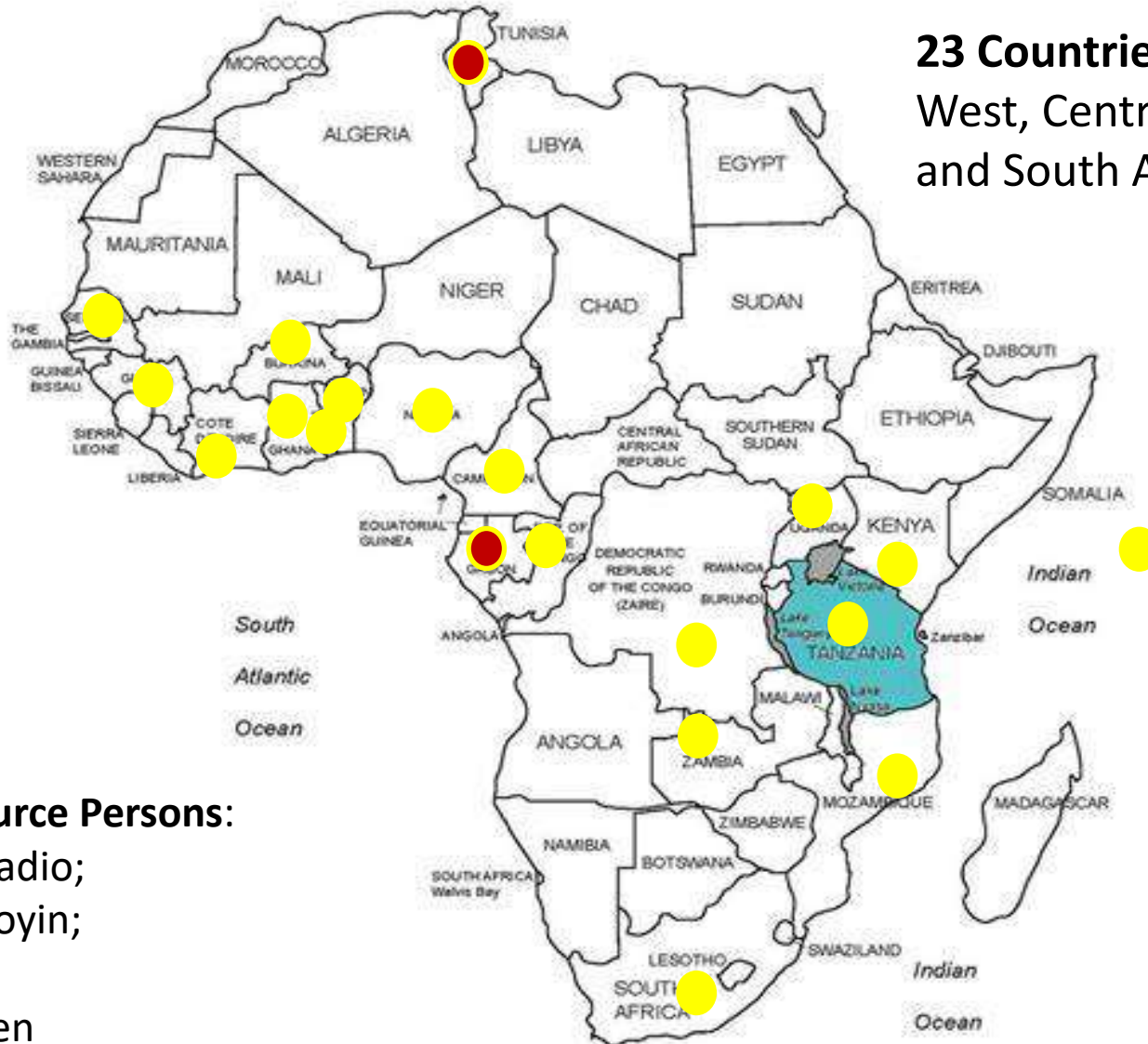
**Parties shall:**

- (i) ***Exclude or not allow***, by taking measures as appropriate, the use of mercury in bulk form by dental practitioners;
- (ii) ***Exclude or not allow***, by taking measures as appropriate, or recommend against the use of dental amalgam for the dental treatment of deciduous teeth, of patients under 15 years and of pregnant and breastfeeding women, except when considered necessary by the dental practitioner based on the needs of the patient.

## COUNTRIES COVERED BY THE CAMPAIGN IN AFRICA

**23 Countries**

West, Central, East, North  
and South African countries



### Regional Resource Persons:

Dr. Florian Kouadio;  
Prof. Godwin Toyin;  
Dr. Tom Aneni;  
Dr. Wondwossen

## KEY ELEMENTS OF THE CAMPAIGN IN AFRICA

1. **Target Audience:** Governments, Dentists, Public
  2. **Campaign Channels:** workshops, webinars, press, social media, meetings
  3. **Campaign actors:** NGOs, multistakeholder entities, Academia
  4. **Campaign message:** Dental amalgam is 50% mercury, and mercury is toxic chemical;
- ***the 2022 amendment of Partie II, Annex A, NEW OBLIGATIONS are put on Parties that SHALL:***
    - ✓ **Ban the use** of dental amalgam, or
    - ✓ **Recommendation to end the use** of dental amalgam
  - ***The Children amendment is the convention law that entered into force in September 2023***
  - ***Special vulnerability of Africa population to mercury from dental amalgam*** (Higher levels of exposure to mercury associated with placement and removal of dental amalgams that continues once implanted in teeth due to food habits).

## ADDED VALUE OF THE CAMPAIGN IN AFRICA



Advice Partnerships and strengthening of the leadership of the Africa region to achieve the complete phase out of dental amalgam through the Minamata convention by 2030



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# IMPACT OF THE CAMPAIGN IN AFRICA

Decision MC-4/3: Review of and amendments to annexes A and B to the Minamata Convention

## Country level:

Where required, Campaign actors assist governments in the development of model law to implement the children amendment and comply with the convention's obligations

Gabon (law adopted in 2023), Tunisia (adopted), Cameroon (ongoing), Senegal (ongoing), Guinea Conakry (ongoing), Togo (ongoing); Burkina Faso (starting)

## Global level:

### **Unfinished business at COP5 (2023)**

The Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention (COP), in its decision **MC-5/7**, deferred decisions to amend Parts I and II of Annex A of the convention submitted by Burkina Faso and Botswana on behalf of the African Region on dental amalgam to COP6.

How is the region preparing itself to get that decision at COP6?

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# THANK YOU

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