

5. For the purposes of this Convention, information on the health and safety of humans and the environment shall not be regarded as confidential. Parties that exchange other information pursuant to this Convention shall protect any confidential information as mutually agreed.

Article 18

Public information, awareness and education

1. Each Party shall, within its capabilities, promote and facilitate:
 - (a) Provision to the public of available information on:
 - (i) The health and environmental effects of mercury and mercury compounds;
 - (ii) Alternatives to mercury and mercury compounds;
 - (iii) The topics identified in paragraph 1 of Article 17;
 - (iv) The results of its research, development and monitoring activities under Article 19;
and
 - (v) Activities to meet its obligations under this Convention;
 - (b) Education, training and public awareness related to the effects of exposure to mercury and mercury compounds on human health and the environment in collaboration with relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and vulnerable populations, as appropriate.
2. Each Party shall use existing mechanisms or give consideration to the development of mechanisms, such as pollutant release and transfer registers where applicable, for the collection and dissemination of information on estimates of its annual quantities of mercury and mercury compounds that are emitted, released or disposed of through human activities.

Article 19

Research, development and monitoring

1. Parties shall endeavour to cooperate to develop and improve, taking into account their respective circumstances and capabilities:
 - (a) Inventories of use, consumption, and anthropogenic emissions to air and releases to water and land of mercury and mercury compounds;