



Recommended analytical methods for global Mercury monitoring in the marine environment

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The launch of the United Nations Environment Programme Global Legally Binding Treaty on mercury leads to the establishment/strengthening of Mercury monitoring efforts of the countries in different environmental compartments, in order to assess environmental mercury contamination, as well as to control the efficiency of the control measures undertaken.

Therefore, mercury monitoring became an integral part of all marine monitoring programmes implemented at national or/and regional level around the world. Because of the expected proliferation of the generated Mercury monitoring data, and taking into consideration the difficulties related to the accurate analysis of Mercury and its species in marine samples, the use of recommended analytical methods by the laboratories involved in this effort, as well as the strengthening of the quality assurance of their data, is a necessity for the effective use of the generated data for environmental assessments and decision making.

To assist Member States countries in the strengthening of their Mercury data quality assurance, the Environmental Laboratory of the IAEA is developing fit-for-purpose recommended analytical methods for Mercury and Methyl Mercury monitoring in the marine environment, organises Interlaboratory Comparison produces relevant Certified Reference Materials (CRMs) to be used by laboratories involved in mercury monitoring. The Recommended methods for mercury and methyl mercury, as well as the relevant CRMs for marine sediments and biota, will be outlined in the presentation.