

Resolution Authorizing the Accession to the Minamata Convention on Mercury Motion, 2023.

WHEREAS, the Multilateral Environmental Agreement, the Minamata Convention on Mercury (hereinafter called “the Mercury Convention”) was adopted on 10th October 2013, and entered into force on 16th August 2017;

AND WHEREAS, the objective of the Mercury Convention is to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compound through inter alia: a ban on new mercury mines, the phase-out of existing ones, the phase-out and phase-down of mercury use in a number of products and processes, control measures on emissions to air and on releases to land and water, and the regulation of the informal sector of artisanal and small-scale gold mining. The Mercury Convention also addresses interim storage of mercury and its disposal once it becomes waste, sites contaminated by mercury, and health issues;

AND WHEREAS, the Government of Belize is desirous of acceding to the Convention pursuant to its Article 30;

AND WHEREAS, section 61(A)(2)(a) of the Belize Constitution, as amended by the Belize Constitution (Sixth Amendment) Act (No. 13 of 2008), provides that the Senate shall authorize the accession to any treaty by the Government of Belize;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate authorizes the Government of Belize to accede to the Mercury Convention, a full text of which is hereto annexed.