

ICMGP 2019

8-13 September 2019 Krakow, Poland



14th International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant

Dear Colleague:

Preparations are under way for the 14th International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant (the 14th ICMGP), to be held in Krakow, Poland, from 8 through 13 September, 2019. The organizing committee is led by Jozef Pacyna (the Chair, NILU – Norwegian Institute for Air Research, Norway and the AGH University of Science and Technology, Krakow, Poland), Janusz Golas (Co-Chair, the AGH University of Science and Technology, Krakow, Poland) and Jerzy Falandysz (Co-Chair, the University of Gdansk, Gdansk, Poland).



Considerable scientific knowledge has been developed on sources and emissions of mercury, its pathways and cycling through the environment, human exposure and impacts on human health. An agreement has been reached between scientists that mercury exposure today is so high in many areas of the globe that it threatens human health. This scientific knowledge, obtained through studies carried out in various research centers in all continents, formed the basis for policy makers decision to develop an international agreement on reduction of emissions and exposure to mercury, known as the Minamata Convention. This Convention was signed in 2013 and ratified in 2017. Therefore, the 14th ICMGP will be a very important step in assessing the completeness of our knowledge on mercury as a global environmental pollutant on one side, and implementation of solutions to reduce the emissions and exposure to this pollutant on the other side. In this way, the 14th ICMGP will be first major event of testing the efficiency of implementation of the Minamata Convention in various parts of the world. Needs for improvement of our knowledge on mercury in the environment, as well as measures of improvement of the Minamata Convention implementation efficiency will be discussed. Therefore, the theme of the ICMGP will be:

Bridging knowledge on global mercury with environmental responsibility, human welfare and policy response.

ICMGP 2019

8-13 September 2019 Krakow, Poland



14th International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant

The 14th ICMGP will follow the tradition of previous successful conferences with synthesis, detailed sessions, and presentations on mercury science, technology, management and health. This event will also be the opportunity for exhibition of most recent developed equipment to measure mercury in various environmental samples, and technology to reduce mercury emissions and exposure. We will encourage a diverse community of conference participants, including industry, government, research institutions, NGOs and academics. We envision a broadly based program that would include plenary, invited and contributed oral presentations, poster presentations, small group thematic meetings, opportunities for student mentoring, demonstrations by instrument vendors, and networking. Poland is an industrial nation with its energy demands satisfied mostly by combustion of coal, often contaminated by mercury. The ICMGP 2019 will provide the opportunity to discuss the options for low-mercury energy and industrial technologies and then the concept of low-mercury society.

Poland is a very appropriate country to host the 14th ICMGP. The country with its energy demands being met primarily by combustion of fossil fuels faces an important problem with mercury contamination. Although a number of solutions has been adopted to reduce the level of exposure to this contamination, the discussions at the 14th ICMGP will contribute to development of new measures and policies towards reducing the mercury problem in the country and also other countries facing similar mercury challenges to be solved in the near future.

Krakow will be an engaging venue for the 14th ICMGP. The city dates back to the 7th century. Krakow has traditionally been one of the leading centers of Polish and the European academic, cultural, and artistic life. It was the capital of Poland from 1038 to 1569 and Nicolas Copernicus educated here in the Jagiellonian University (established in 1364). With the establishment of new universities and cultural venues at the emergence of the Second Polish Republic in 1918 and throughout the 20th century, Krakow reaffirmed its role as a major national academic and artistic center. The city has a population of approximately 850,000, including 250,000 students. In 1978, UNESCO approved the first ever sites for its new World Heritage List, including the entire Old Town inscribing *Cracow's Historic Centre*. Krakow is classified as a global city by Globalization and World Cities Research Network, with the ranking of High sufficiency. The 14th ICMGP will be organized in a newly opened International Conference Center, which easily accommodate the anticipated number of participants of about 1000. Krakow is already gearing up to welcome the participants of the 14th ICMGP in 2019.

Mark your calendars for September 8-13, 2019 and observe the progress of Conference organization at the conference website!

www.mercury2019krakow.com

Chairman of the ICMGP 2019
Prof. Jozef M. Pacyna
e-mail: jp@nilu.no
jpacyna@agh.edu.pl

Conference Organizing Office
Ms. Angelika Baran
ph. + 48 12 651 90 15
e-mail: mercury2019@targi.krakow.pl

