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BUREAU OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
VIENNA CONVENTION
First meeting
Geneva, 22 March 1996

ACTION TAKEN ON THE DECISIONS OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION

Note by the Secretariat

1. The present note describes the action taken on the following decisions, which were adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer at its third meeting, held in Bangkok on 23 November 1993 (see UNEP/Ozl.Conv.3/6, para. 23).

Decision III/1. Adjustments and Amendments to the Montreal Protocol

2. The Secretariat has communicated to all non-Party Governments a paper entitled "The implications of becoming or not becoming a Party to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer" (UNEP/Ozl.Pro/1994/Inf.1) and urged them to ratify the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol.

3. The Secretariat and the Inter-State Ecological Council of the Commonwealth of Independent States with financial support from the Global Environment Facility and in collaboration with UNEP, the World Bank, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and the Industry Cooperative for Ozone Layer Protection held a meeting in Minsk, from 15 to 17 August 1994, where countries of former USSR, both Parties and non-Parties, participated. The non-Parties were invited to ratify the Vienna Convention, the Montreal Protocol and its Amendments. In 1994, 1995 and 1996 the Secretariat wrote a letter to all non-Parties requesting them to ratify the ozone treaties.

5. Since the last meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna

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Convention, 20 Parties ratified the Vienna Convention, 23 Parties the Montreal Protocol, 31 the London Amendment and 41 Parties the Copenhagen Amendment.

Decision III/2. Reports of the Assessments Panels

6. The Scientific, Environmental Effects, and Technology and Economic Assessment Panels and the Technical Options committees submitted the various reports requested of them in November 1994, March 1995 and November 1995.

7. These reports provided the necessary information for the Adjustments to the Montreal Protocol and decisions adopted by the Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, held in Vienna from 5 to 7 December 1995.

8. With the Vienna Adjustments the control measures under the Protocol are as follows:

(a) Methyl bromide production and consumption:

(i) For Parties not operating under Article 5:

- Reduction by 25 per cent from 1991 levels by the year 2001;
- Reduction by 50 per cent by the year 2005;
- Phase-out by the year 2010 with exemption for such critical agricultural uses as may be decided by the Parties;
- Exemption for quarantine and pre-shipment applications;

(ii) For Parties operating under Article 5:

- Freeze in the year 2002 at the average of 1995-1998 levels;
- Exemptions for quarantine and pre-shipment applications;

(b) Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs):

(i) For Parties not operating under Article 5:

- "Cap" reduced from 3.1 per cent to 2.8 per cent;
- Phase-out by the year 2020 with a service tail, restricted to refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment existing at that date, until 2030;

(ii) For Parties operating under Article 5:

- Freeze in 2016 at 2015 levels;
- Phase-out in 2040 (acceleration of phase-out to be studied in 2000);

(c) Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), halons, carbon tetrachloride and methyl chloroform for Parties operating under Article 5:

- Phase-out CFCs, halons and carbon tetrachloride by 2010;
- Methyl chloroform phase-out by 2015.

Decision III/3. Amendment procedure under the
Vienna Convention

9. No action was required of the Secretariat on decision III/3.

Decision III/4. Reporting for the purposes of Annex I
to the Vienna Convention

10. Reporting guidelines on hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are being developed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Some Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change are reporting data on HFCs.

Decision III/5. Recommendations of the second meeting
of the Ozone Research Managers

11. In paragraph 2 of decision III/5, the Parties were requested to make voluntary contributions to the World Meteorological Organization's Special Fund for Environment Monitoring for the Global Ozone Observing System in order to expand the station network in developing countries.

12. From total funds of \$2,918,377 received up to November 1995, only \$90,277 were contributed for calibration of existing ozone instruments (a very important part for quality control of ozone records), and another \$122,045 were contributed for establishment of ozone-sounding operations at the one WMO-Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) station in the tropics.

13. In paragraph 3 of the decision, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) was requested to give due consideration to funding the installation of a limited number of additional stations in the tropical belt and in any other regions not adequately covered, in light of recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers, and where the requesting country deems such station a priority.

14. The World Meteorological Organization continues the implementation of six new GAW stations of global importance and 11 new stations in the Southern Cone of South America, both funded from GEF.

15. The Secretariat has contacted the GEF Coordination Unit of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the issue is addressed in the first draft GEF research strategy paper (UNEP/GEF/STAP/4/4), which has been prepared by UNEP for discussion at the fourth meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP), to be held in Nairobi from 15 to 17 February 1996.

16. In annex I of the draft strategy paper, the purchase and installation of equipment required for participation of developing countries in research

activities supported by GEF is specifically mentioned as one of the potentially eligible activities which may be supported in the framework of the GEF strategy for targeted research. Likewise, annex 2 of the same document lists ozone monitoring at low latitudes as one of the potentially eligible research topics which may be considered for GEF support.

17. In paragraph 3 of decision III/5, the World Meteorological Organization was requested, in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme, to investigate and evaluate available monitoring equipment so as to equip such stations as appropriate using best available technologies for measuring both ozone and UV-B.

18. With reference to this request, the information available from the International Ozone Commission of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and the WMO Global Ozone Observing System (GO₃OS) indicates the following:

(a) For total ozone measurements, the most robust instrument is the Dobson spectrophotometer used as the backbone of the Global Ozone Observing System (GO₃OS) for more than 40 years. It also allows Umkehr measurements to be carried out for deducing the vertical ozone profile;

(b) There is also, the more modern Brewer monochromator, which has nearly the same characteristics as the Dobson but can also measure UV-B radiation. In addition, there is now available an automated narrow-band filter instrument which provides total ozone and UV-B readings;

(c) With reference to the UV-B radiation, there exist a number of broad-band filter instruments which are not precise for specific spectral wavelengths;

(d) A spectral scanning radiometer (used, for example, at six funded National Science Foundation (NSF) stations and at two GAW stations) so far has proven to be the most stable for long-term operations, although there are other similar instruments that have not yet been field-tested.

Decision III/6. Budgets and financial matters

19. In paragraph 3 of decision III/6, the Parties were urged to pay their outstanding 1990-1993 contributions and also to pay their future contributions promptly.

20. The contributions to the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention for the period 1993-1995 were as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Contributions</u> (\$) | <u>Arrears</u> (\$) |
|-------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1993 | 897,727 | 313,317 |
| 1994 | 297,246 | 31,974 |
| 1995 | 609,690 | 225,062 |

21. The status of the contributions to the Trust Fund for the Vienna

Convention as on 29 February 1996 will be presented at the first meeting of the Bureau.

22. In paragraph 6 of the decision, the Secretariat was urged to furnish the Parties with an estimation of the current three years needs and, in the same format, the actual expenditures of the previous three years so that the Parties would have a good understanding of the Secretariat's budgetary requirements. In response, the Secretariat has provided this information to all the parties every year.

Decision III/7. Fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
to the Vienna Convention for the Protection
of the Ozone Layer

23. In paragraph 1 of decision III/7, the Secretariat was requested to convene the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention in 1996 in conjunction with the Eight Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol and at the same venue.

24. The Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and the Eight Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol will be held in San José, Costa Rica, in accordance with decision VII/38 of the Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol and at the invitation of the Government of Costa Rica.

25. In paragraph 2 of decision III/7, the Parties accepted with appreciation the offer of the Government of Austria to host a celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Convention in conjunction with the Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in 1995 in Vienna. This celebration, which included an International Workshop on the Ozone Treaties and their Influence on the Building of International Environmental Regimes, was held in Vienna on 4 December 1995. The proceedings of the Workshop, for which Professor Winfried Lang of Austria acted as Coordinator and General Rapporteur, have been circulated as document UNEP/Ozl.Pro.7/INF.1. In addition, awards were presented to 20 individuals for outstanding contributions to the protection of the ozone layer. An exhibition on the developments for the protection of the ozone layer was also arranged, with the participation of the Implementing Agencies of the Multilateral Fund - UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO and the World Bank - other organizations and many industries.

26. The Bureau may wish to thank the Government of the Republic of Austria for hosting the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Convention and the Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol.

Decision III/8. Future meetings of the Ozone Research Managers

27. Pursuant to decision III/8, the Third Ozone Research Managers meeting will be held in Geneva from 19 to 22 March 1996.
