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BUREAU OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
VIENNA CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION
OF THE OZONE LAYER
First Meeting
Geneva, 12-13 March 1993

REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE SECOND
MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE VIENNA
CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE OZONE LAYER

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The first meeting of the Bureau of the Second Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol was held at the office of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Geneva from 12 to 13 March 1993 to review the implementation of the decisions adopted by the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention (Nairobi, 17-19 June 1991) and to consider the conclusions and recommendations of the Second Meeting of the Ozone Research Managers (Geneva, 10-12 March 1993).

II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. Opening of the meeting

2. The meeting was opened by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting, Mr. Jean-Baptiste Kambou.

B. Attendance

3. The meeting was attended by the members of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention:

President:	Mr. Jean-Baptiste Kambou (Burkina Faso)
Vice-President:	Dr. W.L. Sumathipala (Sri Lanka) Dr. German Garcia-Duran (Colombia)
Rapporteur:	Mr. John Whitelaw (Australia)

The Russian Federation, one of the Vice-Presidents, did not attend.

C. Adoption of the agenda

4. The meeting adopted the following agenda, as contained in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.2/Bur.1/1.

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda.

3. Substantive matters:

- (a) Status of implementation of the decisions of the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention (Nairobi, June 1991);
- (b) Conclusions and recommendations of the Second Meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer (Geneva, 10-12 March 1993).

4. Other matters.

5. Closure of the meeting.

III. SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS

A. Status of the implementation of the decisions of the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention (Nairobi, June 1991)

5. The representative of the Ozone Secretariat introduced the note on the status of implementation of the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its second meeting (UNEP/OzL.Conv.2/Bur.1/2 and Add.1) by reviewing the actions taken. The Secretariat also presented the financial reports up to 1991 and the status of the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention as on 28 February 1993. The Secretariat explained the present uncomfortable funding position and said that further activities under the Convention were contingent upon receipt of contributions. The Bureau took note of the note by the Secretariat and of the financial position and then sought clarifications on various decisions.

6. A member of the Bureau asked whether, in the light of the small number of responses received under decision II/7, very few research institutes in developed countries were interested in cooperating with similar institutes in developing countries. The representative of the Secretariat replied that many participants from developed countries in the just concluded ozone research managers' meeting had expressed interest in cooperating with institutes in developing countries in ozone research matters. The Secretariat would seek formal responses from those countries and would endeavour to compile a list of these institutions from developing countries interested in such cooperation. Another member of the Bureau suggested that there was a need to harmonize the implementation of decisions under the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol and cited the example of data collection under both the Convention and the Protocol. The same member felt that since some Parties had been facing problems in data collection, the matter should be brought to the attention of the Conference of the Parties where one system of data collection and reporting under both the Convention and Protocol might be adopted.

B. Conclusions and recommendations of the second meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer (Geneva, 10-12 March 1993)

7. The representative of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) summarized the findings and recommendations made by the Second Meeting of the Ozone Research Managers. Published findings during the previous two years had indicated in more detail the continuous decline in total ozone everywhere except over the tropical belt. Data from the tropical belt were, however, insufficient. Since 1970, ozone decline in the 30-60° latitudinal belts during winter-spring and summer was about 13% and 6% respectively in the northern and about 10% in 9% in the southern latitudes. Vertical ozone distribution showed most severe negative deviations in the 13-20 km layer. At the same time ozone in the first 10 km of the atmosphere continued to increase at a rate of 1% to 2% per year in the northern middle and higher latitudes, but that increase could compensate

for only a fraction of the ozone destroyed in the stratosphere. The summary effects of the ozone changes could have very substantial positive impact on the radiative forcing - comparable to that of the other greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, methane and chloroflourocarbons. The Antarctic-spring ozone hole in 1992 covered its biggest ever surface area (about 25 million km²), and had appeared about two weeks earlier than in previous years (mid-August) and registered most severe depletion with absolutely low ozone values recorded at around 110 Dobson units, down from the pre-ozone hole average of around 330 Dobson units. In the northern mid-latitudes during January 1992 and February 1993, over a large part of North America, Europe and Siberia, were registered values of about 20% below the long-term normal. However, due to the specifics of atmospheric circulation over the northern polar region the ozone values were close to normal and the appearance of an "ozone hole" there was quite impossible at the current circumstances.

8. The Ozone Research Managers has identified several high priority scientific objectives to guide the future work on the ozone issue which included:

(a) The urgent need to characterize the chemical and meteorological conditions leading to ozone changes requires in particular augmentation of the Global Ozone Observing System (GO₃OS);

(b) Improvement in the understanding of both stratospheric and tropospheric budgets of ozone and relevant compounds and observation of their vertical distribution;

(c) Further development of current generation of models with a coupled atmospheric chemistry and transport 3D climate models, and study of the ozone-climate interaction;

(d) Delineation of the spatial and temporal resolution of UV-B radiation to provide a basis for evaluation of effects on living systems related to the ozone changes.

9. The meeting had also described in some detail the needed improvements in the long-term observations of ozone and ozone-related chemical constituents; it had identified process studies of ozone change, halocarbon lifetimes and degradation, trace gas fluxes, the role of aerosol and heterogeneous chemistry as very necessary. The improvement of models, ozone-climate interaction and the impacts of the unavoidable decrease of total ozone well into the next century had also been addressed.

10. The Ozone Managers had referred also to the acute need for the improvement of training both in the field of measurements and analysis, to the careful approach in expanding public awareness of the state of the ozone by more near-real-time information and finally, to appeal to GEF in the spirit of the Agenda 21 recommendations to devote to the ozone issue at least the relatively very small funds necessary.

11. The Bureau noted that neither WMO nor UNEP had budgetary provision for direct funding for the necessary augmentation of the Global Ozone Observing System (GO₃OS) and that the call for support made by Conference decision II/9 by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in its Agenda 21 for augmentation of the GO₃OS had not to date resulted in specific contribution. The Bureau strongly suggested that the question for funding of 12-15 ozone stations in developing countries, mainly in the tropical belt of South America, Africa and Asia, should be brought again to the Conference of the Parties and another appeal made for financial support. The Parties might also be requested to use their influence with GEF to provide the estimated 6-7 million dollars for initial installation of the GO₃OS stations.

12. The Bureau noted the exemplary collaboration between WMO and UNEP and

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the effective and efficient manner in which WMO had discharged its responsibility for international coordination of atmospheric sciences and systematic observations in support of the Convention.

IV. OTHER MATTERS

13. The representative of the Secretariat introduced the document on the reporting format for Annex I of the Vienna Convention (UNEP/OzL.Conv.2/Bur.1/2/Add.1) and sought the views of the Bureau:

(a) On the proposal that, if the Parties to the Vienna Convention report data on all the substances listed in the Montreal Protocol in the format prescribed for those substances, they will be considered to have fulfilled the reporting requirements under paragraph 5 of the annex II of the Convention;

(b) On whether reporting on HFCs should also be included under the Vienna Convention.

14. The President of the Bureau welcomed the proposals in the light of the need for harmonization of data reporting requirement under various conventions and protocols since many countries, particularly developing countries, found it difficult to collect and report data. Members welcomed the proposal contained in paragraph 13 (a) above and felt that reporting on HFCs was necessary. It suggested that a clear note should be placed before the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting explaining the background for annexes I and II of the Convention and the rationale for the proposals.

Following an explanation and suggestion by the representative of WMO, it was also agreed by the Bureau that the Secretariat should consult the climate change secretariat on whether the latter was considering the prescription of reporting on HFCs and place the results of the consultation before the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its next meeting.

15. The representative of the Secretariat said that the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention would take place in November 1993 and that the Secretariat was awaiting confirmation of the informal offer of Thailand to host it.

V. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

16. The Bureau adopted the present report on the basis of the draft report and agreed amendments at its closing session on 13 March 1993.

VI. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

17. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the President declared the meeting closed at 12.30 p.m. on 13 March 1993.
