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BUREAU OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
VIENNA CONVENTION FOR THE
PROTECTION OF THE OZONE LAYER
Second meeting
Geneva, 28 March 2002

REPORT OF THE BUREAU OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE OZONE LAYER
ON THE WORK OF ITS SECOND MEETING

Introduction

1. The second meeting of the Bureau of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer was held at the headquarters of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Geneva, on 28 March 2002.

I. OPENING OF THE MEETING

2. The meeting was opened at 10.30 a.m. on Thursday, 28 March 2002 by Mr. Fabio Fajardo-Moros (Cuba), President of the Bureau of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, who welcomed participants.

3. It was attended by the following members of the Bureau, who had been elected to their respective posts by the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, held in Beijing from 29 November to 3 December 1999:

President: Mr. Fabio Fajardo-Moros (Cuba)

Vice-Presidents: Ms. Toure Idiatou Camara (Guinea)

Mr. Choi Jai-Chul (Republic of Korea)

Mr. Blaise Horisberger (Switzerland)

Rapporteur: Ms. Marija Teriošina (Lithuania)

4. The meeting was also attended by Mr. Nelson Sabogal (Senior Scientific Affairs Officer, Ozone Secretariat), Ms. Ruth Batten (Administrative/Fund Programme Management Officer, Ozone Secretariat), Mr. Michael Proffitt (Senior Scientific Officer, WMO) and Ms. Liisa Jalkanen (Scientific Officer, WMO). A list of participants is annexed to the present report.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The Bureau adopted the following agenda, contained in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.5/Bur. 2/1:
1. Opening of the meeting.
 2. Adoption of the agenda.
 3. Action taken on the decisions of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention held in Beijing from 29 November to 3 December 1999.
 4. Review of the recommendations of the fifth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention held in Geneva from 25 to 27 March 2002.
 5. Review of the progress in the arrangements for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention to be held jointly with the fourteenth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, from 25 to 29 November 2002.
 6. Other matters.
 7. Adoption of the report.
 8. Closure of the meeting.

III. ACTION TAKEN ON THE DECISIONS OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION HELD IN BEIJING FROM 29 NOVEMBER TO 3 DECEMBER 1999

6. Mr. Nelson Sabogal (Senior Scientific Affairs Officer, Ozone Secretariat), after welcoming participants on behalf of Mr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), introduced the note contained in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.5/Bur.2/2. The note provided a brief summary of the action taken by the Secretariat on the decisions adopted by the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention.

Decision V/1. Adjustments and amendments to the Montreal Protocol

7. Mr. Sabogal reported that the Beijing Amendment, adopted at the Eleventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in 1999, had entered into force on 25 February 2002. This meant that all amendments to the Montreal Protocol were now in force. As at 31 January 2002, the status of ratification was as follows: Vienna Convention – 184 Parties; Montreal Protocol – 183 Parties; London Amendment – 163 Parties; Copenhagen Amendment – 140 Parties; Montreal Amendment – 78 Parties; and Beijing Amendment – 27 Parties. Mr. Sabogal emphasized that there was still a need to enhance ratification of the Protocol's amendments, and that the Secretariat took every opportunity to remind Parties of this need.

Decision V/2. Reports of the three assessment panels

8. Mr. Sabogal reported that, in response to the above decision, the Secretariat had sent a letter of appreciation to the three assessment panels of the Montreal Protocol, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and

Technological Advice of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Decision V/3. Recommendations of the fourth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers

9. Mr. Sabogal informed the Bureau that the report of the fourth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers (WMO Global Ozone Research and Monitoring Project, Report No. 45) had been translated into all United Nations languages, and a copy had been sent to all Parties.
10. The Bureau was further informed that, in accordance with decision V/3, WMO and the Ozone Secretariat had exerted every effort to obtain financial assistance to enhance the training and baseline monitoring of ozone and UV-B radiation, and related research in developing countries. In particular, following the recommendation of the Bureau at its extraordinary meeting (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 12 December 2000), funding had been sought for the WMO project proposal entitled "Capacity-building for detection of stratospheric ozone recovery in developing countries". It had proved impossible, however, to raise any funds. This was despite approaches to the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Foundation, UNEP, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and several Parties to the Vienna Convention.
11. Ms. Liisa Jalkanen (Scientific Officer, WMO) presented an overview of the activities of the WMO Scientific Advisory Group on UV monitoring that were related to decision V/3. These activities, which included a strong training component, were aimed at improving the quality and compatibility of UV measurements and archiving, and coordinating calibrations and intercomparisons. Ms. Jalkanen noted that the priorities of the Group had recently focused on devising guidelines for quality assessment and quality control, instrumentation to measure UV radiation and data submission to WMO world data centres. In this regard, she recalled that the WMO World Ozone and Ultraviolet Radiation Data Centre (WOUDC) in Toronto, Canada, had archived UV data since 1992. However, there were fewer stations reporting data on UV radiation than on ozone, and some stations (such as universities and municipalities) reported UV data to centres other than WOUDC.
12. In response to a question from a member of the Bureau, Ms. Jalkanen clarified that gaps in global coverage of UV radiation measurements could be partly filled if more stations reported their UV data to WOUDC.
13. Mr. Michael Proffitt (Senior Scientific Officer, WMO) presented an overview of the activities of the WMO Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) programme on ozone monitoring that were related to decision V/3. In his presentation, Mr. Proffitt warned that two recently established regional calibration centres for ozone monitoring instruments, located in Latin America and Africa, were threatened with closure due to lack of funding. He noted that the project proposal "Capacity-building for detection of stratospheric ozone recovery in developing countries", developed by WMO in response to decision V/3 (see above), would, if funded, support these threatened regional centres. Among other elements, the proposal would also establish five new ozone sonde stations in developing countries and enhance training.
14. Mr. Proffitt further reported that provisional standard operating procedures for ozone sondes had been agreed at a recent expert meeting, and that a balloon campaign was planned to validate these. He also reported that a GEF-funded project to establish six new GAW stations in developing countries had recently been completed, and that funding had recently been obtained from UNDP for the continued operation of those new stations. In addition, Mr. Proffitt introduced the new GAW Station Information System (GAWSIS), a searchable database of GAW station data that would soon be accessible via the Internet.
15. In conclusion, Mr. Proffitt emphasized that the problem of ozone layer depletion had not disappeared. It remained crucial to maintain, and even expand, ozone monitoring capacity, especially for understanding the interactions with climate change, which were expected to delay the recovery of the ozone layer. There was a serious danger, however, that current monitoring capacity would be irreversibly damaged, due to lack of funding.

16. Following these presentations, Mr. Sabogal highlighted the lack of funding available for ozone-related monitoring activities in developing countries, and the paucity of possible funding sources that could be tapped. In this context, he raised the possibility of drawing on the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention, which had built up a substantial reserve over the years due to the prudent management of the Secretariat. Mr. Sabogal believed that some of this reserve, for example US \$1 million, could be used to finance ozone-related monitoring activities without jeopardizing the operation of the Secretariat. Controls could be put in place to ensure the best possible disbursement of funds, and these could be used to leverage co-financing from other sources.

17. Ms. Batten (Administrative/Fund Programme Management Officer, Ozone Secretariat) confirmed that the Vienna Convention Trust Fund balance at the close of the 2001 financial year stood at US \$2.89 million.

18. Mr. Sabogal and Mr. Proffitt emphasized the urgency of dealing with funding needs for ozone-related monitoring activities in developing countries. Unless financial support was obtained in the near future, major gaps would soon develop in ozone data records.

19. The Bureau expressed general sympathy for the possibility of releasing some of the Vienna Convention Trust Fund reserve to finance ozone-related activities in developing countries. Bureau members noted, however, that the final decision on this matter would lie with the Conference of the Parties. The Bureau further noted that the Conference of the Parties would require clear and focused information on why the Trust Fund reserve should be used in this way. One Bureau member warned that Parties might feel concerned at establishing a new precedent by drawing on the Trust Fund balance for a specific project.

20. The Bureau requested the Secretariat, in collaboration with WMO, to prepare an information document explaining the urgent funding situation with regard to ozone-related monitoring activities in developing countries, along with a proposal, including a detailed budget, for addressing that situation. The Bureau further requested the Secretariat to also provide information on funds available in the Trust Fund reserve, and to document precedents from other conventions of drawing on reserves for specific projects. The Bureau requested that this information be made available at the meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (Montreal, 22 to 26 July 2002), in preparation for a discussion at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention.

Decision V/4. Financial report and budgets, revised and submitted by the Contact Group on
Financial Reports and Budgets

21. Ms. Batten reported on the status of contributions to the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention for the period 1999-2001. She noted that 59.9 per cent of assessed contributions had been received for the financial year 1999, 76.5 per cent for the financial year 2000, and 71.6 per cent for the financial year 2001. Some 3.6 per cent of assessed contributions had been received so far for the financial year 2002, which was in accordance with usual trends.

22. In response to a question from a Bureau member, Ms. Batten stated that a list of contributions made by Parties, including unpaid contributions, was available from the Secretariat on request. She clarified that eligible Parties could still request funding to cover their travel costs to Vienna Convention and Montreal Protocol meetings, even if their contributions remained unpaid. An effort was made to evenly distribute funding for travel among the relevant regional groups, and further information on criteria used to allocate such funding could be obtained from the Secretariat.

Decision V/5. Sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the
Protection of the Ozone Layer

23. See agenda item 5 below.

IV. REVIEW OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE OZONE RESEARCH MANAGERS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION HELD IN GENEVA FROM 25 TO 27 MARCH 2002

24. Mr. Sabogal outlined the recommendations of the fifth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention, which had concluded its work the previous day. These recommendations covered four main topics: systematic observations; data archiving; research needs; and capacity-building.
25. The Bureau expressed general appreciation for the recommendations. One Bureau member noted that they carried significant resource implications and wondered whether the recommended activities could have been further prioritized. Another commented that more clarity was needed regarding who the recommendations were aimed at.
26. Mr. Sabogal and Mr. Proffitt both expressed the view that the recommendations were considerably more focused and succinct than those emanating from previous meetings of the Ozone Research Managers. Mr. Proffitt noted that several recommendations fitted in well with the afore-mentioned WMO project proposal. Mr. Sabogal added that the recommendations would help guide national centres in their research and funding priorities.
27. The Bureau requested the Secretariat to prepare four draft decisions addressing the four topics covered by the recommendations, for consideration at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention. The Bureau further requested the Secretariat, in transforming the recommendations into draft decisions, to seek legal advice on their appropriate wording.

V. REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS IN THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION TO BE HELD JOINTLY WITH THE FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL, FROM 25 TO 29 NOVEMBER 2002

28. Ms. Batten provided the Bureau with information on arrangements for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention, to be held jointly with the Fourteenth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, from 25 to 29 November 2002 in Rome, Italy. She reported that the meetings would be held at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and that preparations were progressing well.
29. One Bureau member noted that the meeting period faced a heavy agenda, including negotiations on the replenishment of the Multilateral Fund. In this context, he expressed concern that appropriate arrangements should be made to ensure that sufficient time and attention was devoted to Vienna Convention matters.
30. Responding to this concern, the Bureau recommended that the first half-day of the technical segment at the start of the meetings should be allocated to the Conference of the Parties, in addition to one or two hours, at the start of the ministerial segment.

VI. OTHER MATTERS

31. On behalf of Mr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director of UNEP, and Mr. Shafqat Kakakhel, Deputy Executive Director of UNEP, Mr. Sabogal informed the Bureau of the appointment of Mr. Marco Antonio Gonzales Salazar (Costa Rica) as the new Executive Secretary of the Ozone Secretariat.

VII. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

32. The Bureau agreed to adopt the report on the understanding that the Secretariat would be entrusted with its finalization, working in conjunction with the Rapporteur.

VIII. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

33. After expressing appreciation to the Bureau members for the fruitful discussions held, Mr. Fajardo-Moros declared the meeting closed at 1.15 p.m. on Thursday, 28 March 2002.

Annex

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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