MONTREAL PROTOCOL
ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEPLETE
THE OZONE LAYER

UNEP
Technology and Economic Assessment Panel

ADDENDUM TO THE JUNE 2015 TEAP REPORT:
VOLUME 1, PROGRESS REPORT

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In its June 2015 Progress Report, TEAP provided updates to the Parties on the status of reappointments, specific issues relevant for particular Technical Options Committees (TOCs), and continuing challenges to its organization and operations. In this addendum, TEAP is providing for the consideration of Parties its recommendations to address the specific challenges for particular TOCs that were raised in that report. These recommendations follow TEAP’s continuing commitment to work so that its TOCs are structured to support future efforts of the Parties.

Recommendations

The TEAP is recommending the following to strengthen its ability to provide necessary support to the Parties, and provides further background information below:

1. In recognition of the challenges to the Chemicals Technical Options Committee (CTOC) and Medical Technical Options Committee (MTOC), the TEAP would like the Parties to consider forming a single new TOC from the existing CTOC and MTOC, to be called the Chemicals and Medical TOC (CMTOC).

2. TEAP understands that the terms of appointment for the existing co-chairs of the CTOC and MTOC would expire upon establishment of the new TOC. TEAP recommends that the Parties consider appointing Helen Tope, Keiichi Ohnishi, and Jianjun Zhang as co-chairs of the CMTOC for a period not to exceed four years.

3. TEAP wishes to inform the Parties that the outgoing MTOC co-chairs, Jose Pons Pons and Ashley Woodcock have agreed to provide support to the co-chairs of the newly merged CMTOC for a period of time, anticipated to be about a year to allow for a smooth transition. TEAP believes that keeping former TOC co-chairs available to the TOC for a period of time can help to smooth out the transition to new TOC co-chairs and avoid some of the difficulties the CTOC co-chairs experienced.

4. TEAP has sought, but has received no nominations to date for co-chairs of the Flexible and Rigid Foams TOC (FTOC). As allowed under its Terms of Reference (TOR) and after consultation with the appropriate party, TEAP proposes to appoint temporary FTOC co-chair(s) from among its bodies as an interim measure until the 28th Meeting of the Parties to assist in the transition period to new co-chairs and to maintain continuity of work. Similarly as for the outgoing MTOC co-chairs, outgoing FTOC co-chairs, Paul Ashford and Miguel Quintero, have agreed to provide support to the co-chairs of FTOC for a period of time to allow for a smooth transition to non-temporary co-chairs.

5. TEAP requests that the Parties consider creating an enduring funding mechanism for TEAP so that it can remain ready to provide the outputs the Parties need into the future.

Background to Recommendations

TEAP is very mindful of the ongoing operational and organizational constraints on its TOCs. From time to time, the Parties have re-organized TEAP to maintain an effective and efficient structure to provide the Parties with the technical and economic information they need. As
part of this on-going process to meet changing needs, TEAP believes Parties may wish to consider adjustments to the current structure of TEAP and its TOCs. With the great success of the Montreal Protocol in the almost full transition out of CFCs for medical inhaler devices, the consequence is a greatly reduced, but not eliminated, future output for the MTOC. While the MTOC had recently reported to the Parties that it would prefer to remain a stand-alone TOC and that it believed that it could move to a completely corresponding or telework concept, after moving to implement that concept, the MTOC has come to the conclusion that it does not function effectively. The MTOC co-chairs and members see value in remaining a cohesive organization and also to having the ability to hold periodic meetings. TEAP and MTOC do not think that it is efficient to keep the entire membership of three or possibly even two co-chairs of the MTOC with its greatly reduced, but not eliminated workload. However, having only one co-chair is not as appropriate for A5 and non-A5 balance, and places an extreme load on an individual.

Meanwhile, the CTOC recognizes that it would benefit from some restructure as well: institutional strengthening, including enhanced program management capabilities in managing the TOC outputs, and expanded technical capabilities through increased membership. Since both current CTOC co-chairs had minimal previous experience with the Montreal Protocol processes, or managing a TOC, they believe that they would also benefit from a better understanding and increased knowledge of Montreal Protocol institutions, functions and mechanisms.

One particular technical area for CTOC is in aerosols that had been covered under the former Aerosols, Sterilants, Miscellaneous Uses and Carbon Tetrachloride TOC (ATOC), and which, due to re-organization, is only now covered by the expertise of one co-chair of the MTOC, Jose Pons Pons. The remainder of the increased technical capabilities for the CTOC will need to come from additional new members. Furthermore, CTOC has lost much of its expertise over the last few years in the fields of destruction technology and laboratory and analytical uses, as a result of retirement of the members who had professional knowledge in those fields. CTOC believes that it is very critical to rebuild that expertise, especially in laboratory and analytical uses, as the transition from ODS to non-ODS is on-going in A5 Parties. CTOC needs at least two experts in each field to cover those areas adequately. In addition, two of the three solvent experts have left CTOC recently. Therefore, CTOC also needs at least one additional expert to monitor the phase-out of HCFC solvents in A5 Parties, and to observe if the current HCFCs and high-GWP HFC and HFE solvents are being replaced by unsaturated HFCs and/or unsaturated HCFCs in the near future. TEAP has updated the need for additional expertise for CTOC in its Matrix of Expertise Needed, which is posted on the Ozone Secretariat website at: http://ozone.unep.org/en/teap-experts-required. TEAP requests that Parties consider providing nominations for potential experts for the committee.

In recognition of the challenges to the CTOC and MTOC, the TEAP would like Parties to consider forming a single new TOC from the existing CTOC and MTOC, to be called the Chemicals and Medical TOC (CMTOC). TEAP recommends that both of the now existing CTOC co-chairs and one of the existing MTOC co-chairs be appointed as co-chairs of the new TOC for a term of four years to provide continuity for the next assessment period and report. The recommended nomination from the MTOC is Helen Tope, who has suitable qualifications in chemistry and professional regulatory experience that can provide additional
technical expertise to the CMTOC. She would be in the best position to continue to manage the Medical portion of the TOC and help build up any aerosol capabilities needed for the new TOC. In addition, Helen Tope will also be able to assist the other two co-chairs with the institutional knowledge and expectations of the Montreal Protocol, meeting the standards expected of TEAP reports and presentations to the Parties, and program management of the TOC for Essential Use Nominations, Temporary Subsidiary Body (TSB) reports, assessment of process agents, etc. TEAP believes this new construct would provide increased capabilities to the Parties in an effective and efficient manner.

In recommending merging the MTOC with CTOC, TEAP wishes to recognize the significant contributions that all three MTOC co-chairs, Jose Pons Pons, Ashley Woodcock and Helen Tope have made. TEAP recognizes that integrating two existing TOCs into one will be a significant commitment of effort for the co-chairs. TEAP believes that in the first year or so, these integration efforts will require significantly more time than would otherwise be the case. In recognition of this, both outgoing MTOC co-chairs Jose Pons Pons and Ashley Woodcock have agreed to provide support to the co-chairs of the newly merged TOC for a period of time, anticipated to be about a year. TEAP believes that keeping former TOC co-chairs on a TOC can help to smooth the transition to new TOC co-chairs, ensure continuity in the work of the committee for Parties, and avoid some of the difficulties the CTOC co-chairs experienced. Regarding membership, at this stage, TEAP is not proposing to reduce further the number of members with expertise on metered dose inhalers, sterilants, and medical aerosols for a merged CMTOC, having already recently reviewed and reduced its membership for this next assessment period.

The TEAP is now also being challenged in finding candidates for co-chairs for the FTOC to replace the two co-chairs who have recently resigned. At present, there does not appear to be any candidates from within the FTOC willing or able to take on the role of co-chair. In part, this is due to the tremendous workload of task force co-chairs and members in the early part of the year, particularly in an assessment year, where timeframes to accomplish the work are getting further and further compressed. But it is also, in part, due to the lack of funding support. It is increasingly difficult to find qualified personnel that also have the necessary expertise, experience, time and finances to take on the workload of the TEAP, the TOC and likely task forces resulting from Decisions. With FTOC, TEAP would seek to avoid repeating the problems associated with having two new co-chairs appointed with only very limited experience in the Montreal Protocol. Similarly as for the outgoing MTOC co-chairs, Paul Ashford and Miguel Quintero will provide support to the co-chairs of FTOC for a period of time to allow for a smooth transition to non-temporary co-chairs.

The next FTOC meeting takes place in late October, with the participation of a TEAP co-chair, with the hopes of the committee being able to identify at least one current FTOC member to take on the challenge of becoming an FTOC co-chair. Regardless of the success or failure in finding candidates from within the FTOC, consistent with the TEAP TOR and after consultation with the appropriate party, TEAP proposes to appoint temporary FTOC co-chairs as an interim measure until the 28th Meeting of the Parties, if needed, to assist in the transition period to new co-chairs and to maintain continuity of work. TEAP will continue to consider candidates to recommend for nomination by Parties and for appointment at the 28th MOP.
Continuing Challenges

The TEAP wishes to advise the Parties that work load, short time frames, and a lack of funding support are making it more and more difficult to find the key personnel that TEAP and its TOCs need to be able to continue to provide the Parties with the products they need. Over the years, TEAP and its TOCs have maintained highly qualified and motivated personnel to perform a wide variety of tasks for the Parties. This has required that TEAP always maintain a critical mass of experts who can produce wide-ranging and yet concise outputs that Parties have been able to use to develop the policies that have made the Montreal Protocol the hallmark of Multinational Environmental Agreements.

However, TEAP must inform the Parties that it recognizes that it is losing capacity and in some instances the critical mass it needs to be able to continue to provide the consensus reports the Parties are reliant upon. The proposed restructure to reduce two TOCs to one is helpful but it can only go so far. TEAP recognizes that it has mentioned the funding issue over the past few years with little success but TEAP believes that the Parties should understand the challenges that TEAP is facing. It should be noted that individual Parties have often funded TEAP members for travel and/or time in the past although it was typically done on an individual basis. There have been and remain government employees who are funded for their efforts on TEAP. There have been and are also still TEAP members that are funded in part or whole for their participation on the TEAP by government entities. Therefore, this is really not a new issue. However, the reality is that the old way, which lacks permanence and certainty and relies on benevolent benefactors, does not seem to work any longer. As stated in the Progress Report:

- There is a significant workload related to the work of TEAP and its TOCs that has grown in recent years with the responses to various requests of the Parties; this situation if unaddressed will increasingly affect the delivery and timeline of TEAP’s outputs. Members of TEAP and TOC often concurrently serve on TEAP Task Forces adding to the workload and making it difficult to meet deadlines.

- The members of TEAP and its TOCs provide their expertise and work on a voluntary basis and many are finding the increasing time commitment difficult/impossible to manage in the context of a full-time occupation.

- The absence of funding for non-Article 5 members makes participation increasingly difficult. This is of growing concern to the consensus process of the committees where a range of independent expert opinions is necessary. Increasingly, absence of funding as extended to TOC co-chairs making uncertain travel to meetings and participation in other activities essential to the role of a co-chair.

Therefore, TEAP requests that Parties consider establishing an enduring mechanism to provide funding support to TEAP, particularly for both non-A5 and A5 members who conduct a heavy workload on an entirely voluntary basis, and non-A5 members who do not even have the funding support to travel to attend meetings. This is further exacerbated by the required participation in TSBs that cannot be anticipated until after Decisions are made at the Meeting of the Parties.