

Contingency plan update – April 2021

6 April 2021

Distinguished Parties,
Sir/Madam,

I hope that you and your families, colleagues and friends have remained safe and well in these difficult times.

Given the current situation with regard to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the status of the vaccination roll-out around the world, and after consultations with the co-chairs of the Open-ended Working Group and with several parties, the Secretariat has concluded that it will not be possible to convene as in-person meetings the forty-third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (OEWG43) and the other meetings scheduled to be held in July 2021. In addition, as the Secretariat stated in its notification of 22 March 2021, the Fourth Extraordinary Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol will be convened online. This contingency plan update provides the schedule of upcoming activities, consisting of an online forum on various issues (a web page where parties can review and comment on specific documents) and online meetings.

The provisional agenda of OEWG43 ([UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/43/1](#)) has been issued and posted on the [OEWG43 meeting portal](#). It covers all the issues that would have been addressed at a full-scale, in-person meeting. As is customary, the note by the Secretariat on issues for discussion by and information for the attention of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol at its forty-third meeting (UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/43/2) will provide an overview of all the issues on the provisional agenda. Additional documents will be issued on the following issues, which have been prioritized for online work:

- Replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol for the period 2021–2023 (agenda item 3)
- Unexpected emissions of trichlorofluoromethane (CFC-11) (agenda item 4)
- Energy-efficient and low-global-warming-potential technologies (agenda item 12)
- Nominations for critical-use exemptions for methyl bromide for 2022 and 2023 (agenda item 7(a))

Those issues on the provisional agenda that will not be discussed in the OEWG43 online forum and at the online meetings, or the discussion of which will not be completed, will be deferred to the combined twelfth meeting (part II) of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and Thirty-Third Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (COP12(II)/MOP33), to be held in October 2021. It is currently expected that COP12(II)/MOP33 will be held as an in-person meeting. In order to accommodate consideration of all the deferred issues, the duration of the meeting will be extended to seven days – 23 to 29 October 2021 (five days for the preparatory segment and two days for the high-level segment). The Secretariat will update the contingency plan by early June to provide information about the organization of COP12(II)/MOP33.

Details about the online activities are provided in annex 1 to this letter and a summary table of the activities is provided in annex 2.

I would like to thank the parties and, on behalf of the parties, the assessment panels for their commitment to making progress in 2021 in the work of the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol despite the challenging situation that continues to prevail. The Secretariat will continue to do its best to facilitate and support the work of the parties. Please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat if you need any clarifications or further information regarding the plans for the months ahead.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you continued good health and safety.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of the highest consideration.



Megumi Seki Nakamura
Acting Executive Secretary

Annex 1

Description and schedule of online activities

Fourth Extraordinary Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, online, 21 May 2021

Replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the period 2021–2023: payment of national contributions for 2021

On 22 March 2021, the Secretariat sent to the parties information on the convening of the Fourth Extraordinary Meeting of the Parties (ExMOP4). The meeting will be held on 21 May 2021, with sessions from **2 to 4 p.m.** and from **4.30 to 6.30 p.m. (Nairobi time (UTC + 3))**. The parties will consider a draft decision that is aimed at facilitating the payment of national contributions to the Multilateral Fund in 2021 by some parties. Further information on the Fourth Extraordinary Meeting will be communicated to the parties in due course. The invitation to and the provisional agenda for the meeting will be sent to the parties by mid-April. A meeting portal for ExMOP4 has been set up and meeting documents will be posted there as they become available: <https://ozone.unep.org/meetings/fourth-extraordinary-meeting-parties-montreal-protocol-replenishment-2021-contributions-some-parties>.

Forty-third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties (OEWG43): meeting on replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the period 2021–2023: guidance to the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel task force on further work on the replenishment report, 22 and 24 May 2021

The first meeting under the forty-third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG43) will be a two-day meeting on the consideration of and discussion by the parties of guidance to the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) task force on further work on its replenishment report (issued in May 2020), in particular on whether a supplementary or an updated report is needed from the TEAP to facilitate the replenishment negotiation at COP12(II)/MOP33 in October. Sessions will take place from **2 to 4 p.m.** and from **4.30 to 6.30 p.m. (Nairobi time (UTC + 3))** on **22 and 24 May**. The meeting invitation will be sent to the parties before mid-April. A meeting portal for OEWG43 has been set up and meeting documents will be posted on the portal as they become available.

Online forum: replenishment

An online forum will be established, with dedicated tabs on replenishment. The purpose of this forum is to help parties with preparations for the online ExMOP4 and the online OEWG43.

For ExMOP4, it is expected that the Secretariat will post a draft decision on contributions by some parties to the Multilateral Fund in 2021. Parties will be able to comment and exchange views on the draft decision.

For OEWG43 online meeting on replenishment, the parties will be able to comment and exchange views on options for further work to be requested from TEAP task force.

The two tabs on replenishment will be opened on 12 April and closed to comments on 3 May.

OEWG43: technical meeting on unexpected emissions of CFC-11, online, 14 and 15 July 2021

A technical meeting on unexpected emissions of CFC-11, comprising two substantially identical sessions to facilitate participation from different time zones, will be held on 14 and 15 July. The first session will take place **from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Nairobi time (UTC + 3)) on 14 July**, and the second **from 4 to 7 p.m. (Nairobi time (UTC + 3)) on 15 July**. The Scientific Assessment Panel (SAP) and TEAP will present their reports on unexpected emissions of CFC-11 at each of the sessions. The presentation will be followed by a session for questions-and-answers, and general statements. SAP is also expected to brief the parties on the status of implementation of decision XXXI/3, paragraph 8, which relates to the identification of gaps in the global coverage of atmospheric monitoring of controlled substances. All the sessions will be recorded, and the recordings will be made available on the online forum.

OEWG43: technical meeting on energy efficiency, online, 16 and 17 July 2021

A technical meeting on energy efficiency, comprising two substantially identical sessions to facilitate participation from different time zones, will be held online on 16 and 17 July. The first session will take place **from 9 a.m. to 12 noon (Nairobi time (UTC + 3)) on 16 July**, and the second **from 4 to 7 p.m. (Nairobi time (UTC + 3)) on 17 July**. TEAP will present its report on energy efficiency (issued in September 2020) at each of the sessions. The presentation will be followed by a session for questions-and-answers, and general statements. All the sessions will be recorded, and the recordings will be made available on the online forum.

Online forum: CFC-11, energy efficiency and critical-use nominations for methyl bromide

Separate tabs for CFC-11, energy efficiency and critical-use nominations for methyl bromide (CUNs) will be opened in the online forum.

The purpose of the forum for CFC-11 and energy efficiency is to enable parties to comment and ask questions on the relevant reports of SAP and TEAP prior to the online technical meetings. The panels will then be able to consider them as they prepare for their presentations to be delivered at the meetings. Representatives may also wish to pose questions and make further comments during the question-and-answer sessions at the meetings.

The purpose of the forum for CUNs is to enable parties to comment and ask questions on the interim report of TEAP on CUNs. The Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee (MBTOC) will respond to the questions in writing in the online forum. Following the standard procedure, the nominating parties and MBTOC will hold bilateral consultations as necessary and MBTOC will prepare its final report on CUNs for consideration by the parties at MOP33 later in October.

The tabs will be opened on 31 May and will be closed to commenting on 21 June. The MBTOC responses to the questions on the CUNs report will be posted in the forum thereafter.

Sixty-sixth meeting of the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol, online, 12 and 13 July 2021

The sixty-sixth meeting of the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol will be held online **on 12 and 13 July, with daily sessions from 2 to 5.30 p.m. (Nairobi time (UTC + 3)), with a 30-minute break.** The Committee members will receive information about the meeting in due course.

Eleventh meeting (part II) of the Ozone Research Managers, online, 19 to 23 July 2021

In consultation with the co-chairs of the eleventh meeting of the Ozone Research Managers (ORM), it has **been** decided that part II of the eleventh meeting will be held **from 19 to 23 July, with daily sessions from 2 to 5.30 p.m. (Nairobi time (UTC + 3)), with a 30-minute break.** At the meeting, the Ozone Research Managers will discuss all the issues that they were expected to discuss in 2020. The outcomes and recommendations emanating from the meeting will be forwarded to the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at part II of its twelfth meeting, to be held in October 2021. The meeting invitation will be sent to participants in early May.

Annex 2

Summary of the online activities

Meeting	Specific issue(s) to be considered at the meeting	Modality	Dates and times (Nairobi time – UTC + 3)	Description
Fourth Extraordinary Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (ExMOP4)	Replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the period 2021–2023: payment of national contributions for 2021	Online forum	12 April–3 May 2021	A draft decision on contributions to the Multilateral Fund in 2021 by some parties is expected to be posted in the online forum. Parties will be able to comment and exchange views on the draft decision.
		Online meeting	21 May 2021 2–4 p.m. 4.30–6.30 p.m.	ExMOP4 will consider the issue of the payment of national contributions to the Multilateral Fund in 2021 by some parties.
Forty-third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (OEWG43): three online meetings on specific issues	Replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the period 2021–2023: guidance to the TEAP task force on further work on the replenishment report	Online forum	12 April–3 May 2021	Parties can comment and exchange views on options for possible further work to be requested from TEAP on the replenishment report of May 2020.
		Online meeting	22 and 24 May 2021 2–4 p.m. 4.30–6.30 p.m.	OEWG43 will discuss the guidance to the TEAP task force on further work on the replenishment report (issued in May 2020), focusing on whether a supplementary or an updated report is needed from TEAP for the replenishment negotiations to be held at COP12(II)/MOP33 in October 2021.
	Unexpected emissions of CFC-11	Online forum	31 May–21 June 2021	Parties can comment on and ask questions about the CFC-11 reports of SAP and TEAP. The panels will then be able to consider them as they prepare their presentations to be delivered at the meeting.
		Online meeting	14 July 2021 9 a.m.–12 noon 15 July 2021 4–7 p.m.	Two substantially identical sessions will be held. At each session, SAP and TEAP will present their reports and a sessions for questions and answers and general statements will follow. SAP is also expected to brief the parties on the status of implementation of decision XXXI/3, paragraph 8, relating to the identification of gaps in the atmospheric monitoring of controlled substances.
	Energy efficiency	Online forum	31 May–21 June 2021	Parties can comment on and ask questions about the energy efficiency report of TEAP. The panel will then be able to consider them as they prepare their presentation to be delivered at the meeting.
		Online meeting	16 July 2021 9 a.m.–12 noon 17 July 2021 4–7 p.m.	Two substantially identical sessions will be held. At each session, TEAP will present its report on energy efficiency (issued in September 2020) and a session for questions and-answers, and general statements will follow.
	Critical-use nominations for methyl bromide (CUNs)	Online forum	31 May to 21 June 2021	Parties can comment on and ask questions about the TEAP interim report on CUNs. The Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee (MBTOC) will

Meeting	Specific issue(s) to be considered at the meeting	Modality	Dates and times (Nairobi time – UTC + 3)	Description
				respond to the questions in writing in the forum. MBTOC will prepare its final report on CUNs for consideration by the parties at MOP33 in October.
Sixty-sixth meeting of the Implementation Committee	All the issues on the agenda	Online meeting	12 and 13 July 2021 2–5:30 p.m.	The Committee will consider compliance-related issues.
Eleventh meeting (part II) of the Ozone Research Managers	All the issues on the agenda	Online meeting	19–23 July 2021 2–5:30 p.m.	The Ozone Research Managers will discuss all the issues that they were expected to discuss in 2020, and the outcomes and recommendations emanating from the meeting will be forwarded to COP12(II), to be held in October.