

Ref: Oz.Sec/COP13-MOP36/Decisions

20 December 2024

Sir/Madam,

Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its thirteenth meeting and the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol

I have the honour to refer to the combined thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer held in Bangkok from 28 October to 1 November 2024. I thank the parties for their hard work and for their valuable contributions to a successful outcome of the meeting.

The Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention adopted four decisions while the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol adopted 23 decisions. The text of these decision can be found in the addendum to the meeting report, an [advance version](#) of which is available on the Ozone Secretariat website.

Some of the decisions adopted at the combined meeting require specific action by all the parties or by groups of parties. This letter summarizes those actions for your kind consideration and follow-up.

Information on specific decisions that require action by individual parties – for example, on Article 7 data reporting and the establishment of licensing systems under Article 4b, paragraph 2 bis – have been communicated in separate letters to the parties concerned.

The Secretariat has also communicated with the secretariat of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, for the attention of the Executive Committee, and with the assessment panels, on the respective decisions or paragraphs of the decisions that require their action or attention.

I. Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its thirteenth meeting (COP13)

Decision XIII/1: Recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer at their twelfth meeting

By decision XIII/1, the COP took note with appreciation of the report of the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention (ORM12).

Paragraph 2 of decision XIII/1 encourages parties to adopt and implement, as appropriate, the recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers on the topics of research needs, systematic observations, gaps in the global coverage of atmospheric monitoring of controlled substances and options for enhancing such monitoring, data archiving and stewardship, and capacity building, while paragraph 3 of the same decision encourages parties to accord priority to specific recommendations falling under the topics listed in paragraph 2. Paragraph 4 encourages national ozone focal points to improve communication with the Ozone Research Managers to enhance cooperation among the relevant national institutions. The ORM12 recommendations are available in document [UNEP/OzL.Conv.13/6](#).

Decision XIII/2: General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer

By decision XIII/2, the COP recognized that the purpose of the General Trust Fund includes supporting activities related to the atmospheric monitoring of substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol, a point also emphasized in the recommendations made at ORM12.

In addition to the specific requests addressed to the Ozone Secretariat and the Advisory Committee to the General Trust Fund, the decision, in paragraph 2, encourages parties to make contributions to the General Trust Fund for the purpose of improving the global ozone observing system and for enhancing the global and regional monitoring of substances controlled by the Montreal Protocol, taking into consideration the report of the Advisory Committee of the Trust Fund to COP13. The report of the Advisory Committee is contained in document [UNEP/OzL.Conv.13/7](#).

Decision XIII/3: Financial reports and budgets for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer

By decision XIII/5, COP13 approved the budget for the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention for 2025 in the amount of 911,910 United States dollars, for 2026 in the amount of 927,730 dollars and for 2027 in the amount of 1,504,030 dollars. It also approved the contributions to be paid by parties to the Vienna Convention of 782,000 dollars in 2025, 782,000 dollars in 2026 and 782,000 dollars in 2027.

Paragraph 5 of the decision urges all parties to pay their outstanding contributions as well as their future contributions promptly and in full, while noting with concern that some parties have not paid their contributions for 2024 and prior years. The status of contributions to the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention is available on the [Ozone Secretariat's website](#) and is updated monthly.

II. Decisions adopted by the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol

Decision XXXV1/2: Life-cycle refrigerant management

Paragraph 3 of decision XXXVI/2 encourages parties to submit information, where available, to the Ozone Secretariat related to life-cycle refrigerant management (LRM) activities, for instance, on financial and technological resources, capacity-building resources, costs related to LRM activities, initiatives taken, relevant regulations, if any, and challenges encountered by parties operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol (Article 5 parties) and parties not so operating, by 31 May 2025. Any information submitted in response to this request will be posted by the Ozone Secretariat on its website.

Paragraph 5 of the same decision encourages parties to consider incorporating LRM in their national policies and planning relating to the implementation of the Montreal Protocol. In addition, paragraph 6 of the decision encourages Article 5 parties to take into account the lessons learned regarding LRM from the 2024 report of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) and the LRM workshop organized by the Secretariat on 27 October 2024 when preparing and implementing their Kigali implementation plans and, if applicable, preparing their national inventories and plans pursuant to [decision 91/66 of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund](#). It also encourages these parties to use their regional networks of national ozone officers to further build capacity, share knowledge and other

resources, and advance cooperative approaches to enhancing LRM. The [TEAP report on LRM](#) and [material relating to the LRM workshop](#) are available on the Ozone Secretariat's website.

Decision XXXVI/3: Emissions of HFC-23

Paragraph 3 of decision XXXVI/3 invites parties that have HCFC-22 production facilities to submit to the Ozone Secretariat by 31 March 2025, on a voluntary basis, their current methodologies for estimating and reporting of HFC-23 emissions from HCFC-22 production, while paragraph 4 of the same decision invites parties that have adopted best practice technologies to reduce HFC-23 emissions to provide such information to the Ozone Secretariat by the same date, also on a voluntary basis.

In addition, the paragraph 1 of the same decision invites relevant parties to undertake, as appropriate, and to encourage scientific institutes to undertake or cooperate with other institutions in undertaking atmospheric monitoring of HFC-23 and research on sources of HFC-23 emissions and to share the results with the scientific community. It also encourages parties, in paragraph 2 of the decision, to study the potential reasons for differences between reported emissions and emission estimates derived from atmospheric monitoring, and to submit relevant information to the Ozone Secretariat when available and as appropriate.

Decision XXXVI/4: Additional information on very short-lived substances

Paragraph 2 decision XXXVI/4 invites parties that have national measures concerning use and/or emissions of very short-lived substances to provide the Ozone Secretariat with information on those measures, on a voluntary basis, by 31 March 2025. Based on the information received from parties in accordance with this request, and in response to paragraph 3 of the same decision, the Ozone Secretariat will provide a compendium of national measures to be made available on its website.

Decision XXXVI/5: Feedstock uses of controlled substances

Paragraph 1 of decision XXXVI/5 requests relevant parties, in accordance with decision IV/12, to continue taking steps to minimize emissions of controlled substances during their production, transportation, distribution, storage, handling, repackaging and use as feedstock, including such steps as avoidance of the creation of such emissions and reduction of emissions using practicable control technologies or process changes, containment or destruction.

Paragraph 2 of the same decision encourages parties to promote the use of practices and technologies, including those identified by the TEAP in its 2024 progress report and taking into account national circumstances, to reduce emissions of controlled substances during their production, transportation, distribution, storage, handling, repackaging and use as feedstock in the manufacture of other chemicals. These practices and technologies are contained in section 5.3.6 of the May 2024 TEAP progress report, which is available on the [Ozone Secretariat website](#).

In accordance with paragraph 3 of decision XXXVI/5, parties that have practices and technologies such as those mentioned in paragraph 2 of the same decision are encouraged to provide information about those practices and technologies to the Ozone Secretariat. In accordance with paragraph 4 of the decision, Parties with production and/or use of controlled substances for feedstock are invited to provide the Ozone Secretariat, on a voluntary basis by 1 May 2025, information on their established national procedures and frameworks for management of such production and use, including any controls on resulting emissions.

Information to be provided by parties in response to decision XXXVI/5 will be collated and summarized by the Secretariat for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol at its forty-seventh meeting (OEWG47), which is scheduled to take place from 7 to 11 July 2025 in Bangkok. To ensure that the Ozone Secretariat is able to prepare this document for OEWG47 in a timely manner, we would appreciate if parties that wish to provide the information described in paragraphs 2 and 4 of the decision do so before 1 May 2025.

Decision XXXVI/6: Developments regarding metered-dose inhalers with low-global-warming-potential propellants

Paragraph 2 of decision XXXVI/6 invites parties that produce metered-dose inhalers (MDIs) to submit to the Ozone Secretariat, preferably by June 2025 or when it becomes available, on a voluntary basis, any relevant information on progress in the development of MDI products using lower-global-warming-potential propellants and on the availability of other alternatives, as well as on the implementation of lessons learned during previous MDI propellant transitions.

Paragraph 1 of the same decision encourages parties to promote coordination between national environmental and health authorities in raising awareness regarding MDI propellants with low global warming potential and the availability of other alternatives, including their impact on climate and the environment, recognizing the need to ensure patient access to critical health remedies. Paragraph 4 encourages parties revisit the issue no later than 2027 in the light of updated information provided in the 2026 quadrennial assessment report of the TEAP.

Decision XXXVI/7: Measures to support the sustainable management of recovered, recycled or reclaimed halons

Paragraph 1 of decision XXXVI/7 urges parties to refrain from any destruction of recovered or recycled halons that can be reclaimed for reuse and to ensure that sufficient stocks of recovered, recycled or reclaimed halons remain available for anticipated future needs, and invites parties to encourage relevant stakeholders to take the actions listed above.

Paragraph 2 of the same decision encourages parties and their stakeholders to ensure that, during maintenance and servicing of equipment, or before dismantling and disposal of equipment, halons are recovered for recycling and reclamation, with the objective of ensuring that sufficient stocks of recovered, recycled or reclaimed halons remain available for anticipated future needs. Paragraph 3 encourages parties that restrict the import and export of recovered halons beyond Montreal Protocol requirements to reconsider, as a matter of urgency, the restrictions so as to facilitate the transboundary movement and reuse of the recovered halons to the extent possible, taking into account the requirements of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, where applicable.

Paragraph 4 of the decision encourage parties, as a matter of urgency, to raise awareness of the importance of sustainable management of halons and avoid the use of halons where other alternatives are available, and to inform their users of halons, including in the aviation sector and the military, of the need to prepare for the risk of reduced availability of halons in the future.

As requested in paragraph 5 of the decision, the Ozone Secretariat will continue to liaise with relevant international bodies, including the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, about the importance of sustainable management of halons and related elements of decision XXXVI/7, and report on the matter to the parties as needed.

Decision XXXVI/9: Further strengthening Montreal Protocol institutions: next steps

Paragraph 2 of decision XXXVI/9 invites parties that have not done so to provide to the Ozone Secretariat information on their licensing systems. The update to the response to decision XXXIV/8 on identifying common features of licensing systems, requested in paragraph 1 of the same decision, and to be made available for consideration at OEWG47, will draw on information provided by parties on their licensing systems. To ensure that this update is made available in a timely fashion, we would appreciate if parties that wish to provide information on their licensing systems could do so no later than 31 March 2025.

Paragraph 5 of the same decision invites parties to provide to the Ozone Secretariat information on how they address the disposition of detained substances. Any such information received no later than 31 March 2025 will be considered in the preparation of the note on best practices for preventing illegal trade in controlled substances to be made available at OEWG47 that the Ozone Secretariat has been requested to prepare in accordance with paragraph 3 of the decision.

I take this opportunity to remind parties of the encouragement contained in paragraph 1 of [decision XXXV/12](#) on further strengthening Montreal Protocol institutions, including for combatting illegal trade, “to facilitate the exchange of information on best practices to prevent illegal trade of controlled substances and to inform the Secretariat of practices used by entities attempting unauthorized imports of controlled substances that may include the mislabelling of containers of controlled substances or misreporting of controlled substances on customs declarations.”

Decision XXXVI/11: Avoiding imports of energy inefficient products and equipment containing or relying on controlled substances

Paragraph 1 of decision XXXVI/11 invites parties that have restricted the import of products and equipment containing or relying on controlled substances, including with respect to energy efficiency, to provide this information, on a voluntary basis, to the Ozone Secretariat.

Paragraph 2 of the same decision invites parties that have national policies, standards, including minimum energy performance standards, or legislation for products and equipment containing or relying on controlled substances that do not lead to import prohibitions to inform the Secretariat, on a voluntary basis, of such national policies, standards, including minimum energy performance standards, or legislation, specifying the categories of equipment concerned.

Information provided in accordance with these two paragraphs will be made available on the Ozone Secretariat website under [the additional reported information page](#).

Decision XXXVI/22: Financial reports and budgets for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer

Through paragraph 1 of decision XXXVI/22, the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties approved the budget of 6,047,195 United States dollars for the Montreal Protocol Trust Fund for 2025

and took note of the indicative budget for 2026. The 2026 budget is to be considered further by the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties.

Paragraph 2 of the same decision authorized the Executive Secretary, on an exceptional basis, to draw upon the available cash balance for 2025 in an amount of up to 598,900 dollars for specific activities listed in table A of annex III to the addendum to the report of the combined COP13/MOP36. The additional activities include evaluating the suitability of potential sites for monitoring regional emissions of substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol for which 400,000 dollars has been allocated by parties on an exceptional basis (see paragraph 1 of decision XXXVI/1).

Paragraph 6 of the same decision encourages parties and other stakeholders to contribute financially and by other means to assist the members, including those from parties not operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5, of the three assessment panels and their subsidiary bodies with a view to ensuring their continued participation in assessment activities under the Montreal Protocol.

Paragraph 7 urges parties that have not done so to pay their outstanding contributions promptly and in full and all parties to pay their future contributions promptly and in full, while at the same time expressing its appreciation to parties that have paid their contributions for 2024 and prior years. The status of contributions to the Montreal Protocol Trust Fund is available on the [Ozone Secretariat website](#) and is updated monthly.

The Ozone Secretariat is available to assist your Government's efforts to implement these decisions. We also look forward to continuing to work with the parties to the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol and other stakeholders on all the issues to ensure sustained progress in protecting the ozone layer and the climate and enhancing human health and well-being.

May I take this opportunity to wish your Government a very happy holiday season and all the best for the new year.

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



Megumi Seki Nakamura
Executive Secretary