INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

I. Venue

The Eighteenth Meeting of Parties to the Montreal Protocol will be held in New Delhi from 30 October to 3 November 2006 at the following venue:

Conference Venue

VIGYAN BHAVAN

Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi 110 001 INDIA

Tel.: + (91) 11 2336 4415; + (91) 11 2336 1713

Fax: + (91) 11 2334 3167; + (91) 11 2374 7793

II. Registration and identification name badges

The registration for the meeting will start on Sunday, 29 October 2006, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from Monday, 30th October, through Friday, 3 November, from 8 a.m.

Delegates are encouraged to pre-register on-line through the Secretariat’s website (http://ozone.unep.org). Based on the received and duly completed pre-registration forms, name badges will be issued on site upon the presentation of a valid passport or an identification card with a photograph.

For security reasons, the display of name badges is mandatory for admission to the Vigyan Bhavan Conference Centre as well as to its meeting rooms. In addition, delegates are requested to have their valid passports and identification cards for entry into the Vigyan Bhavan Conference Venue.]
III. Financial assistance to developing countries

Limited funds are available to assist the participation of representatives from developing countries and countries with economies in transition Parties to the Protocol. Should your Government require such assistance, please submit your request to the Secretariat. In order to facilitate timely action on requests for funding, please make such requests before 21 September 2006, and include in the request the details of the participant to be assisted. Please note that only one participant’s travel using the most appropriate economical fares and United Nations daily subsistence allowance may be covered for each country selected for assistance. For further enquiries regarding the financial assistance to be provided to one representative of your Government, please contact Ms. Ruth Batten (e-mail: ruth.batten@unep.org and fax Nos. 254 20 7624691, 7624692, 7624693).

IV. Opening of the meeting

The opening of the Eighteenth Meeting of Parties to the Montreal Protocol will take place at 10 a.m. on Monday, 30 October 2006 at the Vigyan Bhavan Conference Venue. The formal sessions of the meeting will be held daily from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

V. Pre-session meeting documents

All official pre-session documents will be mailed to the Parties and others in the official address list of the Ozone Secretariat. The documents may also be downloaded from the Ozone Secretariat website (http://ozone.unep.org). Delegates are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of the pre-session documents for the meeting.

VI. Visas for India

Please apply for your entry visas from the Indian High Commission, Embassy or Consulate nearest to you. Information on visa procedures, including a list of relevant Indian missions abroad, is available on the website of the Ministry of External Affairs of India (http://passport.nic.in/). Our letter of invitation should be included in your request for entry visa. It is not possible for the Indian authorities to grant visas upon arrival.

VII. Hotel information

In the Government of India’s website for this meeting (http://www.mopindia.com/accomodation.asp) you will find a comprehensive list of hotels in the vicinity of the Vigyan Bhavan building with their rates. Delegates are kindly reminded that they have to make their own hotel reservations. Since November is peak tourist season for Delhi, there is a higher demand for hotels and therefore it is advisable to proceed with your bookings as soon as possible.

The Government of India will provide local transport from hotels to the Conference Venue and back. For more information on transportation click on the following link: http://mopindia.com/transportation.asp

VIII. Services to delegates

Delegates have access to the internet at the Conference Venue as well as telecommunication facilities/mobile phone on hire, business centre/postal service, message desk, money changer and a travel and tours counter.
IX. Medical insurance

Participants travelling to India are strongly advised to obtain medical insurance before leaving their home country. The insurance should cover medical, hospital treatment, repatriation expenses and life insurance.

Any foreign national entering countries’ where Yellow Fever is apparent is required to obtain a Yellow Fever vaccination certificate. There are no other vaccination requirements for travellers arriving in India.

The Ozone Secretariat/UNEP will not assume responsibility for these services.

For more information click on the following link: http://www.mopindia.com/generalInfo.asp

X. Side events and promotional material

Requests for side events should be made completing the attached form (Annex A) and sent to the Secretariat by e-mail (ozoneinfo@unep.org) or by fax (254 20 76624691, 7624692, 7624693). Be aware that the cost incurred by the renting of equipment will be borne by the requesting Organization.

Delegations requiring display of promotional material and publications should ship them to:

Dr A Duraisamy
Director, Ozone Cell
Ministry of Environment & Forests
India Habitat Centre
Core IV B 2nd Floor
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Tel +91 11 24642176
Fax +91 11 24642175
Email: ozone@del3.vsnl.net.in

The parcels should be arranged to arrive not earlier than 16 October 2006 and marked for the attention of Dr. Duraisamy, indicating the reference to the 18th MOP – UNEP-Ozone Secretariat. Please make the necessary payment arrangements for the dispatch as the Ozone Cell, New Delhi would not be in the position to deal with customs clearance or payments associated with it.

A message indicating contents of the shipment should be sent to the attention of Ms. Martha Leyva by e-mail (ozoneinfo@unep.org) or by fax (254 20 76624691/ 7624692/ 7624693).

XI. Weather and local time information

The climate in India during October and November has an average temperature of around 15º C at night and maximum temperature of about 30º C during the day. (http://www.weather.com). The standard time zone will be GMT +5.5
XII. Exchange rates

The Indian Rupee is the national currency in India. The current exchange rate is:

1 Euro = approximately INR 59.779
1 USA $ = approximately INR 46.47

For an update on the exchange rate, you could access the following website: http://www.x-rates.com or http://www.xe.com/ucc