

INTERNATIONAL OZONE DAY 2016 AT KHOSROV STATE RESERVE

The series of events dedicated to the International Ozone Day were held on September 16-17, 2016 at Khosrov State Reserve under the theme **“Ozone and climate: Restored by a world united”** complemented by the tagline *“Working towards reducing global-warming HFCs under the Montreal Protocol”*. The events were organized by the National Ozone Unit under the Ministry of Nature Protection of RA and supported by UNIDO, UNDP and OSCE office in Yerevan. The programme started by the round table discussion on “Environmental issues in Armenia” which was attended by the Minister of Nature Protection of RA Mr. Grigoryan, the Deputy Minister of Nature Protection of RA Mr. Hakobyan, Head of the OSCE office in Yerevan Mr. Avakov, Head of operations of UNIDO Ms. Simonyan as well as by the focal points of all environmental conventions signed by the Republic of Armenia.



The Minister of Nature Protection of RA Mr. Aramayis Grigoryan welcomed the guests and highlighted the importance of human efforts on the protection of the ozone layer as well as the effective steps taken by Armenia in that direction and wished the participants productive discussions.

Head of the OSCE office in Yerevan Mr. Argo Avakov also welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of environmental trainings that were included in the program. According to Mr. Avakov this kind of trainings endows the young generation with feelings of responsibility toward our nature.

Head of operations of UNIDO Ms. Anahit Simonyan highlighted the steps taken by Armenia for the ozone layer protection and presented activities supported by UNIDO.

National Ozone Unit coordinator Ms. Liana Ghahramanyan presented the implemented activities of Armenia on the protection of the ozone layer and future plans to the participants of the round table.

During and after the roundtable discussion the journalists had the opportunity to raise questions and take interviews from the participants. The event was covered by four TV companies (H1, AR, Armenia and Shant TV) later the day.



The round table discussion was followed by two environmental training courses on 16 and 17 September, for two groups of schoolchildren and teachers. The training was delivered by the respective experts from the Ministry of Nature Protection of RA. Around 200 schoolchildren from Khosrov State Reserve's nearby communities attended the trainings. The mission was to develop the environmental knowledge and to formulate the eco-consciousness which would help children to protect the ozone layer, and to protect themselves from the harmful UV radiation, to conserve the endemic and rare species of plants and animals, as well as to adhere to the protection regimes of SPA's. The trainings covered such topics as the problem of ozone layer and protection from the UV radiation, ozone and water resources, ozone and climate change, ozone and biodiversity. Sweets and stationary sets were provided to children and teachers at the end of the training.





Along with the training, there was also another platform where pupils from the Art School of Vedi were working plain air and at the end of the day they presented thematic paintings.



An interview with the National Ozone Focal Point Liana Ghahramanyan was published in the weekly periodical “911” (N 34(634) of 16-22.09.2016) by the Ministry of Emergency Situations of Armenia, entitled “Our Sole Protecting Shield From Radiation”

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Մեր միակ պաշտպանողական շիբուրդը... (Our sole protecting shield...)

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The events dedicated to the celebrations of the International Ozone Day were continued on 30 September by the meeting with the employees of Zvartnots International Airport (technical, procurement and environmental units). The meeting covered such topics as:

- International commitments of the Republic of Armenia
 - Eurasian Economic Union and the Accession Implications for the Republic of Armenia
 - Newly Adopted Procedure on Import/Export of ODS and ODS-based equipment to the Customs territory of the EAEU.
 - Procedure on Import/Export of ODS and ODS-based equipment within the Customs Territory of the EAEU.
 - Recent legislative changes, namely changes in the Government Resolution N 591-N on individual quota procedures.