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**Sixteenth Meeting of the Parties  
to the Montreal Protocol on  
Substances that Deplete the  
Ozone Layer**  
Prague, 22–26 November 2004  
Item 6 (e) of the provisional agenda \*

**Consideration of issues related to ratification, data reporting, compliance  
and international and illegal trade: monitoring of trade in ozone-depleting  
substances and preventing illegal trade in ozone-depleting substances (decision XIV/7)**

**Streamlining the exchange of information on reducing illegal  
trade in ozone-depleting substances**

**Note by the Secretariat**

Paragraph 7 of decision XIV/7 on monitoring of trade in ozone-depleting substances requested the Secretariat to, inter alia, initiate exchanges with countries to explore options for reducing illegal trade. Following the request, the Secretariat sent out a communication to all Parties in May 2004 to solicit their views on how the exchange of information could be streamlined and become more effective in reducing illegal trade in ozone-depleting substances. The views received from nine Parties on this issue are summarized in the annex for consideration by the Meeting of the Parties.

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\* UNEP/OzL.Pro.16/1.

## Annex

1. Coordination by Parties at the national and international levels to prevent illegal trade is very important. Comprehensive measures should therefore be established in this regard, including:

- (a) Implementing efficient legal systems to control and monitor imports and exports of ozone-depleting substances;
- (b) Bringing enforcement in specific cases of illegal import of ozone-depleting substances;
- (c) Specifying harmonized system codes for all ozone-depleting substances;
- (d) Enhancing participation of customs authorities by:

Providing training to all customs officers and evaluation of their training. The training should focus on measures to identify and prevent illegal trade in ozone-depleting substances;

Enhancing import/export monitoring of ozone-depleting substances;

Providing monitoring tools;

Developing information systems to link data between permission authorities and the Customs Department;

- (e) Coordinating within regional networks to exchange information on licit and illicit trade. Consideration may be given to setting up databases on illegal trade in the regional networks. The databases could store information on importing, exporting and transit countries and the conditions for issuing licenses, which contribute to the enforcement of preventive measures and countermeasures against illegal trade.

2. Collaboration among national ozone units of Parties all over the world should be enhanced to enable importing countries to obtain information from exporting countries. This would help to prevent illegal trade in ozone-depleting substances and equipment containing them.

3. Dissemination by Parties of new methods regarding illegal trade should be promoted. If one country detects a new method of illegal trade, it should be disseminated among the Parties so that they can take precautionary actions. Dissemination of information should aim at intensifying joint efforts to improve means of identification of ozone-depleting substances and prevention of their illegal trade.

4. Education is key to curbing illegal trade. Emphasis should be on training and capacity-building of the officials responsible for phasing out ozone-depleting substances.

The Parties may consider carrying out a study of cases of illegal trade and efforts made in connection with other international regimes dealing with the management of controlled chemicals and consider the lessons learned under those regimes.

6. Networks should be created among customs officers of neighbouring countries to achieve the easy exchange of information on illegal trade.

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