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BUREAU OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
VIENNA CONVENTION FOR THE
PROTECTION OF THE OZONE
LAYER

First meeting

Geneva, 30 April 1999

ACTION TAKEN ON THE DECISIONS OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION

Note by the Secretariat

1. The present note summarizes the actions taken on the decisions, which were adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer at its fourth meeting, held in San José, Costa Rica, on 25 and 27 November 1996 (see UNEP/OzL.Conv.4/6, paras. 15-16).

Decision IV/1. Adjustments and Amendments to the Montreal Protocol

2. The status of ratification of the Vienna Convention, the Montreal Protocol and its Amendments as of 10 March 1999 was as follows: Vienna Convention 169 Parties; Montreal Protocol 168 Parties; London Amendment 127 Parties; Copenhagen Amendment 86 Parties and Montreal Amendment 9 Parties.

3. The Parties to the Montreal Protocol, at their Ninth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, held in Montreal from 15 to 17 September 1997 adopted further adjustments with regard to control measures for substances in Annexes A, B and E. The adjustments entered into force on 5 June

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1998. The Parties to the Montreal Protocol also adopted the Montreal Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, which was communicated to all Parties by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as Depository of the Protocol, in Depository Notification C.N.468.1997.TREATIES-4/1, in the six UN official languages on 5 December 1997.

4. According to Article 3, paragraph 1, of the Montreal Amendment, the Amendment should have entered into force on 1 January 1999, if it had been ratified by at least 20 Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. However, this condition has not been fulfilled, and the Amendment shall enter into force on the ninetieth day following the deposit of the twentieth instrument of ratification. To date it has been ratified by: Australia, Canada, Chile, Germany, Jordan, Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, Norway, Panama and Saint. Kitts and Nevis. In both 1998 and 1999, the Secretariat reminded all Parties of the urgent need to ratify this Amendment.

5. Since the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the following new instruments of ratification has been deposited: eight for the Vienna Convention nine for the Montreal Protocol sixteen for the London Amendment and twenty-five for the Copenhagen Amendment.

Decision IV/2. Reports of the three Assessment Panels

6. The Scientific, Environmental Effects, Technology and Economic Assessment Panels and the Technical Options Committees submitted the reports listed in the annex to the present document.

Decision IV/3. Recommendations of the Third Meeting of the Ozone Research Managers

7. The Secretariat interacted with the following countries in order to maintain and further develop monitoring and archiving of measurements of stratospheric and tropospheric ozone, including vertical profiles and other trace species and aerosols, and to pursue the development and implementation of new observational capacities, such as aircraft and satellite-based measurements: Argentina, Chile, New Zealand (The Secretariat wrote to the Director-General of the National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), the Netherlands on the scientific and financial support to the stratospheric LIDAR instrument at Lauder, New Zealand). Also interacted with the following organizations: World Meteorological Organization (WMO), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), European Commission (EC), Network for the Detection of Stratospheric Change (NDSC), Stratospheric Processes and their Role in Climate (SPARC), International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU), International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), International Global Atmospheric Chemistry (IGAC), among others.

8. The Secretariat requested information through the Energy and the OzonAction Programme of the Technology, Industry and Economics Division of UNEP and the UNEP Regional Offices for Africa, Asia and Pacific, Europe, the Latin America and the Caribbean and West Asia on the activities carried out by

the countries in the regions to implement decisions IV/3 and IV/4. It also sent a letter to all Parties to the Vienna Convention with the same request on 5 March 1999.

9. Following this request, the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean interacted with the countries some of which sent reports on the activities carried out in implementation of decisions IV/3 and IV/4. These countries are: Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Uruguay and Venezuela.

10. The Secretariat, in contact with National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), European Commission, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and others, has reviewed documents in order to increase investigations on stratospheric ozone and ultraviolet radiation.

11. The Montreal Protocol Scientific Assessment Panel, together with IPCC and in close coordination with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is producing the IPCC special report Aviation and the Global Atmosphere. A joint session of IPCC working groups I and III will meet in San José, Costa Rica from 12 to 14 April 1999 to discuss the report and approve the Summary for Policy Makers (SPM) while the fifteenth session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to be held from 15 to 18 April 1999, will adopt the actions of the joint session of the working groups I and III and discuss the policy-relevant on scientific/technical questions for consideration in the synthesis report.

12. On 8 February 1999, the Secretariat sent a communication to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) seeking information on the four following issues:

- (a) World Meteorological Organization Continued work of the (WMO) towards coordinated and compatible UV-B measurements and their archiving;
- (b) Training activities and baseline monitoring of ozone, UV-B radiation and related research in developing countries;
- (c) Current status of the Global Ozone Observing System and the monitoring of UV-B; and
- (d) Financial status of the WMO Trust Fund for Environment Monitoring for the Global Ozone Observing System.

A reminders on the same issues were sent on 25 February 1999 and 24 March 1999.

Decision IV/4. Fund matters

13. The Secretariat has been in close contact with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) regarding the contribution to the operational strategy for enabling activities. To date the only project approved by

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GEF to support the monitoring of ozone and UV-B radiation and related research in developing countries, has been the 1993 project for Southern Cone ODS and greenhouse gas monitoring.

14. On 24 February 1999, the Secretariat wrote to the GEF Secretariat requesting information on the activities for the projects supported by GEF in order to implement this decision. In response, the GEF Secretariat stated that, to date, there have been no requests for GEF support in response to Decision IV/4. By way of explanation for this lack of requests, the GEF Secretariat also stated that:

Eligibility of any project proposals to the GEF is determined by its Operation Policy framework. The scope of GEF operations is clarified in the GEF Operational Strategy approved by the GEF Council in 1995. The strategy provides that financing shall be driven by the interests of participating countries. These should be expressed in project proposals conforming with GEF operational goals and principles.

15. The operational goal of the GEF in the Ozone focal area is outlined in chapter five of the strategy. This is to provide short term support for the phase out of ozone depleting substances controlled by the Montreal Protocol in GEF recipient countries that are not eligible under the Financial Mechanism of the Protocol.

16. Operational Principles for GEF financing of targeted research were approved in 1997. They specify the role of targeted research in GEF operations as follows: Targeted research is goal oriented research that supports the GEF operational strategy by providing information, knowledge and tools that improve the quality and effectiveness of the developments and implementation of GEF projects and programs. The role of GEF in the field of research is not directed towards a better understanding of the global environment per se, but it is focused on generating knowledge aimed at improving the effectiveness of GEF's core activity.

17. Canada, through Environment Canada, has actively supported the implementation of decision IV/4 to expand the Ozone Global Watch System to the tropics and the Southern Hemisphere. Environment Canada has participated in the network meetings of the Latin America and the Caribbean region in various occasions and made presentations on UV-B radiation and its implications to human health and the environment. A number of countries of the Caribbean Ozone Network have presented an official application for the installment of two monitoring stations of UV-B radiation in the Caribbean (Barbados) and in Central America (Costa Rica) through the Canada assistance. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is seeking alternative financial status for monitoring projects because they are considered under the Vienna Convention but not in the Protocol. CIDA supports the Multilateral Fund for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol.

Decision IV/5. Budget and financial matters

18. The contributions to the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention for the period 1996-1998 were as

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follows:

Year	1996	1997	1998
Amounts due	\$826,338	\$361,089	\$382,341
Amounts received by 31 December of the	\$546,857	\$203,638	\$183,540
Expenditures of that	\$766,288	\$206,795	\$185,369

19. Unpaid contributions for prior years as at 28 February 1999 totalled to \$546,512. For 1999, of the \$1,207,988 due to the Vienna Convention Trust Fund, \$9,177 had been received. In paragraph 5 of decision IV/5, all Parties were urged to pay their outstanding contributions on time and in full.

20. Updated status of contributions for 1998 and 1999 will be presented at the first meeting of the Bureau.

Decision IV/6. Fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to
the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer

21. The fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention will be held in Beijing on 2-3 December 1999.

22. The Secretariat is making arrangements with the Chinese Government in order to convene this meeting in conjunction with the Eleventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol that will be held from 29 November to 3 December at the same venue.

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Annex

WMO, UNEP, NOAA, NASA, EC, *Scientific Assessment of Ozone Depletion: 1998*, World Meteorological Organization, Global Ozone Research and Monitoring Project-Report No. 44, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA), European Commission (EC), Volume 1, 328pp, 1998. (ISBN 92-807-1722-7)

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UNEP, *Report of the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee, 1998 Assessment of Alternatives to Methyl Bromide*, United Nations Environment Programme, 1998. (ISBN 92-807-1730-8)

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UNEP, Final Report of the TEAP Task Force on CEIT Aspects, United Nations Environment Programme, pp.62, November 1996 (ISBN 92-807-1629-8)

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UNEP, Technology and Economic Assessment Panel, Part I: Report of the Aerosols, Sterilants, Miscellaneous Uses and Carbon Tetrachloride TOC, Update on Developments, Issues Surrounding a Transition to Non-CFC Treatments, Evaluation of Status of Use of ODS and Alternatives; Part II: Report of the Process Agents Task Force; Part III: Assessment of the Use of Flammable Refrigerants; Part IV: Assessment of the Economic Viability of Methyl Bromide Alternatives; United Nations Environment Programme, Volume II, pp.311, April 1997 (ISBN 92-807-1655-6)

UNEP, Handbook on Essential Use Nominations prepared by the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel, United Nations Environment Programme, pp.51, August 1997
