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EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES  
TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON  
SUBSTANCES THAT DEplete THE  
OZONE LAYER  
San José, 25-27 November 1996

DATES FOR A MEETING OF THE OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP  
IN 1997, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT PARAGRAPH 8 OF DECISION VII/9

Note by the Secretariat

1. The Seventh Meeting of the Parties decided, by paragraph 8 of decision VII/9, to incorporate appropriately into the Protocol by the Ninth Meeting of the Parties, a licensing system and the establishment of a production baseline for Parties operating under Article 5.

2. If this decision is to be implemented through an Amendment to the Protocol by the Ninth Meeting, the proposal for such an Amendment must be communicated to the Parties by the Secretariat at least six months before that Meeting, in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 9 of the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. Since the Meeting in 1997 is due to take place by the middle of September, any proposal for Amendment should be circulated by mid-March.

3. In 1990 and 1992, such proposals for Amendments from the Parties were considered by the Open-ended Working Group and consolidated into a single text before formal communication to the Parties. If the same procedure is to be adopted in 1997, the Open-ended Working Group should meet, at the latest, by the first week of March. However, the reports of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel regarding essential-use nominations and other issues may not be ready by that time. If, however, it is decided that the Open-ended Working Group need not scrutinize the proposals for Amendment first and if any Party proposes an Amendment before the end of February 1997, such an Amendment could be communicated directly to the Parties for consideration by the Ninth Meeting.

4. In short, if the Open-ended Working Group needs to consider any proposed Amendment for the Ninth Meeting before it is formally circulated in

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accordance with Article 9, paragraph 2, of the Vienna Convention, it would have to meet no later than the first week of March 1997. Otherwise, it could meet in the first week of June, as previously planned.

5. The Eighth Meeting of the Parties may wish to discuss the issue and take a decision.

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