

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
National Environmental Protection Agency

28th Meeting of Montreal Protocol that Delete the Ozone Layer
Kigali 8-14th October 2016

By: Ghulam Mohd Malikyar
Deputy Director General/DM
National Environmental Protection

Honorable Chair, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, I have the pleasure to thank the people and the republic of Rwanda for hosting this important gathering and congratulate the organizers, ozone secretariat and the MP secretariat for their efforts that made this important meeting as a success. I trust that the parties aim to reach an Important agreement to protect the climate, while continuing to preserve the Ozone Layer. Afghanistan support the call of leaders from 100+ countries for ambitious amendment to the Montreal Protocol to Phase Down HFCs, as well as the Donors Intent whom their preparedness to provide assistance to strengthen the efforts of parties in this matter.

I am pleased to convey the greatest wishes of almost 29 million of population of Afghanistan especially the youth and children who grew in conflict and growing in same circumstances. They are the most vulnerable generation to the climate change, Ozone depletion risks, and a huge environmental pollutions. My country suffers of the use of different chemicals and gases for different purposes. The success of the parties in this important negotiation is the ultimate hopes of my country with the decisions for the well of the global population and our planet.

Honorable Chair

In terms of its obligation as signatory to MP and as the least developed country, Afghanistan has made its ultimate efforts to move forward to phase down ODS at the national level and assist to reduce the challenges at the regional and global level. I hope that the discussions which is focused on issues that reach an ambitious agreement on a possible HFC amendment to the Montreal Protocol.

My country has re-initiated the national ODS inventories which the report will be submitted to the secretariat before the deadline. I would also like to reiterate that my country is a special case in terms of its campaign to reduce import and use of ODS. Our tasks are not to end by working with costume houses around formal borders and major cities, but to control illegal import from the secondary points and road. This is an extremely risky task.

I am pleased to describe that our plans for quota system and licensing is going well and despite all challenges, the efforts for registration of importers have been success and most importers are now under control. With due consideration of annul themes for International Ozone Days, our national emphasizes to move side by side with the parties to the Vienna Convention and the

Montreal Protocol towards the restoration of the ozone layer over the past couple of decades and the national commitment to combat climate change and ozone depletion. As a result of concerted national efforts, we do hope that the ozone layer is healing itself which is expected to recover by the middle of this century.

Afghanistan would like to support the proposed amendment with the consensus of all parties in 2016. The year 2017 will be our proposed time as the start for baseline date. With regards to Freeze date, my country support the ideas of 2025.

On the phase-down schedule, we prefer to adjust the schedule with careful coordination between non-Article 5 and Article 5 phase-down schedules. We emphasize on a reasonable time for freezing of consumption including a series of technologies that could be easily and quickly adopted. A technical review to periodically assess the state of alternatives of which most of party countries are proposing will be ideal. We also support the completion of consolidated draft amendment to the protocol as proposed by France and other parties. In terms of financing, consideration of the geographical and political situation of parties are very important.

Afghanistan has initiated to incorporate *Ozone and climate change into its national strategy and action plan and working towards reducing HFCs under the Montreal Protocol.*

Following ratification of Montreal Protocol, Afghanistan has made good progress in achieving the targets:

1. Implementation of first phase of Montreal Protocol and phaseout of CFCs. Holones, Carbon Tetra Chloride (CTC) in 2010
2. Reduction and prohibition of import of CFCs including R12 with the support of relevant organizations. This has resulted that Afghanistan receive the award of successful country in 2008,2009, 2011 and 2012
3. Under the 2nd stage of MP, works on gradual phase out of HCFC and prohibit the production and import of the said gases until 2040.
4. Training and capacity building of 866 custom officers
5. Training of 105 of law enforcement organizations
6. Training of 380 technicians
7. Distribution of 18 RTI
8. Distribution of 130 ODS recycling machines
9. Training of 5 master trainer of refrigerators technicians
- 10.Reduction of 176 MT ODS
- 11.Prohibition of CFCs, Carbon Tetra Chloride , Haloons
- 12.Fixation of HCFC consumption in 2013
- 13.Public Awareness
- 14.Publish of 10 questions and 10 answers.
- 15.Initiation of ODS survey in 2016

In conclusion, I would like to bring to your kind attention that the situation of working in my country is different than others. My country is still in conflicts, uncontrolled borders, and traditional administrative system. Every single movements for reduction and limiting the ODS by our team is seriously in risks. We were supposed to loss our ozone officer in an attack of ODS importer just couple of months ago. My team receives warnings when they inspect the companies, borders and other stocks.

Thank you