



Distr.: General  
2 December 2020

Original: English



**United Nations  
Environment  
Programme**

**Twelfth meeting of the Conference of  
the Parties to the Vienna Convention  
for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, part I**  
Online, 23–27 November 2020

**Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to  
the Montreal Protocol on Substances  
that Deplete the Ozone Layer**  
Online, 23–27 November 2020

## **Report of the combined twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer (part I) and Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer**

### **Introduction**

1. Owing to the ongoing coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, it was not possible to convene the combined twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer in Tashkent from 23 to 27 November 2020, as had been planned. Instead, the combined meetings were held online on those dates, comprising the first part of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention, which was dedicated solely to consideration of the budget of the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention for 2020 and 2021, and the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, which was to consider a reduced agenda.
2. The present report reflects the deliberations under the items included on the single agenda for the combined meetings; any references to the current meeting should be understood to denote the combined meetings of the two bodies.

### **Part one: preparatory segment (23–26 November 2020)**

#### **I. Opening of the preparatory segment: statement(s) by the representative(s) of the United Nations Environment Programme**

3. The preparatory segment was opened by its co-chairs, Alain Wilmart (Belgium) and Obed Baloyi (South Africa), at 2.20 p.m. (Nairobi time (UTC+3)) on Monday, 23 November 2020.
4. Opening remarks were delivered by Megumi Seki, acting Executive Secretary of the Ozone Secretariat. At Ms. Seki's invitation, the parties observed a minute of silence in memory of Mario Molina, a co-recipient of the 1995 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his groundbreaking work on the depletion of the ozone layer, who had passed away on 7 October 2020.
5. In her statement, Ms. Seki said that the best way to honour Mr. Molina was to continue to protect the ozone layer and the climate, even during the COVID-19 pandemic, which had caused tremendous loss and disruption around the world. The Secretariat's current contingency plan for 2021 was to start holding in-person meetings again from March onwards, but, given the force of the second

wave of COVID-19 infections in many countries, nothing was certain. The Secretariat would assess the situation carefully in December 2020 and provide an update on the 2021 meetings to the parties and other stakeholders shortly thereafter.

6. Despite the pandemic, the parties had achieved laudable progress in 2020, including by means of online meetings. The forty-second meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties, comprising three substantially identical technical sessions dedicated to the replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, and the sixty-fourth meeting of the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol had been held online in July; the first part of the eleventh meeting of the Ozone Research Managers, focusing on gaps in monitoring, had been held online in October; and the sixty-fifth meeting of the Implementation Committee and the joint meeting of the Bureau of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and the Bureau of the Thirty-First Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol had been held online earlier in November.

7. The current meeting would be the first large-scale intergovernmental meeting at which decisions would be adopted since the beginning of the pandemic. Although the agenda of the meeting had been limited to essential items on which decisions were needed, more preparatory work had been required than for the usual face-to-face meetings. She expressed her gratitude to the parties and the assessment panels for their efforts in that regard.

8. In addition to its report on the assessment of the funding requirement for the replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the period 2021–2023 and its interim report on the evaluation of 2020 critical-use nominations for methyl bromide, the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel had produced a response note addressing all the questions and comments of the parties on replenishment, and the final report on the evaluation of 2020 critical-use nominations for methyl bromide. Volume 2, on the continued provision of information on energy-efficient and low-global-warming-potential technologies, of the Panel's September 2020 report, had also been made available. The Scientific Assessment Panel had been working on the report on unexpected emissions of trichlorofluoromethane (CFC-11), beginning well before it had been announced that new scientific papers were expected to be issued later in the year. The Environmental Effects Assessment Panel had also continued its work, assessing information on the various topics that it addressed.

9. Progress had been made with regard to the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol. The number of ratifications had risen to 110, and the parties not operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 (non-Article 5 parties) that had been required to reduce their production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by 10 per cent had done so. In short, the ozone family was continuously rising to the challenges before it and reaching new levels of achievement. In closing, Ms. Seki recalled the strong leadership of the outgoing Executive Secretary of the Ozone Secretariat, Tina Birmpili, and expressed appreciation for the work she had undertaken in her capacity as head of the secretariat.

## **II. Organizational matters**

### **A. Attendance**

10. The twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention (part I) and the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol were attended by representatives of the following parties: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, European Union, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

11. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies also attended: Climate and Clean Air Coalition, secretariat of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, World Bank. The Montreal Protocol assessment panels were also represented.

12. The following intergovernmental, non-governmental, industry, academic and other bodies were also represented: Arel Limited; Carel Industries; Caribbean Maritime University; Carrier Global Corporation; Daikin; Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit; Emergent Ventures India; Environmental Investigation Agency; European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE); Gulf Cooperation Council; HEAT International; ICF International; Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development; International Institute for Sustainable Development; International Pharmaceutical Aerosol Consortium (IPAC); Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association; MEBROM; Mexichem UK Ltd.; Nadia Sohler Zaman; Natural Resource Defence Council; Nolan Sherry and Associates Ltd.; Petra Engineering Industries; Solvay GBU Special Chem; The Energy and Resources Institute; Universidade Nova de Lisboa; University of São Paulo; University of Technology, Jamaica.

## **B. Adoption of the agenda of the preparatory segment**

13. The following agenda for the preparatory segment was adopted on the basis of the provisional agenda set out in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/1–UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/1, section I:

1. Opening of the preparatory segment: statement(s) by the representative(s) of the United Nations Environment Programme.
2. Organizational matters:
  - (a) Adoption of the agenda of the preparatory segment;
  - (b) Organization of work.
3. Financial reports and budgets of the trust funds for the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol.
4. Montreal Protocol issues:
  - (a) Replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol;
  - (b) Nominations for methyl bromide critical-use exemptions for 2021 and 2022;
  - (c) Consideration of the membership of Montreal Protocol bodies for 2021:
    - (i) Membership of the Implementation Committee;
    - (ii) Membership of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund;
    - (iii) Co-chairs of the Open-ended Working Group;
  - (d) Consideration of the membership of the assessment panels;
  - (e) Compliance and reporting issues considered by the Implementation Committee.
5. Other matters.

14. The parties agreed to consider potential additional meetings in 2021 under agenda item 4 (a), “Montreal Protocol issues: replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol”, and the Rome Declaration on the Contribution of the Montreal Protocol to Food Loss Reduction through Sustainable Cold Chain Development under agenda item 5, “Other matters”.

15. The representative of Morocco introduced a draft decision, set out in a conference room paper, on strengthening the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel and its technical options committees for the phase-down of HFCs and other future challenges related to the Montreal Protocol and the climate. He proposed that the draft decision be considered under agenda item 5, “Other matters”. Following a discussion in which it was stressed that the paper raised important issues requiring careful thought and that time at the current meeting was limited, the parties decided to defer consideration of the matter until 2021. The representative of Morocco, noting the concerns expressed, said that the matter should be the subject of a standalone item on the agenda of the meeting at which it was discussed.

16. The representative of Mexico said that her party had submitted a proposal for a “Mario Molina declaration to support and strengthen the Montreal Protocol” to the Secretariat for consideration and possible adoption by the parties. The parties agreed to defer consideration of the proposed declaration until 2021 due to the streamlined nature of the current meeting, which, in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic, was aimed at dealing with only the most important and urgent matters that had been agreed well ahead of the meeting through informal consultation among the parties.

### C. Organization of work

17. The parties agreed to the organization of work proposed by the co-chair, namely to establish contact and informal groups as necessary; to avoid holding contact group meetings in parallel with one another or with plenary meetings; and to avoid, to the extent possible, the holding of simultaneous meetings of various groups. The daily sessions would run from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (Nairobi time (UTC+3)), with the possibility of a one-hour extension if necessary, and were expected to close by 5 p.m. daily, including the meetings of contact and informal groups.

## III. Financial reports and budgets of the trust funds for the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol

18. In considering the item, the parties had before them documents UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/4/Rev.1 and UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/4/Rev.1, containing proposed revisions to the approved budgets for 2020 and proposed budgets for 2021, together with activity fact sheets set out in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/INF/1–UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/INF/1, the financial reports of the two trust funds for the fiscal year 2019 set out in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/5–UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/5, and the updated indicative financial report for the fiscal year 2020 as at September 2020 set out in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/INF/2–UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/INF/2.

19. Introducing the item, the co-chair recalled that the parties reviewed the budget of the trust fund for the Montreal Protocol each year and the budget of the trust fund for the Vienna Convention every three years. The financial reports of both trust funds were reviewed annually. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, however, at the present part I of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention, the parties would discuss only the proposed revised 2020 budget of the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention and the proposed budget for 2021. The proposed budget for the triennium 2022–2024 would be considered at part II of the twelfth meeting, to be held in 2021 in conjunction with the Thirty-Third Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol.

20. The co-chair also recalled that parties had been able to submit comments and questions to the Secretariat on the above-mentioned documents by means of an online forum dedicated to the issue of the budgets. Furthermore, in preparation for the current meeting the co-chairs had convened informal online meetings to discuss the financial situations of the two trust funds, the funding scenarios and the budgets. All the additional information provided by the Secretariat through the forum or in response to questions raised during the informal meetings remained available for reference on the online forum.

21. The parties agreed to establish a budget committee to consider the two draft decisions on the final reports and budgets of the trust funds for the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol set out in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/3–UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/3. The committee would review the financial reports, the budgets, the funding scenarios and all other issues relevant to the budget decisions, taking into account the initial informal discussion that had taken place in advance of the current meeting. The budget committee was requested to select its chair or co-chairs at its first meeting.

22. Subsequently, the chair of the budget committee, Nicole Folliet (Canada), explained that the group had reached consensus on the draft decision on the final report and budget of the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention, but had failed to reach agreement on the addition, in the draft decision on the final report and budget of Trust Fund for the Montreal Protocol, of a paragraph related to cash balances.

23. In the interests of reaching consensus, the proponent of the new paragraph said that her country would agree to the deletion of the paragraph, but explained, for the record, that it had been proposed on account of the large cash balance in the Trust Fund over the previous three years and particularly in 2020. She underlined the need for the cash balance to be managed properly, and reduced, and requested that parties look into the matter further.

24. The parties agreed to forward the draft decision for further consideration and possible adoption during the high-level segment.

## **IV. Montreal Protocol issues**

### **A. Replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol**

25. Introducing the item, the co-chair drew attention to the information contained in paragraphs 25–27 of the note by the Secretariat on issues for discussion by and information for the attention of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its twelfth meeting (part I) and the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/2–UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/2), and the report of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol to the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties (UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/7). He said that the purpose of the agenda item was to ensure that the work of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund could continue into 2021, given that the present fiscal period of the Multilateral Fund would finish at the end of 2020 and the COVID-19 pandemic had meant that the parties had been unable to meet face to face in 2020 to discuss the replenishment of the Fund for the fiscal period 2021–2023.

26. The representative of the United States of America introduced a draft decision on the matter, set out in a conference room paper. He said that during the present exceptional circumstances, in order to enable the Multilateral Fund to continue to provide support to parties operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol (Article 5 parties), the parties needed to take a decision to mobilize the required funding, as stipulated by paragraph 7 of Article 10, which stated that the parties were to decide upon the programme budget of the Multilateral Fund for each fiscal period. The draft decision accordingly proposed that the parties, at the current meeting, adopt an interim budget for the triennium 2021–2023, and authorize the use of rollover funds from the current triennium for that purpose. The language of the proposed draft decision was aligned as closely as possible with the language of previous replenishment decisions, for example decision XXIX/1. The interim budget would be in effect until the parties adopted a replenishment decision with a revised budget, as planned for 2021.

27. The Chief Officer of the Multilateral Fund stated that, as at the end of October 2020, the resources available to the Fund totalled \$327 million. The total level of funding for projects to be submitted to the Executive Committee at its eighty-sixth meeting, in March 2021, and for the operation of the secretariat (including meetings of the Executive Committee), amounted to \$67 million. The available balance at the end of the triennium 2018–2020 therefore amounted to approximately \$260 million.

28. During the ensuing discussion, many representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed support for the draft decision. Several representatives said that the interim measures proposed would enable the Multilateral Fund to continue to assist Article 5 parties in meeting their obligations under the Montreal Protocol. Two representatives said that a decision of the parties on the matter should explicitly state that the Fund be replenished in 2021.

29. The representative of the United States responded to issues raised by representatives. He stated that, on average, the Multilateral Fund disbursed less than \$200 million in any one year; by that evidence, the balance alluded to by the Chief Officer would be more than sufficient to finance the operations of the Multilateral Fund during the proposed interim period. On the legal basis of the draft decision, he said that the actions proposed by the draft decision were consistent with the rules of the Protocol's governing instruments and with the requirements of paragraph 7 of Article 10 of the Protocol. He clarified that the preambular paragraph stating that the action described in the draft decision would not set a precedent was intended to facilitate the adoption of the proposed measures by avoiding a broader linkage with other similar emergencies that might occur.

30. The co-chair said that the existing contingency plan for 2021 was that, if the pandemic situation improved, a physical meeting on replenishment would be convened in March 2021 to discuss the need for and the content of a supplementary report to the replenishment report of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel. That report could then be considered at an extraordinary meeting of the parties that could take place in July 2021. The Secretariat would continue to monitor the situation.

31. The representative of Canada introduced a draft decision on the matter, set out in a conference room paper. By that draft decision, the parties would authorize the Secretariat to organize an extraordinary meeting of the parties in 2021, at which the parties would consider the replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the triennium 2021–2023, if and when the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic permitted it.

32. The parties agreed to establish a contact group, co-chaired by Ralph Brieskorn (Netherlands) and Leslie Smith (Grenada), to discuss the proposed draft decisions.
33. Subsequently, the co-chair of the contact group introduced a revised draft decision on the holding of an extraordinary meeting of the parties in 2021, as set out in a conference room paper.
34. The parties agreed to forward the draft decision for further consideration and possible adoption during the high-level segment.
35. The co-chair of the contact group also introduced a revised draft decision on the interim budget for the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol for the triennium 2021–2023.
36. The parties agreed to forward the draft decision for further consideration and possible adoption during the high-level segment.

## **B. Nominations for methyl bromide critical-use exemptions for 2021 and 2022**

37. Introducing the sub-item, the co-chair recalled that, during June and July 2020, an online forum had been opened by the Secretariat for discussion of the interim report by the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel on the evaluation of 2020 critical-use nominations for methyl bromide and related issues (volume 2 of the May 2020 report of the Panel). The report had been posted on the forum and parties had been able to submit comments and questions, to which the members of the Committee had responded. Bilateral discussions had then taken place between nominating parties and the Committee; none of the nominating parties had requested reassessment of the Committee's interim recommendations. Subsequently, the Committee had carried out its final evaluation, and its final report had also been posted on the online forum; no additional questions or comments had been received. The final report by the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee on the evaluation of 2020 critical-use nominations for methyl bromide and related issues was set out in volume 1 of the September 2020 report of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel. A summary of the nominations and the final recommendations could be found in the note by the Secretariat on issues for discussion by and information for the attention of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer at its twelfth meeting (part I) and the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/2/Add.1–UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/2/Add.1).
38. The co-chairs of the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee, Marta Pizano and Ian Porter, gave a presentation on the Committee's final assessment of critical-use nominations for methyl bromide. A summary of the presentation is set out in section A of the annex to the present report.
39. In the ensuing discussion, the representative of Argentina thanked the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee for recognizing the efforts made by countries to reduce their critical-use nominations and reiterated her country's intention to reduce its use of methyl bromide over the following few years.
40. The representative of Australia said that his country was very hopeful that methyl iodide would be registered for use in the first half of 2021. Nevertheless, even if that happened, it would be too late for use in soil fumigation for strawberry runners in 2021, as that was undertaken very early in the season. He noted that, despite methyl iodide appearing to be the best drop-in alternative to methyl bromide, the applicant was also testing other alternatives, such as innovative microwave technology, which was proving interesting, but had not yet reached the required level of efficacy.
41. The representative of Canada thanked the Committee for meeting with the Canadian delegation and farmers, stating that the exchange had been mutually beneficial. He said that it was challenging for Canada to reduce and phase-out the use of methyl bromide as no other fumigant registered in Canada was permitted to be used in Prince Edward Island, making soilless culture the only possible alternative. He was therefore very happy with the progress made by farmers in terms of research into soilless alternatives. They were also looking at other non-fumigant alternatives, such as organically pretreated soil and extending the construction of greenhouses, with a view to further reducing the use of methyl bromide.
42. The representative of South Africa said that, although her country had registered sulfuryl fluoride as an alternative to methyl bromide, it had ceased to use it because of the substance's high global-warming potential and had begun a review of the situation. South Africa was committed to undertaking further research to find safer alternatives. She informed participants that her country had accepted the amount of methyl bromide recommended by the Committee, noting that demand for

methyl bromide use had dropped significantly during the COVID-19 lockdown and South Africa would be able to cover its needs while trying to find another suitable alternative.

43. Two representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of countries, expressed concern about the ongoing, and perhaps increasing, use of methyl bromide for quarantine and pre-shipment applications and its potential to offset the benefits brought about by the reductions in critical uses. The representative speaking on behalf of a group of countries also expressed concern that there appeared to be substantial stocks of methyl bromide held globally for controlled uses by Article 5 parties and that reporting under Article 7 showed that there had been higher levels of production than consumption for many years, leading to unknown levels of unreported stocks. He also recalled that the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee had identified opportunities for replacing between 30 and 40 per cent of quarantine and pre-shipment uses of methyl bromide with immediately available alternatives and requested that consideration of the issue be placed on the agenda of the next physical meeting of parties.

44. Mr. Porter said that it was important to note that consumption of methyl bromide was not the same as emission. There was no overall increase in consumption of methyl bromide for quarantine and pre-shipment applications; it was increasing in some countries and declining in others. Furthermore, although reported consumption did not reflect the actual use, consumption was fairly consistent, despite some yearly fluctuations. Emissions of methyl bromide were caused by a number of factors and could be influenced by parties' behaviour at the local level. Efforts were being made to reduce emissions, such as recapture, and a number of other technologies had been presented at the annual Methyl Bromide Alternatives Outreach conference in November 2020. With the decline in critical uses and some unreported uses, he expected to see a further decline in emissions. He noted that those emissions could be reduced further if alternatives were used for quarantine and pre-shipment applications.

45. The representative of Australia, on behalf of the Governments of Argentina, Australia, Canada and South Africa, introduced a draft decision on critical-use exemptions for 2021 and 2022 set out in a conference room paper. Noting that the proponent countries had also consulted with the European Union, he expressed appreciation for that input. He confirmed that the amounts subject to the critical-use exemptions in the draft decision were those recommended by the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee.

46. The parties agreed to forward the draft decision for further consideration and possible adoption during the high-level segment.

## **C. Consideration of the membership of Montreal Protocol bodies for 2021**

### **1. Membership of the Implementation Committee**

47. Introducing the item, the co-chair said that the parties needed to decide on the membership of the Implementation Committee for 2021. A draft decision on the issue was set out in document UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/3 (draft decision XXXII/[B]).

48. Subsequently, the representative of the Secretariat reported that, upon receipt of the names of the nominations from the regional groups, the relevant draft decision had been included in the compilation of decisions for the parties' consideration and adoption during the high-level segment.

### **2. Membership of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund**

49. Introducing the item, the co-chair said that the parties needed to decide on the membership of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for 2021. A draft decision on the issue was set out in document UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/3 (draft decision XXXII/[C]).

50. Subsequently, the representative of the Secretariat reported that, upon receipt of the names of the nominations from the regional groups, the relevant draft decision had been included in the compilation of decisions for the parties' consideration and adoption during the high-level segment.

### **3. Co-chairs of the Open-ended Working Group**

51. Introducing the item, the co-chair said that the parties needed to decide on the co-chairs of the Open-ended Working Group for 2021. A draft decision on the issue was set out in document UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/3 (draft decision XXXII/[D]).

52. Subsequently, the representative of the Secretariat reported that, upon receipt of the names of the nominations from the Article 5 and non-Article 5 parties, the relevant draft decision had been

included in the compilation of decisions for the parties' consideration and adoption during the high-level segment.

#### **D. Consideration of the membership of the assessment panels**

53. Introducing the item, the co-chair drew attention to the information contained in paragraphs 44–47 of the note by the Secretariat on issues for discussion by and information for the attention of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its twelfth meeting (part I) and the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/2–UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/2), and the report of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel, May 2020, volume I: progress report (sections 8.1 and 8.2 and annexes 1, 2 and 3). He recalled that the terms of seven members of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel would expire at the end of 2020, including one Panel co-chair, three co-chairs of technical options committees, and three senior experts. The Secretariat had received seven nominations so far: two from the United States, two from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, one from India, one from Costa Rica, and one from Brazil.

54. The representative of the United States introduced a draft decision on membership changes on the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel, set out in a conference room paper submitted by Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States. The draft decision presented nominations for co-chairs and a senior expert for the Panel and its subsidiary bodies, and made provision for the temporary subsidiary bodies to continue their work up to and including the Thirty-Third Meeting of the Parties, given the exceptional circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the need to ensure continuity in the work of those bodies in the meantime.

55. The representative of India introduced a draft decision on the membership of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel, set out in a conference room paper submitted by Armenia, Georgia, India, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. The draft decision presented a nomination for a senior expert member of the Panel. The representatives of Brazil and Costa Rica also proposed nominations for a co-chair of the Flexible and Rigid Foams Technical Options Committee and a senior expert member of the Panel, respectively. Several representatives spoke in support of those nominated.

56. One representative, speaking on behalf of a group of countries, said that while the skills and expertise of the various expert nominees had been clearly articulated by the proposers, care needed to be taken to ensure that the required procedures had been duly followed, that the periods of appointment were appropriate, and that the skills of those nominated were in concordance with the matrix of needed expertise. Such sensitive matters might be better dealt with in the next physical meeting of the parties. Another representative supported the nominations for those essential positions that would enable the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel and its subsidiary bodies to continue their important work, but concurred that due protocol needed to be followed in the appointment of experts. Several of the nominated experts were already members of the temporary subsidiary bodies whose mandate would be extended, so their expertise would not be lost by the adoption of a more circumspect process of appointment.

57. The parties agreed to constitute an informal group to discuss the matter further and propose a way forward on the matter.

58. Subsequently, the informal group submitted for consideration by the parties a draft decision on membership changes on the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel, as set out in a conference room paper. One representative said that while his party would accept the draft decision in the spirit of compromise and to ensure continuity, in future the appointment process for Panel membership should be undertaken in a transparent manner, in consultation with all the parties, and ensuring a reasonable balance between Article 5 and non-Article 5 parties.

59. The parties agreed to forward the draft decision for further consideration and possible adoption during the high-level segment.

#### **E. Compliance and reporting issues considered by the Implementation Committee**

60. The President of the Implementation Committee, Maryam Al-Dabbagh (Saudi Arabia), presented a report on the outcomes of the sixty-fourth and sixty-fifth meetings of the Committee, both of which had taken place online, and provided an overview of the draft decisions approved by the Committee for consideration by the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties. The Committee had heard updates from the Ozone Secretariat on data reporting and related matters, including the reporting

obligations for HFCs under the Kigali Amendment and a summary of information on the establishment of licensing systems for HFCs. It had also heard reports from the secretariat of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol on relevant decisions of the Executive Committee of the Fund and on activities carried out by the implementing agencies to facilitate compliance by parties.

61. The Implementation Committee had reviewed existing decisions on non-compliance by a few parties. All the parties subject to monitoring following a decision on non-compliance had returned to compliance with their obligations and with the limits of either production or consumption of controlled substances. The Committee had also considered a new case of non-compliance by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with consumption and production limits of HCFCs and with reporting requirements for HFCs under the Kigali Amendment.

62. She drew attention to a conference room paper setting out three draft decisions for consideration by the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties. The first related to data reporting under Article 7 of the Protocol. She expressed satisfaction that 195 of the 198 parties had reported data for 2019 and that 176 of those parties had done so by the deadline of 30 September 2020, as required under paragraph 3 of Article 7. However, three parties, namely Mali, San Marino and Yemen, had not yet reported their 2019 data, placing them in a situation of non-compliance with their reporting obligations. In addition, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had not submitted data on HFCs for 2019, despite being required to do so as a party to the Kigali Amendment since 2019. The draft decision requested the Committee to review the situation of those four parties at its sixty-sixth meeting.

63. The second draft decision established the non-compliance of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with the limits prescribed by the Montreal Protocol for annual consumption and production of HCFCs in 2019 based on submitted Article 7 data for that year. The party had previously highlighted its risk of non-compliance, citing the sanctions imposed on the country by the Security Council of the United Nations, which had led to the suspension of the technical and financial support available to it as an Article 5 party under Articles 10 and 10A of the Protocol. The party had also stated that it was unlikely to meet the 35 per cent target for 2020. In its recommendation 64/1, adopted at its sixty-fourth meeting in July 2020, the Committee had established the case of non-compliance, while noting the circumstances that the party believed to be the cause thereof and acknowledging the prior notifications by the party of possible non-compliance with the reduction commitments set for 2019. The Committee had agreed to follow its formal procedure for such cases. In its recommendation 64/1, it had therefore requested the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, as a matter of urgency, to submit to the Committee a plan of action with time-specific benchmarks to ensure a prompt return to compliance. In response, the party had presented a plan of action for the period to 2023, noting that its implementation would depend on the availability of technical and financial assistance from the Multilateral Fund. At the Committee's invitation, representatives of the party had taken part in the Committee's sixty-fifth meeting in order to provide further clarification. The draft decision acknowledged that the party should continue to be eligible to receive appropriate assistance to enable it to meet the commitments set out in the plan of action, subject to the application of relevant Security Council resolutions.

64. The third draft decision concerned the reporting of information on the use of controlled substances as process agents. In the decision, the Ozone Secretariat was requested to seek clarification from the parties regarding any deviations from the maximum emission limits and to bring to the attention of the Committee any such deviations that remained after clarification had been obtained.

65. Lastly, with the Kigali Amendment having entered into force in 2019, at its sixty-fourth meeting, the Committee had reviewed the status of the licensing systems for HFCs prescribed under Article 4B, paragraph 2 bis, of the Montreal Protocol. In a recommendation adopted by the Committee and later shared with all the relevant parties, the Committee noted that, at the time of its sixty-fourth meeting, 45 parties to the Amendment had reported the establishment and implementation of such systems, as had a further 6 parties that had not yet ratified the Amendment.

66. During the ensuing discussion, the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made a statement on the draft decision pertaining to his party that had been forwarded by the Implementation Committee to the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties for its consideration. He said that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was fully eligible to receive international assistance for the implementation of its obligations under the Montreal Protocol, and its commitment to those obligations remained unchanged; that any external conditions should not be the premise for providing assistance to developing countries, and the implementing agencies should fulfil their mandates in that regard; that an amendment to the draft decision should be made to invite the party to explore

possibilities to establish additional national policies facilitating the phase-out of HCFCs; and that the party would endeavour to fulfil its obligations by establishing and enhancing legal and institutional mechanisms and raising public awareness regarding the protection of the ozone layer.

67. Following that statement, several representatives, including one speaking on behalf of a group of member States, reaffirmed that any decisions of a meeting of the parties to the Montreal Protocol needed to be in accordance with international law, including the resolutions of the Security Council; that any such resolutions applying to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea did not reduce its responsibility to comply with its obligations under the Protocol; and that no amendments to the decision should be considered that weakened the draft decision forwarded by the Implementation Committee.

68. The parties agreed to forward the draft decisions for further consideration and possible adoption during the high-level segment.

## V. Other matters

### Rome Declaration on the Contribution of the Montreal Protocol to Food Loss Reduction through Sustainable Cold Chain Development

69. Introducing the item, the co-chair said that, as had been agreed during the adoption of the agenda, an issue relating to the Rome Declaration on the Contribution of the Montreal Protocol to Food Loss Reduction through Sustainable Cold Chain Development would be discussed under the present agenda item.

70. The representative of Italy recalled that, at the Thirty-First Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, held in Rome in 2019, many parties had endorsed the Rome Declaration. He underscored the key role of the cold chain in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals related, inter alia, to ending hunger and poverty, food security, improved nutrition, climate action, sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and health and well-being. By signing the Declaration, members of the Montreal Protocol community had once again showed how the treaty's longstanding experience and history of successful cooperation could be beneficial in addressing the multiple challenges of the 2030 Agenda.

71. Although the deadline for signing the Declaration had been set as the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties, a number of additional parties had expressed their interest in joining the Declaration. As a result, and with a view to maintaining the momentum in the development of a sustainable cold chain during the exceptional circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, the representative of Italy requested an extension of the time frame for signing the Rome Declaration, proposing that the new deadline be the Thirty-Third Meeting of the Parties, which, it was to be hoped, would be held face to face.

72. He also requested that the Secretariat provide an update in the meeting report on the number of parties that had already signed the Declaration.<sup>1</sup>

73. The co-chair expressed support for the idea of extending the deadline for signing the Declaration given the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Part two: high-level segment (27 November 2020)

#### I. Opening of the high-level segment

74. The high-level segment was opened by Nicole Folliet (Canada), President of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention, at 2 p.m. (Nairobi time (UTC+3)) on Friday, 27 November 2020.

75. Opening statements, summarized below in the order of delivery, were made by Inger Andersen, Executive Director of UNEP; Ms. Folliet; and Alvin Da Breo, President of the Thirty-First Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol.

<sup>1</sup> A total of 69 parties had endorsed the Rome Declaration during the Thirty-First Meeting of the Parties and since that time 5 additional parties, namely Brazil, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Romania and Singapore, had endorsed the Declaration, bringing the total to 74 parties.

## **A. Statement(s) by the representative(s) of the United Nations Environment Programme**

76. In her opening address, Ms. Andersen said that, despite the difficult challenges stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, participants had been able, through commitment and determination, to continue their important work under the Vienna Convention and its Montreal Protocol. Indeed, much progress had been made over recent months. A number of online meetings had been held and the assessment panels had produced excellent work.

77. As participants marked the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Convention, it was fitting to pay tribute to Mario Molina, a great leader and champion of ozone and climate protection and one of the scientists on whose shoulders participants' work stood. Recalling the publication in 1974 by Mario Molina and Sherwood Rowland of a paper hypothesizing that chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) were destroying the stratospheric ozone layer, and their subsequent call for a complete ban on the release of CFCs to the atmosphere, she said that the use of science as the basis for agreed global action had been at the core of efforts to protect the ozone layer ever since, and it was worth taking stock of the extraordinary science that the parties to the Convention had made it possible to produce. Recently, when unexpected emissions of the phased-out chemical CFC-11 had been detected by scientists, the discussions that had ensued had demonstrated the effectiveness of the Montreal Protocol. The relevant parties were taking appropriate action, emissions were decreasing, and the parties were considering strengthening the Protocol to avoid similar future occurrences. Looking forward, the rigour and vigilance of scientists and researchers would be key to the continued success of the Protocol.

78. Another significant accomplishment, and a critical instrument in the fight against climate change, was the Kigali Amendment. It had been estimated that the full implementation of the Amendment could prevent up to 0.4 degrees Celsius of warming by 2100. Moreover, energy efficiency enhancement when phasing down HFCs could bring significant additional climate benefits. Considerable successes had already been achieved: non-Article 5 parties to the Amendment had met their obligation to reduce their production and consumption of controlled HFCs by 10 per cent. It was a source of pride that 112 parties to the Montreal Protocol had ratified the Amendment. Echoing previous speakers, she urged all the parties that had not yet ratified the Amendment to do so in order to ensure universal ratification.

79. Lastly, she expressed her deep appreciation to the former Executive Secretary of the Ozone Secretariat, Tina Birmpili, who had joined the Secretariat in November 2013, when the parties to the Montreal Protocol had been involved in intense negotiations to amend the Protocol to phase down the production and consumption of HFCs. Ms. Birmpili had steered those negotiations, which had culminated in the signing of the Kigali Amendment in October 2016. During Ms. Birmpili's tenure, the Secretariat had updated its data reporting system, moving it online, and enhanced its digital assets to facilitate the work of stakeholders of the ozone treaties. Noting that she expected the competitive recruitment process to find Ms. Birmpili's replacement to be completed by early 2021, she stressed that UNEP would do all it could to support the Secretariat in ensuring that the protection of the ozone layer remained a high priority.

## **B. Statement by the President of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention**

80. In her remarks, Ms. Folliet said that the parties' dedication to ozone protection and their successes in that regard were an inspiration to those working on other intractable environmental concerns. Through the implementation of the Vienna Convention and the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, the parties had also become partners in climate protection. The thirty-fifth anniversary of the Convention provided an opportunity to reflect on what had been achieved and to learn lessons for improved future implementation of the ozone treaties. When scientists working in the late 1970s had raised the alarm that human activities were creating a hole in the ozone layer, the global response had been decisive. Under the Montreal Protocol, adopted in 1987, Governments, scientists and industry had worked together to phase out around 99 per cent of all ozone-depleting substances. That achievement made the Protocol a prime contributor to the fight against global warming, with its impact outstripping that of other efforts made to date under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. Thanks to the Montreal Protocol, the ozone layer was healing and was expected to return to pre-1980 levels by mid-century. In support of the Protocol, the Kigali Amendment, which had entered into force in 2019, was aimed at phasing down the production and consumption of HFCs – powerful greenhouse gases. However, four years on from its adoption, the Amendment had not yet been universally ratified. She appealed to the

parties to the Amendment to persuade the 86 States that had not yet ratified the instrument to do so and thereby join efforts to develop a common strategy to address future implementation challenges.

### **C. Statement by the President of the Thirty-First Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol**

81. In his statement, Mr. Da Breo said that the Montreal Protocol community stood in solidarity with those who had been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which had caused untold disruption and mass suffering around the world. The travel limitations imposed as a result of the pandemic meant that the current meeting was being held online and, given the wide geographical spread of participants, could convene only for a limited number of hours each day. Consequently, the agenda had been reduced, leaving only those items whose consideration was of the utmost importance and urgency.

82. Associating himself with the remarks made by Ms. Folliet concerning the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Vienna Convention, he said that the Montreal Protocol had been born in 1987 out of the general obligation enshrined in the Convention to take appropriate measures to protect human health and the environment against adverse effects resulting from human activities that modified the ozone layer. That obligation and many others had been implemented by the parties over the years, with scientists indicating that ozone protection efforts had contributed significantly to slowing climate change by avoiding an estimated 135 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions from 1990 to 2010. Scientists further projected that, thanks to the Montreal Protocol, up to 2 million cases of skin cancer might be prevented globally each year by 2030. The implementation of the Protocol had also brought economic benefits, including an estimated \$1.8 trillion in global health benefits and almost \$460 billion in avoided damages to agriculture, fisheries and materials from 1987 to 2060. Despite those encouraging results, the work was not over. Dedicated time and resources were required to phase out the remaining ozone-depleting substances and phase down HFCs under the Kigali Amendment. The replacement of HFCs would create an opportunity to increase the energy efficiency of cooling equipment and significantly reduce energy costs for consumers and businesses. He therefore appealed to the parties to the Montreal Protocol that had not yet ratified the Amendment to do so in order to achieve universal participation.

## **II. Organizational matters**

### **A. Election of officers of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention**

83. In accordance with paragraph 1 of rule 21 of the rules of procedure, the following officers were elected, by acclamation, to the Bureau of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention:

President:	Ndiaye Cheikh Sylla (Senegal) (African States)
Vice-Presidents:	Ruandha Agung Sugardiman (Indonesia) (Asia-Pacific States)
	Claudia Dumitru (Romania) (Eastern European States)
	Daniel Heredia (Ecuador) (Latin American and Caribbean States)
Rapporteur:	Ulrika Raab (Sweden) (Western European and other States)

### **B. Election of officers of the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol**

84. In accordance with paragraph 1 of rule 21 of the rules of procedure, the following officers were elected, by acclamation, to the Bureau of the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol:

President:	Paul Krajnik (Austria) (Western European and other States)
Vice-Presidents:	Ezzat Lewis (Egypt) (African States)
	Roxanne Blesam (Palau) (Asia-Pacific States)
	Tatjana Boljević (Montenegro) (Eastern European States)
Rapporteur:	Laura-Juliana Arciniegas (Colombia) (Latin American and Caribbean States)

### C. Adoption of the agenda of the high-level segment

85. The following agenda for the high-level segment was adopted on the basis of the provisional agenda contained in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/1–UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/1, section II:

1. Opening of the high-level segment:
  - (a) Statement by the President of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention;
  - (b) Statement by the President of the Thirty-First Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol;
  - (c) Statement(s) by the representative(s) of the United Nations Environment Programme.
2. Organizational matters:
  - (a) Election of officers of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention;
  - (b) Election of officers of the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol;
  - (c) Adoption of the agenda of the high-level segment;
  - (d) Organization of work;
  - (e) Credentials of representatives.
3. Presentations by the assessment panels on the status of their work.
4. Presentation by the Chair of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund on the work of the Executive Committee.
5. Report of the co-chairs of the preparatory segment and consideration of the decisions recommended for adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its twelfth meeting and the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol.
6. Dates and venues for the resumed session of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and the Thirty-Third Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol.
7. Other matters.
8. Adoption of decisions by the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its twelfth meeting.
9. Adoption of decisions by the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol.
10. Adoption of the report of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol.
11. Closure of the meeting.

### D. Organization of work

86. The parties agreed to follow their customary procedures.

### E. Credentials of representatives

87. The bureaux of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol approved the credentials of the representatives of 61 of the 130 parties represented at the meeting. The bureaux provisionally approved the participation of 69 parties on the understanding that they would forward their credentials to the Secretariat as soon as possible. The bureaux urged all parties attending future meetings of the parties to make their best efforts to submit credentials to the Secretariat as required under rule 18 of the rules of procedure. The bureaux also recalled that the rules of procedure required that credentials be issued either by a head of State or Government or by a minister for foreign affairs or, in the case of

a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization. The bureaux recalled that representatives of parties not presenting credentials in the correct form could be precluded from participating fully in the meetings of the parties, including with regard to the right to vote.

### **III. Presentations by the assessment panels on the status of their work**

88. Paul Newman, co-chair of the Scientific Assessment Panel gave a presentation on behalf himself and the other co-chairs of the Panel, David Fahey, John Pyle and Bonfils Safari, on the Panel's scientific assessment of ozone depletion 2022, which was being prepared in response to decision XXXI/2, and the summary report on increased CFC-11 emissions, which was being prepared in response to decision XXX/3. A summary of the presentation, prepared by the presenter, is set out in section B of the annex to the present report.

89. Janet Bornman, co-chair of the Environmental Effects Assessment Panel, gave a presentation on behalf of herself and the other co-chairs of the Panel, Paul Barnes and Krishna Pandey, on the Panel's 2020 update on the environmental effects of stratospheric ozone depletion, ultraviolet radiation and interactions with climate change. A summary of the presentation, prepared by the presenter, is set out in section C of the annex to the present report.

90. Ashley Woodcock, co-chair of the Technology and Economic Assessment, made a presentation on behalf of himself and the other co-chairs of the Panel, Bella Maranion and Marta Pizano, on the work of the Panel and its technical options committees and task forces. A summary of the presentation, prepared by the presenter, is set out in section D of the annex to the present report.

91. The President, on behalf of all the parties, thanked the assessment panels for their presentations and for the key role that they played in the implementation of the Montreal Protocol as well as the excellent reports that they produced annually and quadrennially to enable the parties to take informed decisions.

92. The parties took note of the information presented.

### **IV. Presentation by the Chair of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund on the work of the Executive Committee**

93. The Chair of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund, Juliet Kabera (Rwanda), reported on progress achieved by the Committee since the Thirty-First Meeting of the Parties. She explained that, owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee had met only once, in December 2019, for its eighty-fourth meeting. She recalled that the full report of that meeting was contained in the annex to document UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/7.

94. At that meeting, the Committee had approved \$53.5 million of new projects and activities; an updated revised format for country programme data reports, incorporating Annex F substances, to be used as of 2020 for a trial period until 2022; and the operational policy on gender mainstreaming for projects supported by the Multilateral Fund.

95. Furthermore, the Executive Committee had continued to make progress in its discussion of matters related to the Kigali Amendment. In that regard, to aid the development of cost guidelines for the phase-down of HFCs, the Committee had decided to allow the submission of proposals for HFC-related investment projects up until the eighty-seventh meeting, prioritizing projects in the stationary air-conditioning, commercial refrigeration and mobile-air-conditioning sectors, and had requested the Fund secretariat to prepare a document providing analysis of and information on the incremental costs and cost-effectiveness of all approved investment projects. The Committee had also requested the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report describing best practices and ways of considering the operationalization of paragraph 24 of decision XXVIII/2 relating to the disposal of controlled substances. The Committee had decided to consider requests for funding for the preparation of HFC phase-down plans once the draft guidelines on the preparation of such plans for Article 5 countries had been approved.

96. With regard to energy efficiency, the Executive Committee had continued its discussion on ways to operationalize paragraph 16 of decision XXVIII/2 and paragraph 2 of decision XXX/5 and had requested the Fund Secretariat to prepare a document that provided a framework for consultations with relevant funds and financial institutions regarding the mobilization of financial resources. It had also taken note of the updated summary of the report on the matter by the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel.

97. The Executive Committee had also considered two projects to control HFC-23 by-product emissions and a related policy document.

98. The eighty-fifth and eighty-sixth meetings of the Committee had been postponed to March 2021. Given the importance of ensuring the continuation of compliance-related activities, the Executive Committee had agreed to implement, on an exceptional basis and without setting a precedent, an online intersessional approval process to consider certain documents, reports and projects. The first such exercise had taken place in May and had allowed the approval of \$35 million for projects and activities and all but two reports of projects with specific reporting requirements, along with the consideration of specific issues identified during project review. A second such exercise was under way, with an extended scope, addressing some 65 meeting documents, to allow the Committee, at its next meeting, to address the remaining issues on the agenda, including those related to the Kigali Amendment; the review of institutional strengthening projects; analysis of the administrative cost regime and overview of current monitoring, reporting, verification and enforceable licensing and quota systems.

99. Since the Thirty-First Meeting of the Parties, the Executive Committee had continued to manage the partners of the Multilateral Fund. She gave a brief overview of the ongoing work of the implementing agencies – UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO and the World Bank – in supporting Article 5 countries in meeting their obligations under the Montreal Protocol and the Kigali Amendment thereto.

100. UNDP was providing technical support to 47 countries in meeting their HCFC phase-out targets under the Montreal Protocol and to 17 countries for ratification and early implementation of the Kigali Amendment, 2 of which had completed the process. Furthermore, two HFC investment projects had been completed according to the schedule. During the pandemic, UNDP had organized several online webinars on technical topics to enable Article 5 parties to exchange information and had provided training, remotely, to national ozone units and other stakeholders.

101. UNEP, through its OzonAction Compliance Assistance Programme, was supporting 105 countries in operating national ozone units, complying with their HCFC phase-out commitments and working towards the ratification of the Kigali Amendment. UNEP also continued to support the safe adoption of new technologies in the refrigeration and air-conditioning servicing sector. During the COVID-19 pandemic, UNEP had had increased communication with the national ozone units and was assisting them in the identification of alternative work modalities, more online operations and additional electronic information services.

102. UNIDO was implementing HCFC phase-out management plans in 69 countries, institutional strengthening projects in 10 countries, HFC enabling activities in 31 countries, which had resulted in the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by a number of them, and 4 HFC investment projects. UNIDO had also submitted requests for funding for the preparation of HFC phase-down plans for 8 countries. During the pandemic, UNIDO had held online consultations, training sessions and webinars for national ozone officers.

103. The World Bank had been supporting countries in implementing stage II of their HCFC phase-out management plans, worth nearly \$76 million, not only to achieve the 2020 HCFC consumption obligations of 2020, but also in preparation for the 2025 targets. The Bank was also providing technical assistance and advisory services for the ratification of, and initial compliance with, the Kigali Amendment. During the pandemic, the World Bank and country project management staff had been working to mitigate the challenges posed by running virtual missions, meetings and workshops.

104. In closing, she expressed her appreciation to the members of the Executive Committee, the Fund Secretariat and the bilateral and implementing agencies for their continued hard work and dedication, which had been clearly demonstrated in 2020 in the way that they had managed to ensure the continued operation of the Multilateral Fund despite the extraordinary circumstances.

## **V. Report of the co-chairs of the preparatory segment and consideration of the decisions recommended for adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its twelfth meeting and the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol**

105. The co-chair of the preparatory segment reported that the work of the segment had concluded successfully and draft decisions had been approved for consideration and possible adoption during the

high-level segment. He expressed gratitude to all concerned for their hard work and for the spirit of cooperation and compromise that had enabled them to reach agreement on all the issues.

## **VI. Dates and venues for the resumed session of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and the Thirty-Third Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol**

106. The acting Executive Secretary said that part II of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and the Thirty-Third Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol were tentatively scheduled to be held in Nairobi from 25 to 29 October 2021.

107. The representative of Uzbekistan recalled that, at the Thirty-First Meeting of the Parties, held in Rome in November 2019, the parties had agreed that the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties be held in Tashkent. Accordingly, the Government of Uzbekistan had commenced preparations for the meeting, and had hosted a visit by the mission of the Ozone Secretariat in March 2020 to confirm the availability of the appropriate infrastructure in the country. However, to the party's regret, the COVID-19 pandemic had led to the postponement of physical meetings of the parties until such a time as the global situation improved. The party remained ready to host a future physical meeting of the parties when the situation allowed, and looked forward to resuming the dialogue on that matter.

108. Subsequently, the parties adopted two decisions on the matter.

## **VII. Other matters**

109. The representative of the Secretariat gave a presentation demonstrating some new ozone-related online tools using various media that had been developed by the Secretariat, including the new country profiles app; an animation film for the "Reset Earth" campaign and a trailer for a game that was under development for the "Reset Earth" campaign.

## **VIII. Adoption of decisions by the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its twelfth meeting**

110. The twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention adopted the decisions approved during the preparatory segment, as set out in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/6/Add.1–UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/8/Add.1.

## **IX. Adoption of decisions by the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol**

111. The Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol adopted the decisions approved during the preparatory segment, as set out in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/6/Add.1–UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/8/Add.1.

## **X. Adoption of the report of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol**

112. The parties adopted the present report on Friday, 27 November 2020, on the basis of the draft report set out in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(I)/L.1–UNEP/OzL.Pro.32/L.1. The Ozone Secretariat was entrusted with the finalization of the report.

## **XI. Closure of the meeting**

113. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the meeting was declared closed at 5.30 p.m. on Friday, 27 November 2020.

## Annex

### Summaries of presentations by members of the assessments panels and the technical options committees\*

#### A. Final assessment by the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee of critical-use nominations for methyl bromide

1. On behalf of TEAP, the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee co-chairs, Ian Porter and Marta Pizano presented an overview of the trends and outcomes for the CUN nominations submitted in 2020 for use in 2021 and 2022.
2. In opening the presentation, Co-chair Mr Ian Porter reinforced the diversity of technical skills of the committee ranging from experts in all aspects of chemical and non chemical replacements to MB but also pathogen and insect control and knowledge of trade implications and bilateral arrangements for QPS uses of methyl bromide and their alternatives.
3. He reminded parties that over 62,000 t of MB for controlled uses had been phased out and that, of the 18,700 tonnes of MB sought under critical use in 2005, only around 90 t was being sought in 2021 and 2022. However, there were still some important sectors using substantial stocks of MB.
4. He added that despite the short term rise in the atmospheric concentration of MB from 2016-2017, recent levels show that the decline continues. He showed that around 70% of the anthropogenic MB had declined in the atmosphere and that QPS emissions and other unidentified emissions were preventing return to historic natural baseline levels.
5. An overview of the stock amounts reported by four parties at the end of 2019 (~ 50 t) was presented, indicating that stocks are only presented from parties requesting CUNs. Therefore, total A5 stocks are unknown as they are not required to be reported from all parties. Reporting from South Africa was difficult as the party had difficulty in getting accurate information from industry and stocks of between 19 and 50 tonnes were possible. CUE recommendations have not been adjusted to account for stocks as this is done by the parties. Also, it was explained, that reporting under Article 7 showed that there have been higher levels of production (~3,000 t) than consumption for many years, leading to unknown levels of unreported stocks.
6. Mr Porter then provided an overview of the CUNs submitted in 2020, consisting of six nominations from 4 parties. Four of these nominations were for preplant soil use of MB and two for insect control in commodities and structures. In a summary of the outcome of the final assessment by MBTOC, he then showed that parties had reduced the total amount nominated from 111.441 t in 2019 to 88.851 in this round of which 69.607 t was recommended for approval by the parties.
7. Ms Marta Pizano then provided an overview of the outcome of the final assessment for CUE recommendations for all critical uses of MB (t) for 2021 and 2022.
8. For the Australian strawberry runners the full amount nominated by the party of 28.98 t was recommended for 2022. The party stated that they will reduce the licensed amount to 0 t if methyl iodide (MI) is registered and available by 2022. They provided a transition plan in 2018 for phasing-out MB which stated that if registration of MI was achieved by 2021, then that year the nomination amount will be reduced by 50% (i.e. to 14.49 t), and CUN requests will cease entirely from 2022 onwards. MBTOC accepted that in spite of ample research currently in place on alternatives, MI remains the only alternative available at present and that the party would control its use as appropriate.
9. For the Canadian strawberry runners in 2021 the nomination was reduced by 6% to 5.017 tonnes to account for uptake of soilless production systems. After the OEWG, the Canadian delegation and grower held a bilateral meeting with MBTOC to review the use of soilless technologies to offset a proportion of MB use for production of a specific stage of the nursery plants (2A tips). After the OEWG, the Canadian delegation and grower held a bilateral meeting with MBTOC to review the use of soilless technologies to offset a proportion of MB use for production of a specific stage of the nursery plants (2A tips). MBTOC considered that the facilities presently being constructed by the applicant will be suitable to use soilless technologies by 2021 for a proportion of tip production.

---

\* The summaries are presented as received, without formal editing.

10. MBTOC recommended a reduction in the nominations from Argentina to conform with the standard presumptions for a reduced dosage rate from 26 to 15 g/m<sup>2</sup> based on use of barrier films which improve control at lower dosage rates and reduce emissions of MB. For strawberries, the nomination was to 4.35 t and for tomatoes 6.96 t.
11. Ms Pizano then indicated that the nominations from South Africa (RSA) for use in 2021 on for use of MB for pests in commodities and structures were reduced. For mills, MBTOC recommended 0.3 t, based on a reduction for allowance of only one fumigation per year at a 24 g/m<sup>3</sup> dose rate for the three mills nominated to allow time for adoption of integrated pest management practices and sulfuryl fluoride. For houses (dwellings), MBTOC recommended 24 t of the 35 nominated based a reduction for adoption of sulfuryl fluoride over a 3yr period and heat for use on small scale infestations of termites.
12. Two emergency use applications by Canada and Australia had been received under decision IX/7. Canada notified the Ozone Secretariat on 31 March 2020 that it expected to consume a quantity of MB, not exceeding 1.764 tonnes for an emergency use in 2020. Local weather conditions were unfavourable for fumigation of the full CUE amount of 5.261t in autumn 2019 and that 1.764 t was being carried forward as an emergency use in spring 2020 (April-May). Australia notified the Ozone Secretariat on 27 July 2020 that 1.671 t of MB had been approved for fumigation of rice due to unexpected consumer demand related to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic, affecting supply of domestic and imported rice. This approval required the applicant to recapture and dispose of 1.3 t of the MB used. The applicant subsequently reported that it had used only 0.111 t of MB.
13. In closing the presentation, Ms Pizano reminded parties of the timelines for submission of CUNs in 2021, as required under Decision XVI/6 1, bii.

## **B. Scientific assessment of ozone depletion 2022 by the Scientific Assessment Panel**

14. The Scientific Assessment Panel (SAP) reported on the status of the Scientific Assessment of Ozone Depletion: 2022 and the report on unexpected emissions of CFC-11 at the 32nd Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol and the 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention on 27 November 2020. The report was prepared by the SAP co-chairs: Paul A. Newman, David W. Fahey, John A. Pyle, and Bonfils Safari.
15. The 2022 Assessment has now begun. Decision XXXI/2 at the 31st MOP established the terms of reference for the Assessment. The SAP co-chairs drafted an outline for the Assessment, and sent this to more than 150 scientists soliciting input on the scope and contents of the Assessment. The science community responded with over 30 pages of comments. The SAP Co-chairs have also formed a steering committee composed of Julie Arblaster (Australia), Lucy Carpenter (UK), David Fahey (USA), Jianxin Hu (China), Ken Jucks (USA), Paul A. Newman (USA), David Plummer (Canada), John Pyle (UK), and Bonfils Safari (Rwanda). The Co-chairs have also sent out a letter to the Parties via the Ozone Secretariat soliciting nominations for authors, co-authors, editors, and reviewers for the assessment. The Co-chairs have also established a detailed timeline that culminates in a finished report submitted to the Ozone Secretariat by 31 December 2022.
16. The SAP Report on the unexpected increase of CFC-11 emissions is in progress. The CFC-11 Advisory group is composed of Paul Fraser (Australia), Neil Harris (UK), Jianxin Hu (China), Michelle Santee (USA), David Fahey (SAP), Paul A. Newman (SAP), John Pyle (SAP), and Bonfils Safari (SAP). The SAP has asked for a delay in delivering the report because of two papers updating global and regional CFC-11 emissions were submitted to a peer-reviewed journal in July 2020. They suggest substantial downward changes to the trends in earlier years and so are critical to the report. Anticipated publication date for these papers is approximately Jan.-Feb. 2021. Release of information on both papers is currently embargoed under the journal's rules. The CFC-11 Report's 2nd draft is complete, but is currently delayed in order to include the results of these two new papers updating global and regional emissions.
17. The SAP also noted that the 2020 Antarctic ozone hole was the 12th most severe in the 41-year satellite record of observations and has persisted into the Antarctic spring season longer than in any previous year.

### C. Update by the Environmental Effects Assessment Panel on the environmental effects of stratospheric ozone depletion, ultraviolet radiation and interactions with climate change

18. The Co-chair, Janet Bornman, presented the 2020 Update Assessment on behalf of EEAP on the environmental effects of stratospheric ozone depletion, UV radiation, and interactions with climate change in accordance with the current Terms of Reference.

19. The annual EEAP Updates contribute towards the Quadrennial Assessments, providing some of the latest scientific information of relevance to the Parties. The contribution of the Montreal Protocol to environmental and societal sustainability, and mitigation of climate change was acknowledged within the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Interactive effects of climate change include the projection of increases in UV radiation at low and mid latitudes in the 2nd half of the 21st century, mainly due to reduced cloud cover. Current indications of the effects of rapid climate change were shown during the 2019/2020 Antarctic heatwave resulting in rapid snow melt and increased exposure of ecosystems to UV radiation and other weather conditions. In the Arctic, increased thawing or melting of snow, ice and permafrost is also occurring, disrupting ecosystem functioning as well as releasing greenhouse gases including nitrous oxide, a major ozone depleting substance.

20. Some of the potential areas of concern in which UV radiation and climate change are implicated include decreasing biodiversity, breakdown of plastics and other materials, and possible environmental and health risks of breakdown products from controlled substances, as well as implications of unexpected events, namely COVID-19.

21. For human health, UV radiation can have significant negative effects, for example, in causing skin cancer and certain eye diseases, such as cataract. However, UV radiation also has benefits, most notably the production of vitamin D in the skin, which contributes to muscle and bone health, and is also associated with positive outcomes of some diseases. Updated model estimates of skin cancers and cataracts avoided in the United States due to the Montreal Protocol are substantial. However, melanoma continues to increase in several countries. UV radiation also increases photosensitivity after medication of certain oral drugs, and there is concern that these photosensitising drugs may induce skin cancer.

22. There is growing concern for the rapid decrease in global biodiversity of plants and animals, where both UV radiation and climate change are contributing factors, reducing the availability and diversity of suitable habitats through changes in vegetation cover, temperature and rainfall. More direct, negative effects of UV radiation have been reported for terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. In the case of some fish species, these effects can include developmental abnormalities, decreases in growth and lesions in skin and eyes.

23. On the issues of pollution, UV radiation is a key driver of contaminant breakdown in aquatic environments. These effects, while reducing high concentrations of the contaminants, may also lead to the generation of harmful breakdown products. UV radiation also releases carbon dioxide from certain plastics, which contributes to climate warming. An important positive effect of UV radiation is that it generates hydroxyl radicals that react with many pollutants, aiding in their removal from the troposphere (the layer of atmosphere closest to the Earth's surface). On the other hand, UV radiation also causes production of toxic pollutants in the troposphere, for example, carbon monoxide, ozone, and formaldehyde.

24. EEAP continues to evaluate the potential risks of some of the breakdown products from certain ozone depleting substances. For example, trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) forms from several hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and hydrofluoroolefins (HFOs) in the atmosphere. To date, TFA and related compounds in soil and surface waters are not present in concentrations that would cause adverse effects in aquatic and terrestrial plants and animals. Increased use of air conditioning systems due to rising temperatures in many parts of the world, and continued use of HFCs and HFOs, may further increase breakdown products. However, their concentrations are currently judged as low risks for ecosystems and humans. It is also expected that HFC usage and production will decrease in accordance with the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, which should further reduce the risk of increased concentrations of the TFA breakdown product from HFCs and HFOs.

25. Lastly, a global, major unexpected event has been the corona virus, causing COVID-19. While the disinfection properties of UV radiation outdoors on the survival of virus particles deposited on certain surfaces, is significant, this inactivation has likely had a very small effect on the progression of the COVID-19 pandemic, since most infections occur by air-borne transmission of the virus. In the

context of the Montreal Protocol, its far-reaching, positive outcomes for life on Earth far outweigh any potential advantage for disinfection by higher amounts of solar UV radiation.

26. Co-Chair Janet Bornman concluded by noting that the findings of the Assessment Update on effects on the environment and human health continue to reinforce the multiple benefits of the Montreal Protocol in reaching the targets of many of the Sustainable Development Goals.

#### **D. Work of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel, its technical options committees and task forces**

27. Ashley Woodcock Co-chair of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) introduced the presentation on behalf of his TEAP co-chairs Bella Maranion and Marta Pizano. He introduced the 20 voluntary members of TEAP, with 10 members from A5 parties and 10 from Non A5 parties. He thanked them all for their contributions, support and collegiality during a tough virtual year.

28. He stated that TEAP is seriously missing the face-to-face interactions with Parties at the OEWG and MOP, which enable TEAP to maintain two-way communication. He looked forward to meeting face-to-face in 2021. He emphasized the strong support from the Ozone Secretariat. TEAP and its co-chairs are missing Miss Tina Birmpili, but Meg Seki and Sophia Mylona continue to keep them grounded. We sincerely thank them all.

29. He stated that TEAP, TOC and Task Forces have worked almost exclusively on-line, but in spite of the difficulties, all reports were completed on time, and to consensus in 2021.

30. In May TEAP published its annual Progress Report. This was followed by the Methyl Bromide Critical Use Nominations, responses, and Final Report. The Replenishment Task Force report was published in May, and then September RTF provided responses to over 200 written comments from the parties. And finally, an important Energy Efficiency Task Force Report was published in October 2021.

31. Mr Woodcock then introduced the updates from the Technical Options Committees (TOCs). These updates included information from the May 2021 TEAP Progress report, which has not been presented to parties. They also include important emerging issues that the TOCs are watching in relation to the sector transitions this year. He emphasized key points from each TOC

32. Foams TOC noted that transitions away from ODS and high GWP blowing agents are continuing but slowing. This is due to both the higher costs and short supply of alternative blowing agents. The lower prices of high GWP HFCs in A5 parties are an obstacle to conversion to low GWP blowing agents.

33. Halons TOC noted that the future need for halons is unpredictable. Halons could run out sooner if organisations destroy rather than recycle halons. On the other hand, they could run out later if civil aviation is slow to recover from the pandemic. The HTOC has noted a new low GWP agent for total flooding fire suppression. This blend of an HCFO and fluoroketone, is an alternative to halons and high-GWP HFCs.

34. The Methyl Bromide TOC (MB) has noted that approximately 84% of anthropogenically produced MB has been phased out, and that this has contributed around 33% of the present ozone layer recovery. Some parties are still be using MB sourced from stocks for controlled uses, without requesting a CUN, and this makes it difficult to assess the adoption of alternatives.

35. MBTOC noted that the dominant remaining use of Methyl Bromide is the 10,000t used annually for Quarantine Pre-shipment (QPS). The reduction of emissions from QPS would achieve the greatest short-term impact on ozone layer recovery. MBTOC has assessed that there are alternatives for about one third of current QPS uses – that is about 3500 tonnes of Methyl Bromide use that is avoidable by using alternatives. Parties could also consider requesting an analysis of the feasibility and economics of recapture/recycling of Methyl Bromide to allow continued Methyl Bromide for those uses of QPS where it remains essential, but with minimised emissions.

36. The MCTOC has a very wide range of responsibilities so he focused on three points.

37. Two pharmaceutical companies have announced the early development of MDI formulations with new lower GWP propellants.

38. He outlined two areas of concern.

(a) The first is that atmospheric-derived emissions of CFC-113/113a are higher than expected. An understanding of production and use of CFC-113 and 113a as a feedstock or intermediate, would provide greater clarity on emissions.

(b) The second is that global HFC-23 emissions were at their highest in 2018, especially when compared with the expected HFC-23 emissions as a by-product of HCFC-22 production. This indicates that either planned reductions in HFC-23 emissions have not been fully realised, or there may be unreported HCFC-22 production.

39. The Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heat Pump TOC (RTOC) noted the significant progress with the development of new safety standards, addressing class A3, A2 and A2L refrigerants. The application of flammable refrigerants in air conditioning equipment is a topic of intense Research.

40. In Article 5 parties, the production of low efficiency ACs containing HCFC-22 is declining and now below 50%. There is widespread introduction of HFC-32 in residential split units around the world. Conversion of production lines to HC-290 in China, South East Asia and South America is underway, and in India, the adoption of HC-290 split air conditioners continues to increase. Inverter technology is being increasingly used to meet strengthening Minimum Energy Performance Standards.

41. Mr Woodcock noted the importance of the cold chain for safe and equitable distribution of Coronavirus vaccines around the world. The first two vaccines required very cold storage in minus 80 freezers, but later vaccines will use conventional freezers at -2 to -8 degrees Celsius.

42. Mr Woodcock then moved on to describe the activities of three TEAP Task Forces:

### 1. Replenishment Task Force (RTF)

43. Decision XXXI/1 requested the TEAP “to prepare a report for submission to MOP-32, and to submit it through OEWG-42” to enable parties to decide on the appropriate level of the 2021–2023 replenishment of the Multilateral Fund. The RTF includes members from the TEAP, its TOCs, and other outside experts. Mr Woodcock thanked the members of the RTF and especially the modellers, with a special mention for the co-chairs Bella Marañon, Suely Carvalho and Shiqui Zhang who worked literally 24/7 around the time zones.

44. TEAP extends its sincere appreciation to the Multilateral Fund Secretariat for its support in ensuring the accuracy of its data, and relevant decisions of the Executive Committee.

45. The RTF attended the 84th Meeting of the Executive Committee in December of 2019 to hold informal consultations, and then returned to Montreal for a face-to-face RTF meeting in January 2020 at the MLFS offices. The RTF then worked virtually to complete its May 2020 report. It presented its initial report and responded to questions in three online sessions in July 2020 across global time zones. Subsequently the RTF responded to 200 written questions from parties. It is continuing to work to update its database to incorporate any corrections or changes in preparation for the planned March 2021 meeting of parties in Montreal. If the March OEWG meeting in Montreal is held as planned, then the RTF will consider updates in developing its supplementary report to parties.

### 2. Energy Efficiency

46. Decision 31/7 requested TEAP to “report on new developments with respect to best practices, availability, accessibility and cost of energy-efficient technologies in the refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat-pump sectors as regards the implementation of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol”. TEAP established its 3rd successive Energy Efficiency Task Force (EETF). This deliberately had a greater than 60% A5 membership and strong regional representation to ensure that we had a more complete picture in Article 5 parties.

47. Mr Woodcock thanked his co-chairs, Helene Rochat and Roberto Peixoto, the chapter lead authors Omar Abdelaziz, Bassam Elassaad, Gabby Dreyfus and Nihar Shah and all the EETF members.

48. All the work was carried out on-line and published in October 2020. [https://ozone.unep.org/sites/default/files/assessment\\_panels/TEAP\\_dec-XXXI-7-TFEE-report-september2020.pdf](https://ozone.unep.org/sites/default/files/assessment_panels/TEAP_dec-XXXI-7-TFEE-report-september2020.pdf) Party discussion will be deferred by up to a year, so if significant new information becomes available in 2021, the EETF intends to provide an update.

49. Mr Woodcock encouraged parties to read the 2 pages of key messages and focused on “the importance of a combined strategy to improve energy efficiency of cooling equipment while phasing down HFC refrigerants under the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol is increasingly being recognized as one of the biggest climate mitigation opportunities available today”.

50. He described the opportunity for synergy and momentum with the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-26) to the UNFCCC in November 2021, which is specifically focusing on energy efficiency opportunities within the Kigali Amendment.

### 3. CFC-11

51. Decision 31/3 requested TEAP to provide an update report to Decision 30/3 on unexpected emissions of CFC-11. Mr Woodcock noted that during 2020, the task force has been meeting online. A Science Symposium has been held online involving the TEAP, SAP and leading global experts. A co-chair of the CFC-11 task force is also participating on the SAP report being prepared to respond to decision 30/3.

52. To align with the latest science findings and publication of the SAP report, the TEAP Task Force Report will be published in 2021.

53. Mr Woodcock then provided an update on progress with the 2022 Assessment Reports.

54. MOP-31 Decision XXXI/2 had established the Terms of Reference for the Panels for the quadrennial assessments. He stated that the TEAP and its TOCS have completed advanced structuring, organization, and the TOCs have begun their work. TEAP is coordinating with SAP and EEAP on crossover issues for the assessments, which will then form the basis for the Synthesis Report.

55. In concluding, Mr Woodcock predicted that 2021 would not be quiet year! He listed the upcoming tasks in 2021 which already include the TEAP RTF Supplementary Report, TEAP CFC-11 TF Report, TEAP EETF Update Report, TEAP Progress Report, Methyl Bromide CUN Interim/Final Recommendations and the continuing preparatory work for the 2020 Assessment and Synthesis Reports.

---