

**Vienna Convention for the  
Protection of the Ozone Layer**

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**Bureau of the twelfth meeting of the  
Conference of the Parties to  
the Vienna Convention for the  
Protection of the Ozone Layer**

**Third meeting**  
Geneva, 24 and 26 April 2024

**Issues for discussion by and information for the attention of the Bureau of  
the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna  
Convention**

**Note by the Secretariat**

1. The present note sets out an overview of the issues on the provisional agenda of the third meeting of the Bureau of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer<sup>1</sup> and provides information for the preparation of the meeting.

**A. Arrangements**

2. Owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention was held online in two parts. The first part of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention – which was combined with the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, held online from 23 to 27 November 2020 – was dedicated to financial matters pertaining to the revised budget of the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention for 2020 and the budget for 2021. The combined second part 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, held online from 23 to 29 October 2021, addressed all issues including the outcomes of the eleventh meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the parties to the Vienna Convention, the status of the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention and financial matters related to the budget of the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention.

3. Accordingly, the Bureau of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention has convened online twice to date. At its first meeting, held on 28 July 2021, the Bureau considered the implementation of the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting and its

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP/OzL.Conv.12/Bur.3/1.

twelfth meeting (part I).<sup>2</sup> At its second meeting, held jointly with the Bureau of the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on 22 October 2021, the Bureau of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties considered progress made on the implementation of the respective decisions and related matters.<sup>3</sup>

4. In accordance with decision VC I/6 subparagraph (a) (i), the present meeting will convene in conjunction with the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer that will take place from 24 to 26 April 2024 at the headquarters of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in Geneva. The Bureau members have also been invited to participate in the latter meeting.

5. The Bureau will meet on 24 April 2024 from 12:45 to 14:00 hours at the headquarters of WMO to consider the issues set out in the provisional agenda of the meeting. Regarding the action taken and progress made on the decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its twelfth meeting (item 3 of the provisional agenda), consideration will focus on the implementation of decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting (part II). The Bureau will also convene on 26 April 2024 at an appropriate time to discuss the final outcomes of the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers, as well as possible action that the Bureau may wish to take to support, promote or emphasize all or selected recommendations of that meeting. In this regard, the Bureau or its members may wish to put forward appropriate proposals to the combined thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, scheduled to take place from 28 October to 1 November 2024 in Bangkok.

## **B. Action taken and progress made on the decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its twelfth meeting, including on the work of the advisory committee of the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention (item 3 of the provisional agenda)**

6. As mentioned in paragraph 2 above, the combined second part 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 held online from 23 to 29 October 2021. At that meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted four decisions which are reproduced in the annex to the present note.<sup>4</sup> The actions taken on those decisions are outlined in the paragraphs below.

### **Decision XII(II)/1: Recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at their eleventh meeting**

7. In decision XII(II)/1, the Conference of the Parties took note, with appreciation, of the report of the eleventh meeting of the Ozone Research Managers published in 2021,<sup>5</sup> and encouraged parties to adopt and implement, as appropriate, the recommendations of that meeting under the topics of:

- (a) Research;
- (b) Systematic observations;
- (c) Gaps in the global coverage of atmospheric monitoring of controlled substances and options for enhancing such monitoring;
- (d) Data archiving and stewardship;
- (e) Capacity-building.

8. Parties were also encouraged to accord priority to:

- (a) Research and systematic observation activities, including monitoring of the ozone layer using ground, satellite, aircraft, and balloon profiles, to analyse processes influencing the evolution of the ozone layer and its links to climate change;

<sup>2</sup> [https://ozone.unep.org/system/files/documents/Report\\_of\\_the\\_COP12\\_Bureau\\_meeting.pdf](https://ozone.unep.org/system/files/documents/Report_of_the_COP12_Bureau_meeting.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> [https://ozone.unep.org/system/files/documents/COP-12-I-Bur-2-3\\_MOP-32-Bur-1-3E.pdf](https://ozone.unep.org/system/files/documents/COP-12-I-Bur-2-3_MOP-32-Bur-1-3E.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> Decision XII(II)/4 is reproduced without its annex; the [full decision](#) can be found on the Ozone Secretariat website.

<sup>5</sup> [https://ozone.unep.org/system/files/documents/ORM11\\_Report\\_GAW\\_271\\_en.pdf](https://ozone.unep.org/system/files/documents/ORM11_Report_GAW_271_en.pdf).

- (b) Maintaining, augmenting, restoring and, where feasible, establishing new long-term capacity and infrastructure for the atmospheric monitoring and observation of substances controlled by the Montreal Protocol;
- (c) Improved management and analysis of observation data;
- (d) Support for capacity-building activities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition through the continuation and expansion of regular calibration and intercomparison campaigns and the provision of training and assistance.

9. In the same decision, the Ozone Research Managers were requested to continue to review the situation of atmospheric measurements and monitoring of substances controlled by the Montreal Protocol, and to make specific recommendations for further strengthening such atmospheric monitoring. In this regard, the Ozone Research Managers are expected to consider decisions XXXIII/4 and XXXV/14 on enhancing the global and regional atmospheric monitoring of substances controlled by the Montreal Protocol, adopted by the Thirty-Third and Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties, respectively.

10. In decision XXXIII/4, the Secretariat was requested, in consultation with relevant experts from the Scientific Assessment Panel, the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel and the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention, to provide to the parties to the Montreal Protocol at the forty-fifth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol information on options for enhancing the global and regional atmospheric monitoring of substances controlled by the Montreal Protocol. The response of the Secretariat to the provisions of that decision, prepared in consultation with relevant experts from the aforementioned bodies, was set out in the addendum to the note by the Secretariat, along with updated information on the implementation of a pilot project funded by the European Union, entitled “on the regional quantification of emissions of substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol” (UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/45/2/Add.2, paras. 23–37).<sup>6</sup>

11. In decision XXXV/14, the Secretariat was requested, in consultation with the Multilateral Fund secretariat and relevant experts from the Ozone Research Managers, the Scientific Assessment Panel, and the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel, to provide to the Open ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol at its forty-sixth meeting in July 2024 an update of the information provided under decision XXXIII/4, including refining, to the extent possible, the cost estimates associated with enhancing atmospheric monitoring; and options for sustainable funding to establish new regional monitoring capacities. In order to tackle the issue of refining the cost estimates, an online meeting of relevant experts was convened on 23 February 2024 to discuss the matter. The results will be presented to the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers for inputs and recommendations, if any.

12. During their twelfth meeting, the Ozone Research Managers are expected to review the progress in the implementation of the recommendations they made at their eleventh meeting.

### **Decision XII(II)/2: General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention**

13. The General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention was established by decision VC VI/2 of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention in 2002, on ozone-related monitoring and research activities for the Vienna Convention, with the primary aim of providing complementary support for the continued maintenance and calibration of the existing WMO Global Atmosphere Watch ground-based stations for monitoring column ozone, ozone profiles and ultraviolet radiation in the developing countries and in the countries with economies in transition, to address balanced global coverage. Decision VC VI/2 also recognized that consideration should be given to supporting other activities identified by the Ozone Research Managers and in consultation with the co-chairs of the Montreal Protocol’s Scientific Assessment Panel and Environmental Effects Assessment Panel, for the improvement of the observation network and relevant research.

14. In decision VC X/3, on the General Trust Fund, the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting in 2014 requested the Ozone Secretariat, in coordination with WMO, to establish a small advisory committee for the Trust Fund. The committee, consisting of 10 members, was established in 2015 with the mandate to:

- (a) Develop a long-term strategy and implementation objectives and priorities in the light of the four overarching goals identified by the Ozone Research Managers at their ninth meeting;<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> <https://ozone.unep.org/system/files/documents/OEWG-45-2-Add-2E.pdf>.

<sup>7</sup> <https://ozone.unep.org/system/files/documents/COP-10-6E.pdf>.

- (b) Develop a short-term action plan that would consider the most urgent needs of the Global Ozone Observing System and which would make the best possible use of the resources available in the Trust Fund;
- (c) Ensure quality control of the individual project proposals developed under the Trust Fund, striving for regional balance in the projects supported by the Fund and identifying possibilities for complementary funding to maximize its resources.

15. In decision XII(II)/2, the Conference of the Parties, at the second part of its twelfth meeting in 2021, encouraged parties to make contributions to the Trust Fund, for the purpose of improving the global ozone observing system in line with the long-term strategy and short-term plan of action prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Trust Fund. The decision also included specific requests for action to the Advisory Committee and the Ozone Secretariat. Detailed information on the status and operation of the Trust Fund and on the work of its Advisory Committee will be provided in document UNEP/OzL/Conv.ResMgr/12/2, to be prepared by the Secretariat in the second half of March 2024 for the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers. A preliminary summary of the follow-up work on the implementation of decision XII(II)/2 is provided below.

### ***Operation of the Advisory Committee and activities under the Trust Fund***

16. The strategy and action plan prepared by the Advisory Committee in response to decision X/3 can be found in section E of and the annex to document UNEP/OzL.Conv.11/6.<sup>8</sup> An update of the Committee's work on this matter was provided in 2021 in response to decision XI/2 and set out in section VII of document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(II)/8.<sup>9</sup> A further update will be reported to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting in October 2024 in response to decision XII(II)/2.

17. In accordance with its mandate, from the start of its work in 2015 until the end of February 2024 the Advisory Committee considered 27 activities, including 8 project proposals submitted in 2016 and 2017 in response to the Secretariat's invitation to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for submission of relevant proposals in March 2016, and 11 project proposals submitted in response to a similar request by the Secretariat in December 2020. The Committee approved 17 of those 27 proposals.

18. In November 2023, the Secretariat invited developing countries and countries with economies in transition to submit new project proposals by 15 March 2024 for possible support under the Trust Fund. As at 29 February 2024, the Secretariat had received three project proposals. All submitted proposals will be considered by the Advisory Committee in due course.

19. In considering the work of the Advisory Committee, the Bureau may wish to note that since the inception of the Trust Fund in 2003, a total of US\$635,426 has been allocated to supporting 22 activities related to:

- (a) Calibrations of Brewer instruments (three activities);
- (b) Intercomparisons of Dobson instruments (seven activities);
- (c) Workshop on data quality (one activity);
- (d) Training courses for Dobson and Brewer operators, respectively (two activities);
- (e) Relocations of Dobson instruments (three activities);
- (f) Launch of and training on ozonesondes (two activities);
- (g) Capacity-building on data management and instrument calibration (one activity);
- (h) Supply of a second-hand Brewer instrument (one activity);
- (i) Purchase of instrumentation (one activity);
- (j) Monitoring of solar ultraviolet B (UV-B) radiation (one activity).

In total, more than 50 developing countries and countries with economies in transition have participated as beneficiaries in the activities supported by the Trust Fund.

20. The geographical distribution of all approved activities can be found on the respective pages of the Ozone Secretariat website, along with brief summaries of all the activities completed by the time of preparation of the present note.<sup>10</sup>

21. The Advisory Committee will present an update about its work in response to decision XII(II)/2 at the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers.

<sup>8</sup> <https://ozone.unep.org/system/files/documents/COP-11-6E.pdf>.

<sup>9</sup> <https://ozone.unep.org/system/files/documents/COP-12-II-8E.pdf>.

<sup>10</sup> <https://ozone.unep.org/activities>.

***Contributions to and status of the Trust Fund***

22. In paragraph 3 of decision XII(II)/2, the Ozone Secretariat was requested to continue to invite parties and relevant international organizations, as appropriate, to make financial and/or in-kind contributions towards well defined and well-budgeted project proposals developed under the Trust Fund. Accordingly, the Secretariat, in consultation with the Advisory Committee after the latter's establishment, has been inviting such contributions. In 2024, such letters will be sent out by the Secretariat in the second half of the year.

23. As at 29 February 2024, a total of \$869,372 had been provided voluntarily by parties to support the activities of the Trust Fund since its inception. That amount includes direct financial contributions to the Trust Fund from 15 parties, the interest income earned, the exchange gains and losses incurred by the Trust Fund (totalling \$833,827), and a contribution by one party to WMO on the condition that the funds be used for activities under the Trust Fund (\$35,545). Of the total amount, \$635,426 has been allocated for completed, ongoing or planned activities. The funds currently available for future activities, including administrative costs, amounts to \$233,946.

24. The status of the Trust Fund from its inception in 2003 until 29 February 2024 is shown in table 1 of document UNEP/OzL/Conv.ResMgr/12/2. Information on any additional contributions that are or may be received thereafter will be provided to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting in October 2024.

***Report by the Secretariat to the Conference of the Parties on contributions to, operation of and expenditure from the Trust Fund***

25. In decision XII(II)/2, the Ozone Secretariat was requested to report to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting on the operation of, contributions to and expenditure from the Trust Fund, and on the activities funded by the Trust Fund since its inception, as well as on the activities of the Advisory Committee. The Secretariat will provide detailed and updated information on the matter to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting in October 2024.

**Decision XII(II)/3: Thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention**

26. In accordance with decision XII(II)/3 of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its twelfth meeting (part II) and decision XXXV/26 of the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, the Secretariat will organize the combined thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol from 28 October to 1 November 2024 in Bangkok.

**Decision XII(II)/4: Financial reports and budgets for the Vienna Convention**

27. In decision XII(II)/4, the Conference of the Parties, amongst other things, took note of the financial report for the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention for 2020 and urged all parties to pay their outstanding and future contributions promptly and in full. In paragraph 3 of that decision, the Conference of the Parties approved the contributions for the years 2022, 2023 and 2024. The Bureau may wish to note the total contributions to be paid by the parties to the Trust Fund and the status of contributions, as presented in the table below, and recommend to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteen meeting to urge, as appropriate, all parties to pay their contributions promptly and in full.

Table

**Status of contributions to the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention from 2020 to 2024 (in United States dollars)**

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>Approved contributions</b>	986,000	986,000	781,175	781,175	781,175
<b>Amounts received by 31 December of the respective year <sup>a</sup></b>	1,096,399	1,208,413	913,692	1,014,949	74,699 <sup>b</sup>
<b>Cumulative unpaid contributions as at the end of the year</b>	725,792	557,317	396,515	192,176	

<sup>a</sup> Includes amounts received for prior years and future years.

<sup>b</sup> Amounts received by 29 February 2024.

28. Decision XII(II)/4 approved the revised budget for 2021 for the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention in the amount of \$1,083,488, the budget for 2022 in the amount of \$888,180, the budget for 2023 in the amount of \$902,192 and the budget for 2024 in the amount of \$1,477,235.

29. In paragraph 10 of decision XII(II)/4, the Secretariat was requested to prepare budgets and work programmes for the triennium 2025–2027, presenting two budget scenarios based on the projected needs: (a) a zero-nominal growth scenario; and (b) a scenario based on recommended adjustments to the first scenario, indicating the added costs or savings related thereto.

## **C. Overview of the recommendations of the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention (item 4 of the provisional agenda)**

30. The Co-Chairs of the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers will be invited to present to the Bureau the expected outcome of the meeting. The Bureau may wish to review that information which might include:

- (a) Recommendations pertaining to:
  - (i) research needs;
  - (ii) systematic observations;
  - (iii) gaps in the global coverage of atmospheric monitoring of controlled substances and options for enhancing such monitoring;
  - (iv) data archiving and stewardship;
  - (v) capacity building;
- (b) Recommendations on a long-term strategy and implementation objectives and priorities under the Trust Fund along with a short-term action plan to deal with the most urgent needs while making the best possible use of the resources available;
- (c) Any other issues that may be raised at the meeting.

31. Upon reviewing that information, the Bureau may wish to make any appropriate recommendations to the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its thirteenth meeting to be held jointly with the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, 28 October – 1 November 2024, in Bangkok.

## Annex

### DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION AT ITS TWELTH MEETING (PART II)

*The Conference of the Parties decides:*

#### **Decision XII(II)/1: Recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at their eleventh meeting**

*Recalling* that, pursuant to the objectives defined in decision VC I/6 of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention review ongoing national and international research and monitoring programmes with a view to ensuring the proper coordination of those programmes and identifying gaps that need to be addressed,

*Recalling also* decision XXXI/3 of the Thirty-First Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer on unexpected emissions of CFC-11, which, inter alia, requested the Scientific Assessment Panel to work with the Ozone Research Managers to identify gaps in the global coverage of atmospheric monitoring of controlled substances and to provide options for ways to enhance such monitoring, as well as exploring options for informing the parties of preliminary information indicating unexpected emissions of controlled substances,

*Recognizing* the need to improve the understanding and accuracy of future projections of global ozone amounts, including ozone layer recovery,

*Recognizing also* the importance of continuing and enhancing existing observation capabilities for ozone layer and climate variables owing to the changing atmospheric composition and the strong coupling between the behaviour of the ozone layer and changes in climate,

*Noting* the importance of capacity-building activities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to enable them to expand their ability to participate in research and systematic observations relating to the ozone layer and the changing climate,

*Noting with appreciation* the Scientific Assessment Panel's "white paper" entitled "Closing the gaps in top-down regional emissions quantification: needs and action plan",<sup>1</sup> prepared for the eleventh meeting of the Ozone Research Managers,

1. To take note with appreciation of the reports of the eleventh meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention;<sup>2</sup>
2. To encourage parties to adopt and implement, as appropriate, the recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers under the topics of research needs, systematic observations, gaps in the global coverage of atmospheric monitoring of controlled substances and options for enhancing such monitoring, data archiving and stewardship, and capacity-building;
3. To also encourage parties to accord priority in particular to:
  - (a) Research and systematic observation activities, including monitoring of the ozone layer using ground, satellite, aircraft, and balloon profiles, to analyse processes influencing the evolution of the ozone layer and its links to climate change;
  - (b) Maintaining, augmenting, restoring and, where feasible, establishing new long-term capacity and infrastructure for the atmospheric monitoring and observation of substances controlled by the Montreal Protocol in order to enhance the estimates of regional emissions, including in currently unmonitored and undermonitored regions;
  - (c) Improved management and analysis of observation data, including for international open-access and collaborative research activities, long-term curation and storage, standardization and intercomparability, to support modelling and near real-time assessments;
  - (d) Support for capacity-building activities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition through the continuation and expansion of regular calibration and intercomparison campaigns and through the provision of training and assistance to enable those parties

<sup>1</sup> UNEP/OzL/Conv.ResMgr/11/4/Rev.1, annex.

<sup>2</sup> UNEP/OzL/Conv.ResMgr/11(I)/2 and Ozone Research and Monitoring Global Atmosphere Watch Report No. 271.

to expand their scientific capacity and participate in ozone research activities, including assessment activities under the Montreal Protocol;

4. To request the Ozone Research Managers, at their twelfth meeting, to continue to review the situation of atmospheric measurements and monitoring of substances controlled by the Montreal Protocol, and to make specific recommendations for further strengthening such atmospheric monitoring.

## **Decision XII(II)/2: General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention**

*Recalling* decision VC VI/2, by which the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer established the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention,

*Noting with appreciation* the contributions to the Trust Fund by several parties and the joint efforts of the World Meteorological Organization and the Secretariat in the implementation of the activities funded from the Trust Fund since it became operational in 2003,

*Noting* that important activities, including calibrations, intercomparisons and relevant training, have been implemented successfully under the Trust Fund to date,

*Noting with great concern*, however, that the resources available in the Trust Fund are not sufficient to enable substantial and sustainable improvements to be made to the global ozone observing system,

*Aware* that improvements in ozone observations should take into account the existing strong and intricate linkages between ozone and climate, and aware of the need to carry out observations and analyses relevant for both ozone and climate wherever possible,

*Noting with appreciation* the work of the Advisory Committee of the Trust Fund, including on the long-term strategy and short-term plan of action for the Trust Fund prepared for consideration by the Conference of the Parties pursuant to decision VC X/3,

1. To encourage parties to make contributions to the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, for the purpose of improving the global ozone observing system in line with the long-term strategy and short-term plan of action prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Trust Fund;

2. To request the Advisory Committee, with the assistance of the World Meteorological Organization and the Secretariat, to continue to implement its long-term strategy and short-term plan of action for the Trust Fund, paying particular attention to:

(a) Identifying gaps and needs in research and monitoring of ozone and related climate variables and parameters, complementing the ongoing efforts of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention and other relevant programmes such as the World Meteorological Organization Global Atmosphere Watch programme;

(b) Facilitating the relocation of unused Dobson and Brewer instruments and the use of ozonesondes to new observation programmes when requested and in line with global and regional observation priorities;

(c) Fostering stronger relationships with scientific institutions and related global networks to build capacity and increase the infusion of knowledge for the activities under its consideration;

(d) Exploring opportunities to leverage and catalyse its resources to safeguard necessary research and observation activities in line with its strategic plan;

3. To request the Secretariat:

(a) To continue to invite parties and relevant international organizations, including space agencies, scientific and research institutions, United Nations entities, international financial institutions and the private sector, as appropriate, to make financial and/or in-kind contributions towards well-defined and well-budgeted project proposals developed under the Trust Fund;

(b) To report to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting on the operation of, contributions to and expenditure from the Trust Fund and on the activities funded from the Trust Fund since its inception, as well as on the activities of the Advisory Committee.



### **Decision XII(II)/3: Thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention**

To convene the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer back to back with the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

### **Decision XII(II)/4: Financial reports and budgets for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer<sup>3</sup>**

*Taking note* of the financial report for the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer for the fiscal year 2020,<sup>4</sup>

*Recognizing* the voluntary contributions of parties as an essential complement for the effective implementation of the Vienna Convention,

*Welcoming* the continued efficient management by the Secretariat of the finances of the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention,

*Recognizing* that the exceptional circumstances arising from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic have resulted in a lower utilization of the budget in 2021, and taking this into account with respect to the level of contributions for 2022,

1. To approve the revised budget for 2021 for the Trust Fund in the amount of \$1,083,488, the budget for 2022 in the amount of \$888,180, the budget for 2023 in the amount of \$902,192 and the budget for 2024 in the amount of \$1,477,235, as set out in table A of the annex to the present decision;

2. To reaffirm a working capital reserve equivalent to 15 per cent of the annual operational budgets for the triennium 2022–2024, to be used to meet the final expenditures under the Trust Fund;

3. To approve the contributions to be paid by the parties, of \$781,175 in 2022, \$781,175 in 2023, and \$781,175 in 2024, as set out in table B of the annex to the present decision;

4. To authorize the Secretariat to draw down from the cash balance the funds required to cover the shortfall between the level of contributions agreed upon in paragraph 3 of the present decision and the approved budgets for the triennium 2022–2024, as set out in paragraph 1 of the present decision;

5. To note with concern that some parties have not paid their contributions for 2021 and prior years, and to urge all parties to pay their outstanding contributions as well as their future contributions promptly and in full;

6. To request the Executive Secretary, and to invite the President of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, to enter into discussions with any party whose contributions have been outstanding for two or more years with a view to finding a way forward, and to request the Executive Secretary to report on the outcome of those discussions to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting, to be held in 2024;

7. To consider further, at its thirteenth meeting, how to address outstanding contributions to the Trust Fund, and to request the Executive Secretary to continue to publish and regularly update information on the status of contributions to the Trust Fund;

8. To request the Secretariat to ensure the full utilization of the programme support resources available to it in the triennium 2022–2024 and in later years and, where possible, to offset those programme support resources against the administrative components of the approved budget;

9. To request the Secretariat to indicate in future financial reports of the Trust Fund the amounts of cash on hand, in addition to contributions that have not yet been received;

10. To request the Executive Secretary to prepare budgets and work programmes for the triennium 2025–2027, based on the projected needs, for two budget scenarios:

a. A zero nominal growth scenario;

b. A scenario based on recommended adjustments to the zero nominal growth scenario, indicating the added costs or savings related thereto.

<sup>3</sup> The decision is reproduced without its annex; the [full decision](#) can be accessed through the Ozone Secretariat website.

<sup>4</sup> UNEP/OzL.Conv.12(II)/5–UNEP/OzL.Pro.33/5.