Draft decision XXVIII/[B]: Establishment of regular consultations on safety standards

Submission by China

*The Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties decides:*

*Recalling* that parties recognize the importance of timely updating of international standards for flammable low global warming potential (GWP) refrigerants, including IEC 60335-2-40, and support promoting actions that allow safe market introduction as well as the manufacturing, operation, maintenance and handling of zero-GWP and low-GWP refrigerants that are alternatives to hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs),

*Aiming* to support the timely revision of the relevant standards in a manner that is technology-neutral to enable safe use and market penetration of low-GWP alternatives.

1. To request the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel(TEAP) to establish a task force that includes outside experts as needed to:
2. liaise and coordinate with standards organizations , including IEC, to support the timely revision of IEC 60335-2-40 and ensure that the requirements for the A2, A2L and A3 categories are revised synchronously using a fair, inclusive and scientifically sound approach;

(b) submit a report to the Parties on safety standards relevant for low GWP alternatives to the thirty-ninth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, including on the following:

(i) Progress in the revision of international safety standards by the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and other international standardization bodies;

(ii) Information concerning tests and/or risk assessments and their results relevant to safety standards;

(iii) Assessment of the implications of international standards for the implementation of the decisions of the Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on accelerated phase-out of HCFCs and HFC control measures, and recommendations to the Parties;

1. provide relevant findings to the standardization bodies.

2. To request the Ozone Secretariat to organize a workshop on the safety standards relevant to the safe use of low-GWP alternatives back to back with the thirty-ninth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, within existing resources;

1. To urge parties to consult and work with their industries and standardization bodies to support the timely completion of the process of developing new standards, of harmonizing existing standards, and of revising current standards that would facilitate the adoption of additional and the broader deployment of existing environmentally-friendly alternatives to HCFCs and HFCs and allow for their use with a goal of completing these efforts by the end of 2018;
2. To invite parties to submit information on their domestic safety standards relevant to the use of low-GWP flammable refrigerants to the Ozone Secretariat by the end of 2016;
3. To encourage parties to strengthen connection and cooperation between national and regional standards committees and national ozone units;
4. To request the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol to consider maintaining or, if required, increasing the Fund’s technical and capacity-building assistance, in particular through the Compliance Assistance Programme, with a view to improving cooperation between national authorities in charge of implementation of the Montreal Protocol and national and regional standards committees.
5. To consider to carry out regular consultations on international safety standards, among the Ozone Secretariat, TEAP and the relevant international standardization bodies, including IEC and ISO, and regional standardization bodies, including European Committee for Standardization (CEN), European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC), Underwriting Laboratories(UL), American National Standards Institute (ANSI), American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers(ASHRAE) etc., taking into account the outcomes from paragraphs 1-5 above.