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Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the  
Protection of the Ozone Layer

Vienna, 18-22 March 1985

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Opening of the Conference

1. The Conference will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday 18 March 1985 at the Vienna International Centre. Registration of delegates will begin at 8 a.m. The meeting will begin with an opening ceremony, which will include an address by a representative of the Government of Austria and another by the Executive Director of UNEP. Details of this ceremony will be decided in agreement with the Government of Austria.

Item 2: Organizational matters

Item 2 (a): Adoption of the rules of procedure

2. Provisional rules of procedure are submitted for consideration by the Conference in document UNEP/IG.53/2. These rules are essentially the same as those followed by other recent conferences of plenipotentiaries convened under the auspices of the United Nations.

Item 2 (b): Election of the President

3. Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that the Conference shall elect a President to preside at the plenary sessions of the Conference and at sessions of the Committee of the Whole, and to serve as Chairman of the General Committee, which will assist him in the general conduct of the business of the Conference and in the co-ordination of its work.

Item 2 (c): Election of Vice-Presidents and Rapporteur

4. Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure provides also for the election of two Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur. The Conference may also elect any other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

Item 2 (d): Adoption of the agenda

5. A provisional agenda suggested by the secretariat has been circulated as document UNEP/IG.53/1.

Item 2 (e): Appointment of the Credentials Committee

6. In accordance with rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Conference shall appoint a Credentials Committee of not more than seven members to examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference.

7. The Conference may wish to decide that the General Committee should perform the functions of a credentials committee.

Item 2 (f): Appointment of the Drafting Committee

8. In accordance with rule 47 of the provisional rules of procedure the Conference shall appoint, on the proposal of the General Committee, a Drafting Committee consisting of not more than seven members.

Item 2 (g): Organization of the work of the Conference

9. It is proposed that the work of the Conference should be carried out in plenary and in the Committee of the Whole. All participants in the Conference may participate in the work of the Committee of the Whole. In contrast to plenary meetings, where decisions on all matters of substance will be taken by a two-thirds majority vote of the representatives present and voting, the committees may take their decisions by a simple majority vote.

10. It is proposed that, as the Committee of the Whole completes discussions on any part of the subject-matter which it is considering, it should request the Drafting Committee to prepare final texts of the paragraphs, articles and decisions for submission, with the approval of the Committee of the Whole to the plenary for final adoption.

11. The working languages of the Conference will be Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish and Russian.

Item 3: Consideration of the draft Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, and its technical annexes

12. The draft Convention with its technical annexes, as submitted to the Conference in document UNEP/IG.53/3, was provisionally agreed by consensus at the fourth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Legal and Technical Experts for the Elaboration of a Global Framework Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, which met in Geneva from 22 to 26 October 1984 and from 21 to 25 January 1985.

13. The final report of the Working Group (document UNEP/IG.53/4) provides background information on the preparation of the draft convention.

Item 4: Consideration of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Legal and Technical Experts for the Elaboration of a Global Framework Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, concerning a draft Protocol on Chlorofluorocarbons

14. The final report of the Working Group as presented to the Conference in document UNEP/IG.53/4 was requested by the Governing Council of UNEP by decision 12/14 of 29 May 1984.

15. Decision 12/14 of the Governing Council envisages, in addition to a global framework convention, the elaboration of a protocol on chlorofluorocarbons, to be annexed to the report with a view to its consideration and possible adoption by the present Conference or subsequently by another conference.

Item 5: Consideration of the report of the Credentials Committee

16. Under this item the Conference should consider the report of the Credentials Committee and adopt a decision thereon.

Item 6: Adoption of the Convention and, if possible, a Protocol

17. It is the principal objective of the Conference to adopt the Convention and, if possible, a Protocol.

Item 7: Adoption of the Final Act of the Conference

18. As provided under item 2 (g), decisions of the Committee of the Whole will be put in final form by the Drafting Committee, and thereafter will be submitted to the Conference for adoption. The Conference should adopt each article of the Convention and, if possible, a Protocol before adopting the text or texts as a whole. The Conference will also be requested to adopt as the main body of the Final Act a report on its proceedings, together with any related resolutions.

Item 8: Signature of final instruments

19. Arrangements for the signature of the Final Act, the Convention and, if possible, a Protocol will be determined by the General Committee in consultation with the secretariat.

Item 9: Closing of the Conference

20. The Conference is expected to conclude its work on Friday 22 March 1985.

