

**Montreal Protocol
on Substances that
Deplete the Ozone Layer**

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**Implementation Committee under
the Non-Compliance Procedure
for the Montreal Protocol**
Seventy-sixth meeting
Bangkok, 18 and 19 July 2026

**Report of the Implementation Committee under the
Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol on the
work of its seventy-sixth meeting****I. Opening of the meeting**

1. The seventy-sixth meeting of the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was held at the Royal Princess Larn Luang hotel, Bangkok, on 18 and 19 July 2026.
2. The President of the Committee, Linda Kosgei (Kenya), opened the meeting at 10 a.m. on Saturday, 18 July 2026, welcoming members and observers.
3. Speaking on behalf of Megumi Seki, Executive Secretary, Ozone Secretariat, Maria Socorro Manguiat, Deputy Executive Secretary, welcomed the members of the Committee, representatives of the secretariat of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol and its implementing agencies, and observers. She said that the Secretariat was grateful that the Sixth Extraordinary Meeting of the Parties had approved the appointment of the five outstanding members of the Committee by consensus, thus preserving the spirit of the Montreal Protocol. She congratulated the President and the Vice-President on their election. She noted that the unusual holding of the meeting of the Implementation Committee after the forty-eighth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, which had occurred on account of the conduct of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parties the same week to finalize the membership of the Committee. While the sequence of meetings posed challenges for the Secretariat and members of the Committee, it had also enabled face-to-face dialogue to take place between the Secretariat and representatives of parties that had their cases on the agenda of the current meeting. She expressed the hope that the clarifications received would facilitate the Committee's deliberations.
4. Recalling that, at its forty-eighth meeting, the Open-ended Working Group had held discussions on the viability of Montreal Protocol operations, she said that the proceedings of meetings of the Implementation Committee would likely be examined by the parties in order to ascertain whether the current arrangements for Committee meetings were appropriate.
5. She highlighted a number of items on the agenda of the meeting, including the follow-up on several outstanding non-compliance issues, particularly the case of a party that had not notified the Secretariat of the establishment and operation of its licensing system for almost five years; the review of several requests for changes in hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) baseline data; and issues of possible non-compliance arising from data reporting. She expressed the hope that the recent briefing for new members had been useful. In closing, she assured members that the Secretariat was, as always, available to assist the Committee in its work.

II. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

A. Attendance

6. Representatives of the following Committee members attended the meeting: Azerbaijan, Benin, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Kenya, Lebanon, Montenegro, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Norway and Saudi Arabia.
7. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the Multilateral Fund secretariat and the implementing agencies: the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the World Bank.
8. The list of participants is set out in annex II to the present report.

B. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

9. The Committee adopted the following agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda (UNEP/OzL.Pro/ImpCom/76/R.1):

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Presentation by the Ozone Secretariat on data and information submitted under Articles 7 and 9 of the Montreal Protocol and on related issues.
4. Presentation by 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.
5. Follow-up on previous decisions of the parties and recommendations of the Implementation Committee on issues related to non-compliance:
 - (a) Data reporting obligations under Article 7 (decision XXXVII/8):
 - (i) Armenia;
 - (ii) Comoros;
 - (iii) Iceland;
 - (iv) Sao Tome and Principe;
 - (b) Decisions adopted by the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on cases of non-compliance:
 - (i) Democratic People's Republic of Korea (decision XXXVII/12);
 - (ii) Mali (decision XXXVII/13);
 - (iii) Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (decision XXXVII/14);
 - (iv) Tajikistan (decision XXXVII/15);
 - (v) Zambia (decision XXXVII/16);
 - (c) Non-compliance with hydrochlorofluorocarbon consumption reduction obligations: Israel (recommendation 75/4);
 - (d) Existing plan of action to return to compliance: Kazakhstan (decision XXIX/14).
6. Consideration of other possible non-compliance issues arising from the data report.
7. Requests for changes in baseline data (decisions XIII/15 and XV/19):
 - (a) Armenia (recommendation 75/9);
 - (b) Somalia (recommendation 75/16);
 - (c) Belize;
 - (d) Mali;

- (e) South Africa.
- 8. Establishment of licensing systems under Article 4B, paragraph 2 *bis*, of the Montreal Protocol (decision XXXVII/10):
 - (a) Djibouti;
 - (b) San Marino.
- 9. Other matters.
- 10. Adoption of the recommendations and the report of the meeting.
- 11. Closure of the meeting.

III. Presentation by the Ozone Secretariat on data and information submitted under Articles 7 and 9 of the Montreal Protocol and on related issues

10. A representative of the Secretariat gave a presentation summarizing the report of the Secretariat on information provided by parties in accordance with Articles 7 and 9 of the Protocol (UNEP/OzL.Pro/ImpCom/76/2).
11. With regard to reporting pursuant to Article 9, under which each party was required to submit every two years a summary of activities on their cooperation in promoting activities on research, development and public awareness, the Secretariat had received a new submission from Lithuania, covering the period 2020–2021.
12. With regard to the reporting of data under paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 7, all the parties had reported annual data for all the years up to and including 2023, and 197 parties had reported annual data for 2024. Three of the parties listed in paragraph 3 of decision XXXVI/13 as still needing to report their 2024 data – the Comoros, Iceland and Sao Tome and Principe – had since submitted data, but the fourth – Armenia – had not. A total of 113 parties had submitted data for 2025 by 17 July 2026.
13. Baseline data was required to be submitted within six months of a party's ratification of the Protocol or of a relevant amendment. Of the parties that had recently ratified the Kigali Amendment, six had missed the six-month deadline and had yet to submit data for HFCs for one or more of the baseline years; their cases would be considered further under agenda item 6.
14. On the matter of compliance with the control measures, three cases of possible non-compliance for 2024 had been identified that had not been presented in 2025. Cabo Verde, which had still to provide clarification, would be considered under agenda item 6, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Tajikistan would be considered under agenda item 5. Of the other possible cases of non-compliance previously identified, Eritrea, Mozambique, Namibia, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Zambia had since provided corrected data, and Bosnia and Herzegovina and Morocco had had their baseline data revised, which had confirmed their compliance with the control measures. For Guinea, clarification was still pending despite a revised baseline having been agreed, but the party's data for 2025 showed that it was in compliance for that year. Mali, which was requesting a change in its baseline data, would be considered under agenda item 7. Israel and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had submitted revised plans of action which the Committee would consider under agenda item 5. Consideration of the compliance of Saint Lucia had been deferred, in accordance with decision XXXV/16 on addressing the impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on hydrofluorocarbon baseline consumption for certain parties.
15. For deviations from the control measures for 2025, three parties listed in the report of the Secretariat – Eritrea, Panama and Zambia – had since corrected their data and confirmed compliance with the control measures. Clarification was still awaited from a further five parties: Argentina, Congo, Mali, Mongolia and Solomon Islands. The Secretariat would be communicating further with them in order to resolve the situation or to present their cases to the Committee at its next meeting.
16. On methyl bromide, Canada, which was the only party that had been granted a critical-use exemption for the substance for 2025, had submitted its accounting report.
17. No cases had been detected of trade with non-parties for 2024 or 2025. With respect to the reporting of exports, pursuant to decision XVII/16, destination countries had been reported for 99 per cent of the exports reported for 2024. In May 2026, the Secretariat had sent that information to the 161 parties that had been identified as destination countries. For the reporting of imports and

source countries under decision XXIV/12, source countries had been reported for 72 per cent of imports reported for 2024. In April 2026, the Secretariat had sent letters to the 71 parties that had been listed as exporters by importing countries, inviting them to request the compiled information, and had provided the information to the 25 parties that had confirmed their interest in receiving it.

18. Four parties had reported excess production or consumption of controlled substances attributable to stockpiling in 2024, pursuant to decisions XVIII/17 and XXII/20. The European Union, France and Spain had reported that the cases related to unintentional production which was destined for destruction, while Israel had reported that the excess production was intended for export for feedstock uses in future years. No equivalent information had yet been reported for 2025.

19. China, the European Union, Israel and the United States of America still reported the use of ozone-depleting substances as process agents. All four parties had reported their data for 2024, as the Committee had discussed at its seventy-fifth meeting. To date, the European Union and the United States had reported for 2025; for both, emissions were within the limits specified in decision XXXI/6, and they had also reported on their containment technologies, as required under decision X/14.

20. All the eight parties that had submitted data reports for 2024 by means of data forms and left blank cells had responded to the Secretariat's requests for clarification by confirming that the cells should have indicated zeros. In general, the numbers of parties submitting forms with blank cells had remained fairly stable since about 2018, although they were much lower than in earlier years. Five parties had submitted requests for changes in their baseline data; that matter would be considered under agenda item 7.

21. Volumes of reported production of phased-out controlled substances for uses allowed under the Protocol had remained reasonably stable in recent years. The vast majority of production was for feedstock uses. Overall, production for feedstock, including that of substances not yet phased out – primarily hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) – had grown since 2015, reaching 2.16 million metric tons in 2024. Consumption of methyl bromide for quarantine and pre-shipment uses, which was also permitted under the Protocol, had remained steady for the last three years at about 8,000 metric tons. Finally, the number of parties reporting the destruction of controlled substances had increased slightly over time, while the total volume destroyed had not varied much.

22. The Committee took note of the report.

IV. Presentation by 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

23. A representative of the Multilateral Fund secretariat, Balaji Natarajan, gave a presentation on the work of the Fund and of the Executive Committee. He provided an overview of the membership of the Committee in 2026, which comprised Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Cuba, France, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lesotho, Mexico and the United States.

24. In relation to HCFCs, he said that, according to the latest data provided by parties, overall reported consumption stood at 35.9 per cent of the baseline. It was thus expected that the overall consumption target of 32.5 per cent of baseline in 2025 would be achieved. Most foam manufacturing, and a large portion of refrigeration and air-conditioning manufacturing, was currently being converted to the use of technologies with low global warming potential (GWP), and all countries were addressing the refrigeration-servicing sector. Nevertheless, the availability of some alternative technologies in some markets continued to be challenging. The cumulative amount of HCFCs that would be phased out once the approved HCFC phase-out management plans had been implemented was 87 per cent of the starting point and 85.6 per cent of the baseline. Regarding HFC consumption, he said that the substances most consumed in 2024, in metric tons, were HFC-32, HFC-134a, R-410A, HFC-227ea and R-404A, and that those substances were also in the top five if consumption were counted in carbon dioxide-equivalent (CO₂-equivalent). Reporting errors had been identified in a few cases in relation to HFCs, but they had been pointed out to the parties concerned, which had addressed them immediately. The reconciliation of data reported under country programmes and those reported under Article 7 remained challenging, however, owing to the fact that HFCs were reported as pure or in blends in country programme reporting, but under Article 7, they were reported as pure, in blends or a combination of the two.

25. Online data reporting had been launched officially in 2025 and was being used by 127 parties. A total of 126 parties had used it to submit their country programme data for 2024, and 96 parties had officially submitted their data for 2025 through the system. The reporting of country programme data online helped countries to identify their consumption trends and better understand their data-reporting errors, which had resulted in fewer errors being submitted. Online data reporting also facilitated the secretariat's tracking and analysis of the data. The UNEP Compliance Assistance Programme continued to assist countries in improving the quality of their data reporting, and the Multilateral Fund secretariat provided input on data reporting during the Programme's network meetings.

26. At the ninety-eighth meeting of the Executive Committee, projects totalling more than \$111 million dollars had been approved, including a project under the revolving fund for energy efficiency. The Committee had discussed a number of policy issues, including strategic approaches to the implementation of the Kigali Amendment in parties operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol (Article 5 parties). The secretariat had been asked to prepare two reports: one on guidance for future Kigali implementation plans and another on options for financial modalities and institutional arrangements to support end users. In relation to enhancing atmospheric monitoring, the Executive Committee had approved guidelines for the preparation and implementation of pilot projects, as well as a template for the project agreement; established a \$9.25 million funding window for three pilot projects and added \$1.8 million to that funding window to support the continued operation of three stations planned to be established under the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention; and approved the selection of the World Meteorological Organization as an implementing agency of the Multilateral Fund. The Executive Committee had also approved two energy efficiency revolving fund projects in the amount of \$20 million each for assistance to end-users for adopting energy efficient alternatives while phasing-down HFCs in different refrigeration and air-conditioning applications. Also at the ninety-eighth meeting, the Executive Committee had considered reports on the availability of polyurethane in the foam manufacturing sector; local installation and assembly; and energy-efficiency testing centres in non-manufacturing countries. With regard to decision XXXV/13 on the import and export of prohibited cooling equipment, the implementing and bilateral agencies and countries concerned had been requested to include capacity-strengthening activities in new stages of Kigali implementation plans or HCFC phase-out management plans.

27. At the ninety-ninth meeting, the Committee would consider supply chain issues; refrigeration and air-conditioning manufacturing lines that had completed conversion under projects approved by the Multilateral Fund, with a view to ascertaining their eligibility for funding for projects to enhance energy efficiency; the application of deductions for sustained aggregate HFC reductions, including in cases of large fluctuations in consumption during the baseline years; a review of the administrative cost regime and core funding; an update on life cycle refrigeration management, including in the light of completed inventory projects and national plans; the guidelines on the preparation of projects for stage II of Kigali implementation plans; the methodology for calculating the climate impact of the work under the Montreal Protocol; and an update on regional thematic centres.

28. The Committee took note of the information provided.

V. Follow-up on previous decisions of the parties and recommendations of the Implementation Committee on issues related to non-compliance

29. Representatives of the Secretariat presented information on cases related to compliance with obligations under the Protocol (UNEP/OzL.Pro/ImpCom/76/R.3 and UNEP/OzL.Pro/ImpCom/76/R.3/Add.1), along with the list of compliance issues to be considered by the Committee (UNEP/OzL.Pro/ImpCom/76/INF/R.1) and the information submitted by parties (UNEP/OzL.Pro/ImpCom/76/INF/R.2 and its annexes).

A. Data reporting obligations under Article 7 (decision XXXVII/8)

30. A representative of the Secretariat recalled that, under decision XXXVII/8, Armenia, the Comoros, Iceland and Sao Tome and Principe had been declared to be in non-compliance for having failed to report their data for 2024 by 31 October 2025. Since the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties, all those parties, except for Armenia, had submitted their outstanding data, and the data had confirmed that they were in compliance with the control measures.

31. The Committee agreed to note with appreciation that the Comoros, Iceland and Sao Tome and Principe had submitted their Article 7 data for 2024 to the Secretariat as urged in paragraph 5 of

decision XXXVII/8 and that the data submitted confirmed that those parties were in compliance with the Protocol's control measures for 2024.

32. The Committee also agreed:

(a) To note with concern that Armenia had not yet submitted, in accordance with decision XXXVII/8, its Article 7 data for 2024 to the Secretariat and therefore remained in non-compliance with its data reporting obligations under paragraph 3 of Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol;

(b) To urge Armenia to report to the Secretariat its outstanding data as a matter of priority, and preferably no later than 15 September 2026, to enable the Committee to assess at its seventy-seventh meeting the status of compliance by the party with the applicable production and consumption control measures under the Protocol.

Recommendation 76/1

33. Responding to a question from a member of the Committee, a representative of the Secretariat confirmed that the Secretariat would communicate the recommendation to Armenia after the current meeting, and, if the data was still outstanding, would send a reminder nearer to the deadline.

B. Decisions adopted by the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on cases of non-compliance

1. Democratic People's Republic of Korea

34. A representative of the Secretariat recalled that in decision XXXII/6, the Thirty-Second Meeting of the Parties had noted that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was in non-compliance with its HCFC production and consumption control measures for 2019, but had also noted with appreciation the plan of action submitted by the party to return to compliance by 2023. In its recommendations 68/4, 69/4, 70/2, 72/3 and 74/2, the Committee had requested the party to provide an explanation for the deviation of the data reported for 2021 and to submit a revised plan of action to ensure its return to compliance, and in decisions XXXII/6, XXXV/18 and XXXVI/16, successive Meetings of the Parties had cautioned the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in accordance with item B of the indicative list of measures, that if the party failed to return to compliance, the parties would consider measures consistent with item C of the indicative list of measures, which included suspension, in accordance with the applicable rules of international law concerning the suspension of the operation of a treaty, of specific rights and privileges under the Montreal Protocol.

35. The party's consumption and production data for HCFCs showed that it had adhered to the limits set in its plan of action in 2020 and 2022, but had exceeded them in 2021, 2023 and 2024. Accordingly, in decision XXXVII/12, the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties had decided to suspend trade in HCFCs between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and other parties to the Protocol. The suspension would continue until such time as the party returned to compliance, as recommended by the Implementation Committee on the basis of data reported pursuant to Article 7 or until otherwise decided by a Meeting of the Parties. The decision marked the first occasion on which a Meeting of the Parties had adopted a decision applying measures in item C of the indicative list of measures.

36. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea had not yet reported its 2025 data. In a note verbale, dated December 2025, the party had indicated that the plan of action to return to compliance that it had submitted in 2021 reflected the fact that reductions in the production and consumption of HCFCs would be contingent upon the resumption of equipment- and technology-related assistance which it had not received. It regarded the suspension of trade as wholly unacceptable. Although the party did not expect to receive cooperation, it would continue to discharge its responsibilities and carry out its obligations in accordance with its international commitments.

37. After several attempts at establishing communications with the party had failed to generate a response, the Secretariat had managed to hold several meetings with a staff member of the party's mission to Thailand during the forty-eighth meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group. The party had indicated that it was not in a position to return to compliance due to United Nations Security Council sanctions, which had meant that it had not received the technical or financial assistance required as an Article 5 party to comply with the Protocol's control measures. In response, the Secretariat had proposed that a stable channel of communication should be established between the party and the Secretariat, and had stated that the Secretariat was willing to engage with the party to determine a possible way forward, which could include the development of a new plan of action that took into consideration existing Security Council sanctions. In those meetings, the representative of

the Secretariat had observed that the function of the Protocol's non-compliance procedure was to secure an amicable solution to situations of non-compliance on the basis of respect for the provisions of the Protocol.

38. Responding to questions, he confirmed that although the previous plan of action had not explicitly mentioned Security Council sanctions, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was of the firm view that it would only be able to return to compliance if it received assistance, which would require sanctions to be lifted. He had responded to the party's representative that the matter of lifting sanctions fell completely outside the mandate of the Secretariat. He also confirmed that there was no precedent for the situation.

39. Responding to questions about trade with the party, the representatives of the Secretariat confirmed that since trade in HCFCs with the party had been suspended, any report of trade with the party would be flagged to the Committee. Before the suspension, no party had reported exports of HCFCs to the country after 2021; a few had reported small volumes of imports from it in 2025.

40. Responding to questions, the representatives of UNEP and UNIDO, the two implementing agencies that had worked with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the past, confirmed that they had experienced the same communications difficulties as the Secretariat; although the party had been invited to regional network meetings, it had not attended network meetings held outside of Bangkok because it could not be offered assistance with travel. The last contact UNEP had had with the party was on 2 July 2026, through the party's mission to Thailand. All previous institutional strengthening and HCFC phase-out activities had ceased because of the sanctions. Responding to a suggestion that a mission could be conducted to the party, the representative of UNEP said that he was not sure whether that would be possible, but, in any case, it would only be relevant if the party agreed to a plan of action. He confirmed that UNEP could provide the party with non-financial assistance, such as information, or participation in a network meeting, regardless of the sanctions, but the party had not requested any such help.

41. Responding to a question on what would be needed for a new plan of action to be agreed, the representative of the Secretariat recalled that decision XXXVII/12 had applied the suspension of trade until the party reported data showing it to be in compliance, after which the Committee could consider whether to recommend to the Meeting of the Parties that the suspension should be lifted. The preparation of a new plan of action would require cooperation from the party in supplying information on their future plans and capacities, including the implications of the Security Council sanctions. He added that the non-compliance procedure allowed for information-gathering in the territory of a party, upon the party's invitation, for the purpose of fulfilling the functions of the Committee. As far as he was aware, the Committee had never taken such a measure before.

42. One member of the Committee suggested that the Committee could consider asking a country that had better communications with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to act as a mediator to try to resolve the situation; that was a well-established way to settle international disputes. Another suggested offering the party participation in an online workshop. The President expressed the view that it would be helpful for the Secretariat to inform the Committee at its next meeting about the precise implications of the Security Council sanctions, which would help the Committee to understand what might be possible.

43. The Committee agreed:

(a) To note that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had provided information to the Secretariat on the reasons why it had reported production and consumption of hydrochlorofluorocarbons higher than its commitments as set out in decision XXXII/6 for 2021 and 2023, and above control levels under the Montreal Protocol for 2024;

(b) To strongly urge the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to establish a reliable, functional and stable channel of communication with the Secretariat;

(c) To request the Secretariat, if no sufficient reply was received within 60 days of the adoption of the present recommendation or if such a channel was not established, to explore under the guidance of the President of the Committee, other possible means of communication, including through the assistance of a third party in establishing such a channel of communication with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(d) To request the Secretariat to prepare a summary of the United Nations Security Council sanctions against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and their potential impact on a new plan of action to inform the Committee in assisting the party to return to and sustain compliance;

(e) To request the Secretariat, in coordination with the United Nations Environment Programme's Compliance Assistance Programme, to evaluate the feasibility of organizing an online workshop with relevant officials of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to identify possible ways of assisting the party to return to and sustain compliance with the Montreal Protocol, including on the possible development of a new plan of action within the framework of United Nations Security Council sanctions.

Recommendation 76/2

2. Mali (decision XXXVII/13)

44. The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the situation of Mali to agenda item 7.

3. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (decision XXXVII/14)

45. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had reported HFC consumption data for 2024 of 45,975 CO₂-equivalent tonnes, exceeding the party's maximum allowable consumption of 25,280 CO₂-equivalent tonnes. In its decision XXXVII/14, the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties had therefore declared that the party was in non-compliance with the HFC consumption control measures under the Montreal Protocol. The party had submitted a plan of action to ensure its return to compliance by 2035, but the Committee, and the Meeting of the Parties, had concluded that such a long timeline to return to compliance was unacceptable, and the party had therefore been requested to submit a revised plan of action once its Kigali implementation plan had been approved by the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund.

46. On 27 February 2026, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had reported its HFC consumption data for 2025, which had confirmed its compliance with the control measures, and on 23 June 2026 it had submitted a revised plan of action and associated information to ensure its return to compliance by 2027. It had not, however, submitted a Kigali implementation plan to the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund; after a request to explain why the plan of action had been submitted before the approval of its Kigali implementation plan, it had said that it was developing the Kigali implementation plan and the plan of action in parallel, and the two would be consistent with one another.

47. In the communication of 23 June 2026, the party had explained that import restrictions imposed in January 2025 limiting consumption to a level of approximately 68 per cent below the 2024 reported consumption had generated significant challenges in meeting demand for servicing. Accordingly, in January 2026, it had established a revised import quota higher than in 2025 but lower than in 2024. The revised plan of action was prepared together with UNEP as the lead implementing agency, and in parallel with the preparation of stage I of its Kigali implementation plan.

48. Additional policies in support of its compliance efforts included the introduction of revised regulations to strengthen and sustain the monitoring and enforcement of the licensing and quota systems by 2027; mandatory training and certification programmes for technicians on the safe use and handling of alternative technologies; a ban on high-GWP HFC-based equipment or a policy for the gradual reduction of imports of such equipment; a comprehensive market needs assessment to inform the national strategy for transitioning to sustainable alternatives; and stakeholder awareness campaigns to promote pressure on importers and retailers to offer low-GWP, energy-efficient options.

49. Responding to a question from a member of the Committee, the representative of UNEP reassured members that the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines took its commitments very seriously, and that it was determined to return to compliance with its obligations. The country's economy, which was heavily based on tourism, was experiencing a rapid growth in demand for HFCs. The Government had held consultations with refrigeration and air-conditioning users and, as a result, had raised the HFC quota for 2026 slightly, but aimed to return to its allowed consumption level by 2027. UNEP had held several consultations with the Government, and had provided extensive support, including policy and regulatory advice. Completion of the Kigali Implementation Plan was awaiting finalization of a survey, including detailed sector data and analysis, that was under way; it was planned to be submitted to the Executive Committee at its 99th meeting, in December 2026.

50. The Committee agreed:

(a) To note with appreciation the revised plan of action submitted by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, in which the party had undertaken to put in place measures to enable it to return to compliance with the control measures of the Montreal Protocol for hydrofluorocarbons by 2027;

(b) To also note with appreciation the additional information provided by the party in relation to policies in support of its efforts to return to compliance with such control measures, and the

clarification that the revised plan of action had been prepared together with the United Nations Environment Programme as the lead implementing agency and in parallel with the preparation of stage I of its Kigali implementation plan;

(c) To forward for consideration by the Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties the draft decision on Saint Vincent and Grenadines, as set out in section A of annex I to the present report.

Recommendation 76/3

4. Tajikistan (decision XXXVII/15)

51. Tajikistan had reported HFC consumption data for 2023 of 457,613 CO₂-equivalent tonnes, exceeding the party's maximum allowable consumption of 424,270 CO₂-equivalent. In its decision XXXVII/15, the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties had therefore declared that the party was in non-compliance with the HFC consumption control measures under the Montreal Protocol. It had requested Tajikistan to submit, no later than 31 March 2026, a plan of action with time-specific benchmarks to ensure the party's prompt return to compliance, as well as specific policies that it would adopt in support of its implementation efforts.

52. Tajikistan had not yet, however, presented a plan of action to return to compliance. In addition, for 2024, the party had reported consumption of 456,901 CO₂-equivalent tonnes of HFCs, exceeding the party's maximum allowable consumption, possibly indicating continued non-compliance with the HFC consumption control measures.

53. The Committee agreed to urge Tajikistan to submit a plan of action with time-specific benchmarks to ensure the party's prompt return to compliance with its hydrofluorocarbon obligations under the Protocol, as well as specific policies that it would adopt in support of its implementation efforts, as a matter of urgency, and preferably no later than 15 September 2026, to enable the Committee to review it at its seventy-seventh meeting.

Recommendation 76/4

5. Zambia (decision XXXVII/16)

54. Zambia had reported HFC consumption data for 2023 of 857,857 CO₂-equivalent tonnes, exceeding the party's maximum allowable consumption of 699,513 CO₂-equivalent tonnes. In its decision XXXVII/16, the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties had therefore declared that the party was in non-compliance with the HFC consumption control measures under the Montreal Protocol. It had urged Zambia to provide an explanation for the deviation, no later than 31 March 2026, and, if appropriate, to submit a plan of action with time-specific benchmarks to ensure the party's prompt return to compliance, as well as specific policies that it would adopt in support of its implementation efforts.

55. In a letter dated 24 March 2026, Zambia had stated that a review of the reported HFC consumption data for 2024 had identified discrepancies, in particular relating to double reporting of refrigerant mixtures and their individual components. Data reconciliation measures had been undertaken, including the elimination of duplicate entries and improved classification of substances, and the revised data had been cross-checked and validated against official import records from the Zambia Revenue Authority and data from the Zambia Statistics Agency. As a result of those corrective measures, Zambia had presented new corrected HFC data for 2024 which had confirmed that the party was in compliance with the control measures.

56. In response to a question from a member of the Committee, the representative of the Secretariat confirmed that Zambia had also submitted its 2025 data, which showed that it was in compliance with the control measures.

57. The Committee agreed to note with appreciation the explanation provided by Zambia in relation to the deviation associated with the previously reported HFC consumption data for 2024 and that the corrected data showed the party to be in compliance with the control measures under the Montreal Protocol for 2024. The Committee also noted with appreciation that Zambia had submitted Article 7 data for 2025 that confirmed that the party was in compliance with the control measures for 2025. In consequence, the Committee agreed that no further action was required in the case of Zambia.

C. Non-compliance with hydrochlorofluorocarbon consumption reduction obligations: Israel (recommendation 75/4)

58. Israel had reported HCFC consumption for 2024 of 4.33 ozone-depleting potential (ODP) tonnes, exceeding its permitted limit for that year of 1.60 ODP-tonnes. In a communication dated 30 September 2025, the party had explained that the excess consumption was due to extraordinary national circumstances, primarily concerning the health and safety of the population amid the armed conflict then under way; HCFCs were used in the defence and health sectors to maintain critical operations as there were no feasible available alternatives. The increase in consumption was temporary, however, and the party had predicted that its consumption for 2025 would be within the allowed limit. The party had also stated that the defence sector was planning to implement updated acquisition procedures to ensure that new equipment acquisitions were based on non-controlled refrigerants, and had further stated that work on a plan of action to return to compliance had already begun, although it had been unable to finalize it in time for submission to the Committee at its seventy-fifth meeting, in 2025.

59. In its recommendation 75/4, the Committee had noted the self-submission made by Israel under paragraph 4 of the non-compliance procedure, and the explanation that it had provided concerning the excess consumption for 2024, and that the party had indicated that it was working on a plan of action to ensure its return to compliance with the control measures for HCFCs but that the limited time available had not enabled the plan to be submitted to the Committee at its seventy-fifth meeting. It had requested Israel to submit its plan of action no later than 31 March 2026 for review by the Committee at its seventy-sixth meeting, and had invited Israel to the meeting.

60. On 30 March 2026, Israel had submitted a plan of action to ensure its return to compliance by 2025, including a maximum of 1.645 ODP-tonnes consumption of HCFCs in that year, equal to the limit under the Montreal Protocol. It had also provided a list of policy and regulatory measures designed to ensure compliance.

61. At the invitation of the Committee, the representative of Israel gave a presentation. She explained that in November 2023 a temporary emergency order had lifted the party's HCFC import limits for critical security, defence and life-saving medical applications, resulting in an increase in HCFC consumption in 2024. This was due to the extraordinary circumstances then facing the party, and the need to ensure the continuity of critical services in the security and health sectors, which were reliant on HCFC-based legacy cooling systems. The temporary order had expired when the national state of emergency ended on 28 October 2025, and imports of HCFCs were then strictly limited to 1.645 ODP-tonnes. Despite the fact that the order was in effect for most of the year, data on HCFCs for 2025 showed a return to compliance, with consumption of only 0.47 ODP-tonnes.

62. To ensure that Israel remained in compliance, the Government had adopted measures including a programme for defence sector modernization and procurement reform, including retiring legacy HCFC-based cooling infrastructure by the end of 2027; procuring new equipment utilizing non-controlled refrigerants, where feasible; and maintaining indispensable legacy systems by using only recovered or recycled refrigerants. The programme of healthcare sector structural transition included a sector-wide audit of refrigeration and air-conditioning assets across all national medical centres, allowing the identification of legacy systems based on their operational criticality and prioritizing their replacement. The physical decommissioning of legacy systems was financed and executed through the national "blue skies" dedicated fiscal framework, which financed the replacement of old HCFC-based refrigeration and air-conditioning systems in government hospitals by modern, energy efficient and fully compliant alternatives. There would also be an update of mandatory engineering standards to promote low-ODP and low-GWP alternatives, in accordance with the Protocol's HCFC phase-out schedules and the Kigali Amendment. She concluded by affirming that Israel remained fully committed to the Montreal Protocol and its amendments, and was actively preparing for the final phase-out of HCFCs in 2030 and for the Kigali Amendment HFC phase-down schedule.

63. Responding to a question from a member of the Committee, she informed the Committee that Israel was just beginning its efforts for recovery and recycling of HCFCs. Although one facility had been established several years before, there had been no demand for recovered HCFCs at the time, so the facility now needed to be brought back into operation as part of the national plan. Destruction facilities existed, but Israel did not plan to destroy any HCFCs which could be reused. She also confirmed that the country relied mainly on imports for new equipment.

64. The Committee agreed to forward for consideration by the Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties the draft decision on Israel, as set out in section B of annex I to the present report.¹

Recommendation 76/5

D. Existing plan of action to return to compliance: Kazakhstan (decision XXIX/14)

65. In its decision XXIX/14, the Twenty-Ninth Meeting of the Parties had noted with appreciation the submission of a revised plan of action to ensure the return to compliance of Kazakhstan with commitments up to 2030 in order to comply with the HCFC consumption control measures under the Protocol. It had agreed to continue to monitor closely progress by Kazakhstan with regard to the implementation of its revised plan of action and the phase-out of HCFCs.

66. Kazakhstan had not, however, submitted its Article 7 data for 2025 and its compliance status could therefore not be determined. Its HCFC consumption limit under the action plan for 2025 was zero, save for consumption restricted to specific uses between the period from 2020 to 2030, as prescribed in the Montreal Protocol.

67. The Committee agreed to request Kazakhstan to report to the Secretariat its data for 2025, in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol, preferably no later than 15 September 2026, to enable the Committee to assess at its seventy-seventh meeting the status of compliance by Kazakhstan with its commitments for 2025 as set out in decision XXIX/14.

Recommendation 76/6

VI. Consideration of other possible non-compliance issues arising from the data report

68. The members of the Committee from Azerbaijan and Saudi Arabia left the meeting during the consideration of the present item, as their parties were some of the subjects under discussion.

69. The President drew the attention of members of the Committee to the background information included in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ImpCom/76/R.3/Add.1. A representative of the Secretariat recalled that, as noted under agenda item 3, baseline data was required to be submitted within six months of a party's ratification of the Protocol or an amendment. Of the parties that had recently ratified the Kigali Amendment, six had missed the six-month deadline and were yet to submit baseline data for HFCs: Azerbaijan, the Central African Republic, Mauritania, Nepal, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Saudi Arabia.

70. The Committee agreed:

- (a) To acknowledge that Azerbaijan, the Central African Republic, Mauritania, Nepal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saudi Arabia had recently ratified the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol;
- (b) To note that those parties had not reported HFC data for one or more of the baseline years, as required under paragraph 2 of Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol;
- (c) To note that a lack of timely data reporting by parties impeded the effective monitoring and assessment of parties' compliance with their obligations under the Montreal Protocol;
- (d) To urge those parties to report the outstanding baseline data as a matter of urgency to the Secretariat, working, where appropriate, with the implementing agencies of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol;
- (e) To review the situation of those parties with respect to their data reporting obligations at its seventy-seventh meeting.

Recommendation 76/7

71. Cabo Verde had reported HFC consumption data for 2024 of 108,546 CO₂-equivalent tonnes, exceeding the party's permitted consumption level of 38,791 CO₂-equivalent tonnes. On

¹ The representatives of Lebanon and Saudi Arabia did not participate in the meeting during the presentation by the party and did not subsequently contribute to the discussions when the Committee considered the party's case.

17 April 2026, the Secretariat had written to the party to seek clarification, and on 17 June 2026 had sent a reminder, but no reply had been received.

72. The Committee agreed:

(a) To note with concern that Cabo Verde, a party operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 to the Montreal Protocol, had reported annual consumption for 2024 of 108,546 CO₂-equivalent tonnes of the controlled substances in Annex F to the Montreal Protocol (hydrofluorocarbons), exceeding the party's maximum allowable consumption of 38,791 CO₂-equivalent tonnes for controlled substances for that year;

(b) To urge the party to provide a clarification on the matter to the Ozone Secretariat and, as appropriate, a plan of action with time-specific benchmarks to ensure the party's prompt return to compliance with its hydrofluorocarbon obligations under the Protocol, as well as specific policies that it would adopt in support of its implementation efforts, as a matter of urgency and preferably no later than 15 September 2026, to enable the Committee to assess the matter at its seventy-seventh meeting.

Recommendation 76/8

VII. Requests for changes in baseline data (decisions XIII/15 and XV/19)

73. Introducing the item, a representative of the Secretariat drew attention to the report of the Secretariat on the requests for changes in baseline data (UNEP/OzL.Pro/ImpCom/76/R.4 and UNEP/OzL.Pro/ImpCom/75/R.4/Add.1), as well as to the note by the Secretariat on information submitted by parties for consideration by the Implementation Committee at its seventy-sixth meeting (UNEP/OzL.Pro/ImpCom/75/INF/R.2) and its annexes. The Committee had before it a total of five requests made by parties for the revision of their HFC baseline data. He reminded the Committee of the methodology set out in decision XV/19, which required parties to identify the baseline year or years to be corrected or modified, and to provide explanations as to why the existing baseline data were incorrect and why the requested changes should be considered correct, including data collection and verification procedures and supporting documents such as licences, shipping and customs documentation, and survey reports.

A. Armenia (recommendation 75/9)

74. Armenia had requested the revision of its baseline data for HFC consumption for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022. The proposed revision of Article 7 data would represent an increase of 56 per cent from the initial baseline level. The request had been discussed at the Committee's seventy-second, seventy-third, seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth meetings, where, each time, the Committee had concluded that the information submitted by the party in support of its request to revise its HFC baseline data was not sufficient to meet the requirements of decision XV/19. The representative of Armenia had attended the seventy-third and seventy-fifth meetings and had acknowledged issues relating to historical gaps in the party's control of substances, limited availability of data on blends and challenges in monitoring online purchases. She had also informed the Committee that the party was improving its monitoring system and coordinating relevant authorities to improve supervision of internal trade and to address the challenges related to unreported imports and online sales.

75. During the forty-eighth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, the representative of Armenia had informed the Secretariat that the baseline years for Armenia had been included in the verification of its HFC consumption approved by the Executive Committee at its ninety-eighth meeting.

76. In response to a question from a member, the representative of UNIDO, as the implementing agency for the Kigali implementation plan for Armenia, confirmed that the verification had been approved at the ninety-eighth meeting of the Executive Committee and that UNIDO was awaiting the transfer of the related funds. The verification would be conducted in time for the results to be submitted with the request for the subsequent funding tranche under the Kigali implementation plan for Armenia, which was due at the 100th meeting of the Executive Committee. One member noted that the results of the verification did not need to be approved by the Executive Committee and would be available for consultation before that meeting.

77. The Committee therefore agreed:

Taking note of the request by Armenia for the revision of its existing consumption data for the baseline years 2020, 2021 and 2022 for Annex F, group I, controlled substances (hydrofluorocarbons),

Recalling decision XV/19, which set out the methodology for the submission of requests for the revision of baseline data,

Noting that the information submitted in support of the request was considered by the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol to be insufficient to enable it to approve the changes requested by the party,

Recalling recommendation 75/9, in which the Implementation Committee had invited Armenia to either submit to the Secretariat the outstanding information that was needed to meet the requirements of decision XV/19, in order to significantly substantiate its request for the revision of its hydrofluorocarbon baseline data, or to request, in line with subparagraph (c) of Executive Committee decision 96/22, the inclusion of the baseline years in the verification of its hydrofluorocarbon consumption,

Noting with appreciation the additional information provided by Armenia, confirming that the verification of its hydrofluorocarbon consumption would include its baseline years,

Also noting with appreciation the information provided by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in its capacity as the implementing agency for the Kigali hydrofluorocarbon implementation plan for Armenia, that the results of the verification of the hydrofluorocarbon consumption for Armenia were expected to be available in 2027;

To invite Armenia, once its verification report became available, to submit the report to the Secretariat, to review its current request, and either to maintain it or to submit a revised request for a hydrofluorocarbon baseline change, on the basis of the verification report, for consideration by the Implementation Committee.

Recommendation 76/9

B. Somalia (recommendation 75/16)

78. Somalia had requested the revision of its baseline data for the baseline year 2022. The revised baseline would represent an increase of 600,824 CO₂-equivalent tonnes (172 per cent) from the initial consumption data for 2022. The request had been discussed at the Committee's seventy-fifth meeting, where it had adopted recommendation 75/16, requesting Somalia to submit the outstanding information needed to meet the requirements of decision XV/19, in order to significantly substantiate its request, as soon as possible and preferably no later than 31 March 2026, for consideration by the Implementation Committee at its seventy-sixth meeting. The Committee had also requested the party, in the event that any of the required information was confidential, to provide such information to the Secretariat in accordance with paragraph 2 of decision I/11.

79. On 17 July 2026, Somalia had informed the Secretariat that it continued to face challenges in obtaining the supporting documentation requested, owing to security-related, inter-agency clearance procedures and commercial confidentiality considerations. It was, however, actively working on obtaining additional supporting documentation.

80. In response to a question by one member about whether Somalia was aware of how the Implementation Committee treated confidential data, the representative of the Secretariat confirmed that, in its discussions with representatives of Somalia, it had indeed explained the treatment of confidential data presented to the Committee. The party was nevertheless still concerned that some of the information required would be impossible to obtain, owing to security measures in place as a result of the security situation in the country. One such measure required the National Intelligence and Security Agency, which was overseen by the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation, and the Ministry of Internal Security, to monitor and maintain records of imported chemicals and certain gases. Some of the documents related to chemicals and gases were hard to obtain. The representative of Somalia had therefore held meetings with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, with a view to obtaining information from the customs authorities.

81. The Committee noted the security situation in Somalia, the related challenges and the efforts made by the party. One member said that it was important to give Somalia time to obtain the customs documentation.

82. The Committee therefore agreed:

Taking note of the request by Somalia for the revision of its existing consumption data for the baseline year 2022 for Annex F, group I, controlled substances (hydrofluorocarbons),

Recalling decision XV/19, which set out the methodology for the submission of requests for the revision of baseline data,

Noting that the information submitted in support of the request was considered by the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol to be insufficient to enable it to approve the changes requested by the party,

Recalling recommendation 75/16, in which the Implementation Committee had requested Somalia to submit to the Secretariat the outstanding information that was needed to meet the requirements of decision XV/19, in order significantly to substantiate its request for the revision of its hydrofluorocarbon baseline data,

Noting with appreciation the updates provided by Somalia on its efforts to provide additional information to support its request for the revision of its baseline data,

1. To reiterate the request to Somalia to submit to the Secretariat the outstanding information that was needed to meet the requirements of decision XV/19, in order to significantly substantiate its request for the revision of its hydrofluorocarbon baseline data, as soon as possible and preferably no later than 15 September 2026, for consideration by the Implementation Committee at its seventy-seventh meeting;

2. To request Somalia, in the event that the information required to support its request for the revision of its baseline data was confidential, to provide such information to the Secretariat in accordance with paragraph 2 of decision I/11, which would ensure that the data were treated with professional secrecy and as confidential when they were reported to the Implementation Committee.

Recommendation 76/10

C. Belize

83. Belize had requested the revision of its baseline data for the baseline years 2020, 2021 and 2022. The revised baseline would represent a decrease of 67 per cent from the initial baseline level. Belize had requested the revision on 1 May 2026, revising the request originally submitted in a communication dated 17 February 2026, which had been for a decrease for the years 2021 and 2022 only. In line with decision XV/19, Belize had explained that, during the data validation process, the national ozone unit had conducted a comprehensive reconciliation of historical HFC import records, which had involved cross-referencing original source documents, including commercial invoices, packing lists and import licences with internal reporting master sheets. The review had identified inconsistencies arising from the incorrect application of unit conversion factors for the baseline years. The figures had thus been revised. Belize had also explained the methodology for collecting data and verifying its accuracy, with a view to demonstrating why the requested changes should be considered correct. The party had also provided documentation substantiating its request: import licenses issued for 2020 to 2022 and commercial and pro forma invoices supporting the reported import transactions. Another representative of the Secretariat explained that the Secretariat too had conducted an internal reconciliation of the data, and it had matched the amounts provided by Belize in its revised data.

84. Several members took the floor to state that, in their view, Belize had provided the information required under decision XV/19.

85. The Committee therefore agreed:

Noting with appreciation the information submitted by Belize in support of its request to revise its existing consumption data for the baseline years 2020, 2021 and 2022 for Annex F, group I, controlled substances (hydrofluorocarbons),

Recalling decision XV/19, which set out the methodology for the submission of requests for the revision of baseline data,

Noting with appreciation the efforts made by Belize to fulfil the information requirements of decision XV/19,

To forward for consideration by the Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer the draft decision set out in section C of annex I to the present report, by which the Meeting of the Parties would approve the request by Belize for the

revision of its consumption data for hydrofluorocarbons for the baseline years 2020, 2021 and 2022 to 74,940 CO₂-equivalent tonnes, 112,035 CO₂-equivalent tonnes and 128,839 CO₂-equivalent tonnes, respectively.

Recommendation 76/11

D. Mali

86. Mali had requested the revision of its baseline data for the baseline years 2020, 2021 and 2022. The revised baseline would represent an increase of 273.5 per cent from the initial baseline level. In decision XXXVII/13, the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties had noted that Mali had reported, for 2024, annual consumption of 1,773,126 CO₂-equivalent tonnes of HFCs, which exceeded the party's maximum allowable consumption of 399,935 CO₂-equivalent tonnes of HFCs for that year. It had also noted that Mali had indicated its intent to request a revision of its HFC baseline data but that it had not, at that time, provided the information required under decision XV/19 to substantiate its request. The Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties had invited Mali to submit to the Secretariat, for consideration by the Implementation Committee at its seventy-sixth meeting, either a request to revise its HFC data for the baseline years, including the information required under decision XV/19 to substantiate the request, or a plan of action with time-specific benchmarks to ensure the party's prompt return to compliance and specific policies that it would adopt in support of its implementation efforts.

87. Mali had thus submitted its request for changes in HFC baseline data. In line with decision XV/19, the party had explained that, owing to financial constraints, data for the initial submission had been obtained without a survey. The survey had, however, been conducted subsequently, with financial support from UNEP and technical assistance from national, regional and international consultants. The survey had involved the collection of data through focal points in relevant government departments, associations of refrigeration technicians and cold-chain technicians. Review had revealed that the earlier data had not fully captured market activity because of incomplete reporting and gaps in the import licensing system, which had not been fully operational during the baseline years. Mali had informed the Secretariat that the revised figures were derived from a combined methodology consisting of field-based survey data and analytical validation by the national ozone unit and national experts. The approach included extrapolation of consumption data collected in the field to cover sectors not captured by the survey and its triangulation with information provided by importers and field agents. Another representative of the Secretariat explained that the only documentation submitted by Mali to substantiate its request was signed declarations from importers. In past cases, when parties had provided signed declarations from importers, they had usually also provided other documentation, such as invoices or survey reports.

88. One member, noted the multifaceted nature of the crises faced by Mali throughout its history, which had not allowed the Government to be present in all the regions of the country, and thus the difficulties faced by importers in submitting their data to a central national ozone unit. She proposed that the party be given extra time to produce documentation to substantiate its request. Other members expressed their support for that proposal.

89. In response to a question by a member about the kind of information that would be sufficient to substantiate the request, the representative of the Secretariat said that the party had informed the Secretariat that supporting documentation such as importer invoices and customs documentation were not available owing to the security situation prevailing in the country since 2012, which had affected record-keeping and access to commercial documentation. Decision XV/19 stated the kinds of documentation that would be deemed acceptable: copies of invoices; shipping and customs documentation; copies of survey and survey reports; and information on the country's gross domestic product, trends in consumption and production, and business activity in the HFC sector.

90. Responding to other questions by members, the representative of the Secretariat confirmed that, on 26 July 2024, Mali had reported the establishment of its HFC licensing system; and the representative of UNEP confirmed that UNEP had helped the country to develop and implement the system. Elements of the system could be improved or reinforced, however, and UNEP would assist the party in that regard. Mali actively participated in all the UNEP regional network meetings, where the topic of licensing and quota systems was a major part of the discussions. Furthermore, the UNEP Compliance Assistance Programme had been working with the party on data collection, cross-checking and verification. Mali was very responsive, but the country had internal limitations owing to the ongoing civil and political unrest.

91. The Committee therefore agreed:

Taking note of the request by Mali for the revision of its existing consumption data for the baseline years 2020, 2021 and 2022 for Annex F, group I, controlled substances (hydrofluorocarbons),

Recalling decision XV/19, which set out the methodology for the submission of requests for the revision of baseline data,

Noting with appreciation the information provided by Mali to support its request for the revision of its baseline data,

Noting, however, that the information submitted was considered by the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol to be insufficient to enable it to approve the changes requested by the party,

1. To request Mali to submit to the Secretariat, as soon as possible and preferably no later than 15 September 2026, for consideration by the Implementation Committee at its seventy-seventh meeting, the outstanding information needed to meet the requirements of decision XV/19, in order to significantly substantiate its request for the revision of its hydrofluorocarbon baseline data, such as licences, shipping or customs documentation from its trading partners, purchasing or commercial documentation, copies of surveys and survey reports, and information on the country's gross domestic product, consumption trends and business activity in the relevant sectors or equivalent documents;

2. To also request Mali, in the event that the information required to support its request for the revision of its baseline data was confidential, to provide such information to the Secretariat in accordance with paragraph 2 of decision I/11, which would ensure that the data were treated with professional secrecy and as confidential when they were reported to the Implementation Committee.

Recommendation 76/12

E. South Africa

92. The Committee agreed to defer to its seventy-seventh meeting consideration of the issue of a change in the HFC baseline data of South Africa following a request by South Africa in that regard.

VIII. Establishment of licensing systems under Article 4B, paragraph 2 *bis*, of the Montreal Protocol (decision XXXVII/10)

93. The representative of the Secretariat provided information on the status of the establishment of licensing systems for HFCs as at 18 July 2026. Of the 173 parties to the Montreal Protocol that had ratified the Kigali Amendment, 167 had notified the Secretariat of the establishment and operation of their licensing systems, consisting of 43 parties not operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 (non-Article 5 parties) and 124 Article 5 parties. Another two parties that had not ratified the Kigali Amendment had also reported on the establishment of their licensing systems.

94. Of the six parties that had ratified the Kigali Amendment but not yet reported on the establishment of their licensing systems, three, namely the Central African Republic, Djibouti and San Marino, had exceeded the reporting deadline, and three others, namely Azerbaijan, Haiti and Pakistan, were still within the deadline. Djibouti and San Marino had already been mentioned in recommendation 75/17, which had led to decision XXXVII/10 of the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties.

A. Djibouti

95. On 31 March 2026, Djibouti had reported to the Secretariat that, in November 2025, after internal validation, a draft decree on the establishment of its licensing system had been submitted by the Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development to the Prime Minister. The next steps would be its presentation to the Interministerial Commission and then to the Council of Ministers and finally its adoption by the President. Providing an update on 17 July 2026, the party had explained that the process had been delayed owing to the temporary suspension of the Interministerial Commission during the presidential campaign and the formation of a new Government, which had happened in May 2026. The new Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development had resubmitted the draft decree to the Prime Minister in June 2026, and the Interministerial Commission was expected to resume its meetings around the end of September 2026. The draft decree would then be presented for consideration.

96. One member, noting that, given the Interministerial Commission would meet only in September, said that it was necessary to choose a deadline for reporting that would enable Djibouti to comply. Another member supported her proposal.

97. The recommendation of the Committee, which includes a subparagraph relating to Djibouti, is set out section C below.

B. San Marino

98. In recommendation 75/17, San Marino had been invited to send a representative to attend the current meeting unless it reported prior to the meeting on the establishment and operation of its licensing system. No communication had been received from the party regarding either the establishment and operation of their licensing system or sending a representative to attend the meeting. The deadline for San Marino to report on the establishment and operation of a licensing system had been 18 July 2021.

99. Responding to questions from members, the representative of the Secretariat clarified that the Secretariat had sent to San Marino a notification regarding the adoption of decision XXXVII/10 by the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties. The notification had been followed by a reminder, sent on 9 March 2026, but no reply to either communication had been received. He was not sure of the date of the last contact with San Marino, but the Secretariat did know that the person who received the notifications was the person who reported data each year. The email address to which the Secretariat had sent the notifications was therefore active. He also said that the Implementation Committee could invite a party to send a representative to one of its meetings, but it could not oblige the party to do so.

100. Given the absence of communication with the country, several members proposed that the wording related to San Marino in the recommendation be consistent with the wording used in the recommendation on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under agenda item 5, on follow-up on previous decisions of the parties and recommendations of the Implementation Committee on issues related to non-compliance. In response to a question by a member, the representative of the Secretariat said that it was his understanding that the Committee had never before requested a party to intercede or to mediate on its behalf.

101. The recommendation of the Committee, which includes subparagraphs relating to San Marino, is set out section C below.

C. Recommendation

102. The Committee agreed:

(a) To take note with appreciation of the report on the status of licensing systems for hydrofluorocarbons under Article 4B, paragraph 2 *bis*, of the Montreal Protocol;

(b) To note with appreciation that, as at 18 July 2026, 167 parties to the Montreal Protocol that had ratified the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol had reported on the establishment and operation of such licensing systems, as required under Article 4B, paragraph 3, of the Protocol, and that another two parties that had not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment had reported the establishment of such licensing systems;

(c) To urge the Central African Republic, Djibouti and San Marino to provide information to the Secretariat on the establishment and operation of their licensing systems, as a matter of urgency and no later than 15 October 2026;

(d) To urge San Marino, a party that had not reported on the establishment and operation of its licensing system for hydrofluorocarbons since 18 July 2021, despite repeated communications from the Secretariat, to send a representative to the seventy-seventh meeting of the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol unless the party reported, prior to that meeting, on the establishment and operation of its licensing system pursuant to Article 4B, paragraph 2 *bis*, of the Montreal Protocol;

(e) To strongly urge San Marino to establish a reliable, functional and stable channel of communication with the Secretariat and to report to the Secretariat on the establishment and operation of its licensing system pursuant to Article 4B, paragraph 2 *bis*, of the Protocol;

(f) To request the Secretariat, if no sufficient reply were received within 60 days of the adoption of the present recommendation or if such an appropriate channel of communication were not established, to explore under the guidance of the President of the Implementation Committee, other

possible ways of communication, including through the assistance of a third party in establishing such a channel of communication with San Marino;

(g) To continue reviewing periodically the status of the establishment of such licensing systems by all parties to the Montreal Protocol that had ratified the Kigali Amendment and to consider any appropriate recommendations to the parties, in accordance with Article 4B, paragraph 4, of the Protocol.

Recommendation 76/13

IX. Other matters

103. No other matters were raised.

X. Adoption of the recommendations and the report of the meeting

104. The Committee approved the recommendations set out in the present report and agreed to entrust the finalization and approval of the meeting report to its President, working in consultation with the Secretariat.

XI. Closure of the meeting

105. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the President declared the meeting closed at 1.20 p.m. on Sunday, 19 July 2026.

Annex I

Draft decisions forwarded by the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol at its seventy-sixth meeting for consideration by the Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol

A. Draft decision XXXVIII/[--]: Non-compliance with the Montreal Protocol by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

The Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties,

Noting that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines acceded to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, to the London Amendment and to the Copenhagen Amendment on 2 December 1996, to the Montreal Amendment and to the Beijing Amendment on 11 May 2009 and ratified the Kigali Amendment on 7 November 2022, and is classified as a party operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 of the Protocol,

Noting also that the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol has approved \$2,124,493 from the Multilateral Fund in accordance with Article 10 of the Protocol to enable Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to achieve compliance with the Protocol,

Noting further that the annual consumption of 45,975 CO₂-equivalent tonnes of the controlled substances in Annex F (hydrofluorocarbons) in 2024 by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines exceeds the party's maximum allowable consumption of 25,280 CO₂-equivalent tonnes for controlled substances for that year and that the party was therefore in non-compliance with consumption control measures under the Protocol for hydrofluorocarbons,

Noting with appreciation that the annual consumption of 17,599 CO₂-equivalent tonnes of the controlled substances in Annex F (hydrofluorocarbons) in 2025 by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is below the party's maximum allowable consumption of 25,280 CO₂-equivalent tonnes for controlled substances for that year,

Decides:

1. To note with appreciation the submission by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines of an explanation for its non-compliance and a plan of action to ensure its return to compliance with the Protocol's hydrofluorocarbon consumption control measures in 2027;
2. To note that under that plan of action, without prejudice to the operation of the financial mechanism of the Protocol, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines specifically commits to the following:
 - (a) Reducing its consumption of hydrofluorocarbons from 45,975 CO₂-equivalent tonnes in 2024 to no greater than the following levels:
 - (i) 36,002 CO₂-equivalent tonnes in 2026;
 - (ii) Levels allowed under the Montreal Protocol in 2027 and subsequent years;
 - (b) Adopting the following policies in support of its implementation efforts:
 - (i) Enact revised regulations to strengthen and sustain the monitoring and enforcement of the licensing and quota systems by 2027;
 - (ii) Introduce mandatory training and certification programmes on the safe use and handling of alternative technologies through the implementation of stage I of its Kigali implementation plan for new technicians and existing technicians who wish to advance to tier II and tier III under the certification structure established under the revised regulations;
 - (iii) Implement a ban on high-global warming potential hydrofluorocarbon-based equipment or establish a policy for the gradual reduction of imports of such equipment during the implementation of stage I of its Kigali implementation plan;

- (iv) Conduct a comprehensive market needs assessment to inform the national strategy for transitioning to sustainable alternatives within stage I of its Kigali implementation plan;
- (v) Carry out stakeholder awareness campaigns to promote demand-side pressure on importers and retailers to offer low-global warming potential, energy-efficient options through support of stage I of its Kigali implementation plan.

3. To urge Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to work with relevant implementing agencies to implement its plan of action to return to compliance;

4. To closely monitor the progress of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines with regard to the implementation of its plan of action and the phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons. To the extent that the party is working towards and meeting specific Protocol control measures, it should continue to be treated in the same manner as a party in good standing. In that regard, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines should continue to receive international assistance to enable it to meet those commitments in accordance with item A of the indicative list of measures that may be taken by the Meeting of the Parties in respect of non-compliance;

5. To caution Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, in accordance with item B of the indicative list of measures that may be taken by the Meeting of the Parties in respect of non-compliance, that, in the event that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines fails to return to compliance, the parties will consider measures consistent with item C of the indicative list of measures. Those measures may include the possibility of actions available under Article 4, such as ensuring that the supply of hydrofluorocarbons that are the subject of non-compliance is ceased so that exporting parties do not contribute to a continuing situation of non-compliance.

B. Draft decision XXXVIII/[--]: Non-compliance with the Montreal Protocol by Israel

The Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties,

Noting that Israel acceded to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer on 30 June 1992 and ratified the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer on the same date,

Noting also that Israel has ratified the London, Copenhagen, Montreal and Beijing amendments to the Montreal Protocol, and is classified as a party not operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 of the Protocol,

Noting further that the annual consumption of 4.33 ozone-depleting potential tonnes of the controlled substances in Annex CI (hydrochlorofluorocarbons) in 2024 by Israel exceeds the party's maximum allowable consumption of 1.6 ozone-depleting potential tonnes for controlled substances for that year and that the party was therefore in non-compliance with consumption control measures under the Protocol for hydrochlorofluorocarbons,

Decides:

1. To note with appreciation the submission by Israel of an explanation for its non-compliance and a plan of action to ensure its return to compliance with the Protocol's hydrochlorofluorocarbon consumption control measures in 2025;
2. To note that under that plan of action, Israel specifically commits to the following:
 - (a) Reducing its consumption of hydrochlorofluorocarbons from 4.33 ozone-depleting potential tonnes in 2024 to no greater than the following levels:
 - (i) 1.645 ozone-depleting potential tonnes in 2025;
 - (ii) Levels allowed under the Montreal Protocol in 2026 and subsequent years.
 - (b) Adopting the following policies in support of its implementation efforts:
 - (i) Strict import quota enforcement: expiration of the temporary emergency order that permitted imports above the national quota;
 - (ii) Defence sector procurement reform: implementation of updated acquisition procedures for the defence sector, mandating that new equipment utilize non-controlled refrigerants only, where feasible;

- (iii) Infrastructure modernization programme: execution of a comprehensive initiative to proactively replace existing hydrochlorofluorocarbon-dependent infrastructure in the defence sector with new, modern technologies;
 - (iv) Transition to recycled refrigerants: Shifting all remaining hydrochlorofluorocarbon-based technologies in the defence sector to operate exclusively on recovered or recycled gases, thereby eliminating the demand for virgin hydrochlorofluorocarbons for maintenance;
 - (v) Ongoing comprehensive healthcare asset mapping;
 - (vi) Multi-year infrastructure replacement framework (“Blue Skies” tender): Ensuring the systematic decommissioning of hydrochlorofluorocarbon-based equipment and its replacement with modern, energy-efficient and compliant alternatives;
 - (vii) Update of mandatory healthcare engineering standards (AC-01);
3. To urge Israel to implement its plan of action to return to compliance;
4. To closely monitor the progress of Israel with regard to the implementation of its plan of action and the phase-out of hydrochlorofluorocarbons. To the extent that the party is working towards and meeting specific Protocol control measures, it should continue to be treated in the same manner as a party in good standing. In that regard, Israel should continue to receive international assistance to enable it to meet those commitments in accordance with item A of the indicative list of measures that may be taken by the Meeting of the Parties in respect of non-compliance;
5. To caution Israel, in accordance with item B of the indicative list of measures that may be taken by the Meeting of the Parties in respect of non-compliance, that, in the event that Israel fails to return to compliance, the parties will consider measures consistent with item C of the indicative list of measures. Those measures may include the possibility of actions available under Article 4, such as ensuring that the supply of hydrochlorofluorocarbons that are the subject of non-compliance is ceased so that exporting parties do not contribute to a continuing situation of non-compliance.

C. Draft decision XXXVIII/[--]: Request for the revision of baseline data by Belize

The Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties,

Noting that, in decision XIII/15, the Thirteenth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer decided to advise parties that request changes in reported baseline data for base years to present their requests before the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol, which in turn would work with the Secretariat of the Montreal Protocol and the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol to confirm the justification for the changes and present them to the Meeting of the Parties for approval,

Noting also that decision XV/19 sets out the methodology for the submission of such requests,

Decides:

1. That Belize has presented sufficient information, in accordance with decision XV/19, to justify its request for the revision of its consumption data for hydrofluorocarbons for 2020, 2021 and 2022, which are part of the baseline for Article 5, group 1, parties under the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol;
2. To approve the request by Belize and to revise its consumption data for hydrofluorocarbons for the baseline years 2020, 2021 and 2022 as indicated in the following table:

Party/year	Previous HFC data (CO ₂ -eq tonnes)			New HFC data (CO ₂ -eq tonnes)		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
Belize	73 601	1 137 903	121 648	74 940	112 035	128 839

Abbreviations: CO₂-eq – CO₂-equivalent; HFC – hydrofluorocarbon.

Annex II*

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* The annex is presented without formal editing.

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ADVANCE