Draft decisions for consideration by the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The purpose of the present note is to assist parties in the discussion of items on the agenda for the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer by presenting, in a single document, draft decisions on certain issues that are expected to be considered at the meeting. The presentation of the draft decisions, which are set out in sections II and III below, does not preclude parties from proposing amendments to the draft decisions or proposing new draft decisions on any item on the agenda to be considered by the parties.

2. Section II sets out a draft decision that was considered by the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol at its forty-fourth meeting and forwarded by the Working Group for consideration by the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties. It should be noted that a number of other draft decisions which were not conclusively discussed were also forwarded by the Open-ended Working Group for consideration by the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties and are included in the note by the Secretariat (UNEP/OzL.Pro.34/2) pertaining to the relevant agenda items.

3. Section III sets out placeholder draft decisions prepared by the Secretariat pertaining to matters related to the Montreal Protocol on which parties have historically adopted decisions at their annual meetings.

4. The draft decision forwarded by the Open-ended Working Group and the full set of placeholder draft decisions are enclosed in square brackets to indicate that they are expected to be considered, amended and adopted as deemed appropriate by the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties.
II. Draft decision forwarded by the Open-ended Working Group at its forty-fourth meeting for consideration by the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties

[A. Draft decision XXXIV/[A]: Recognition of the achievements of Paul Jozef Crutzen, Mario José Molina and Frank Sherwood Rowland, winners of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1995

Submission by Mexico, the United States of America and the European Union

The Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties decides:

Deeply grateful for the pioneering contributions and the extraordinary, visionary and courageous scientific work of scientists Paul Jozef Crutzen (Netherlands), Mario José Molina (Mexico) and Frank Sherwood Rowland (United States of America) throughout their careers in atmospheric chemistry, and particularly for their work concerning the formation and decomposition of ozone, which led to their being awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1995,

Aware that their scientific work paved the way for global action to protect the ozone layer and led to the adoption of the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and that, furthermore, their work spurred related action by every United Nations Member State as a party to those global environmental treaties,

Acknowledging the importance of continuing work to restore the ozone layer and the many associated benefits of such work to the planet and therefore to humanity,

1. To express recognition of and gratitude for the invaluable scientific contributions of Paul Jozef Crutzen, Mario José Molina and Frank Sherwood Rowland, which inspired countries around the world to join in solidarity and cooperation to protect the ozone layer from depletion, thus making the planet safer for present and future generations;
2. To uphold their legacy by maintaining mutual trust in and commitment to the work of the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol;
3. To strive to continue to strengthen the institutions that their achievements helped to establish in order to achieve the aims of those institutions and protect the atmosphere for the benefit of all.]

III. Draft decisions prepared by the Secretariat for consideration by the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol

Placeholder draft decisions

[A. Draft decision XXXIV/[AA]: Financial reports and budgets for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer

The Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties decides:

Recalling decision XXXIII/14 on financial reports and budgets for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer,

Taking note of the financial report for the Trust Fund for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer for the fiscal year 2021,*

Recognizing the voluntary contributions of parties as an essential complement for the effective implementation of the Montreal Protocol,

Welcoming the continued efficient management by the Secretariat of the finances of the Trust Fund for the Montreal Protocol,

Recognizing that the exceptional circumstances arising from the coronavirus disease pandemic have resulted in a lower utilization of the budget in 2020 and 2021 and taking this into account with respect to the level of contributions for 2023,

* UNEP/OzL.Pro.34/5.
1. To approve the budget of $[--] for 2023 and to take note of the indicative budget for 2024, as set out in table A of the annex to the present decision, to be considered further by the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties,

2. To authorize the Executive Secretary, on an exceptional basis, to draw upon the available cash balance for 2022 in an amount of up to $[--] for specific activities listed in table A of the annex to the present decision, provided that the cash balance is not reduced below the working capital reserve;

3. To approve the contributions to be paid by the parties in the amount of $[--] for 2023 and to take note of the contributions for 2024 as set out in table B of the annex to the present decision;

4. To authorize the Secretariat to draw down from the cash balance the funds required to cover the shortfall between the level of contributions agreed upon in paragraph 3 of the present decision and the approved budget for 2023 as set out in paragraph 1 of the present decision;

5. To reaffirm that a working capital reserve shall be maintained at a level of 15 per cent of the annual budget, to be used to meet the final expenditures under the Trust Fund, noting that the working capital reserve shall be set aside from the existing cash balance;

6. To encourage parties and other stakeholders to contribute financially and by other means to assist the members of the three assessment panels and their subsidiary bodies with a view to ensuring their continued participation in assessment activities under the Montreal Protocol;

7. To express its appreciation regarding the fact that a number of parties have paid their contributions for 2022 and prior years, and to urge those parties that have not done so to pay their outstanding contributions promptly and in full and all parties to pay their future contributions promptly and in full;

8. To request the Executive Secretary to enter into discussions with any party whose contributions have been outstanding for two or more years with a view to finding a way forward, and to report to the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties on the outcome of those discussions to enable further consideration by the parties of how to address the matter;

9. To request the Executive Secretary to continue to provide regular information on earmarked contributions and to include that information, where relevant, in the budget proposals of the Trust Fund to enhance transparency with regard to the actual income and expenses of the Trust Fund;

10. To request the Executive Secretary to continue to prepare fact sheets for the presentation of future budgets;

11. To request the Secretariat to ensure the full utilization of the programme support resources available to it in 2023 and in later years and, where possible, to offset programme support resources against the administrative components of the approved budget;

12. To request the Secretariat to indicate in future financial reports of the Trust Fund the amounts of cash on hand and the status of contributions to the Trust Fund;

13. To request the Executive Secretary to prepare budgets and work programmes for the years 2024 and 2025, based on the projected needs, for two budget scenarios:
   (a) A zero-nominal-growth scenario;
   (b) A scenario based on recommended adjustments to the zero-nominal-growth scenario, indicating the added costs or savings related thereto;

14. To stress the need to continue to ensure that the budget proposals are realistic and represent the agreed priorities of all parties to help to ensure a sustainable and stable fund and cash balance, including contributions.

Annex to draft decision XXXIV/[AA]

Table A
Approved 2023 and noted 2024 budgets
(United States dollars)
[--]
Appendix to table A

Explanatory notes for the 2023 budget of the Trust Fund for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer

[--]

Table B

Parties’ contributions to the Trust Fund for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer

(United States dollars)

(Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 76/238 of 24 December 2021, with a maximum assessment rate of 22 per cent)

[--]

B. Draft decision XXXIV/[BB]: Membership of the Implementation Committee

The Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties decides:

1. To note with appreciation the work carried out by the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol in 2022;
2. To confirm the positions of China, Costa Rica, Egypt, Poland and the United States of America as members of the Committee for one further year and to select -------, -------, -------, ------- and ------- as members of the Committee for a two-year period beginning on 1 January 2023;
3. To note the selection of ------- (-------) to serve as President and ------- (-------) to serve as Vice-President and Rapporteur of the Committee for one year beginning on 1 January 2023.

C. Draft decision XXXIV/[CC]: Membership of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund

The Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties decides:

1. To note with appreciation the work carried out by the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol with the assistance of the Fund secretariat in 2022;
2. To endorse the selection of -------, -------, -------, -------, -------, ------- and ------- as members of the Executive Committee representing parties operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 of the Protocol and the selection of -------, -------, -------, -------, -------, ------- and ------- as members representing parties not so operating, for one year beginning 1 January 2023;
3. To note the selection of ------- (-------) to serve as Chair and ------- (-------) to serve as Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee for one year beginning 1 January 2023.

D. Draft decision XXXIV/[DD]: Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol

The Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties decides:

To endorse the selection of ------- (-------) and ------- (-------) as Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in 2023.

E. Draft decision XXXIV/[EE]: Status of ratification of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol

The Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties decides:

1. To note that, as at 4 November 2022, [--] parties had ratified, approved or accepted the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol;
2. To urge all parties that have not yet done so to consider ratifying, approving or accepting the Kigali Amendment in order to ensure broad participation and achieve the goals of the Amendment;
F. Draft decision XXXIV/[FF]: Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol

*The Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties decides:*

To convene the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in [---] in November 2023.]