

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

Distr.: General
23 October 2023
Original: English

**Bureau of the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties
to the Montreal Protocol on Substances
that Deplete the Ozone Layer
First meeting
Nairobi, 21 October 2023**

**Report of the meeting of the Bureau of the Thirty-Fourth
Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances
that Deplete the Ozone Layer**

I. Opening of the meeting

1. The first meeting of the Bureau of the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was held at the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme, in Nairobi, on 21 October 2023.
2. The meeting was opened at 4.05 p.m. by the President of the Bureau, Hasan Ali Mubarak (Bahrain).
3. The meeting was attended by the following Bureau members:

President:	Hasan Ali Mubarak (Bahrain) (Asia-Pacific States)
Vice-Presidents:	Jana Mašíčková (Czechia) (Eastern European States)
	Adrian Forde (Barbados) (Latin American and Caribbean States)
	Alain Wilmart (Belgium) (Western European and other States)
Rapporteur:	Marindani Kirui on behalf of Cyrus Mageria (Kenya) (African States)
4. The full list of participants is set out in the annex to the present report.
5. Megumi Seki, Executive Secretary of the Ozone Secretariat, welcomed participants to the meeting.

II. Adoption of the agenda

6. The provisional agenda for the meeting, set out in document UNEP/OzL.Pro.34/Bur.1/1, was adopted as follows:
 1. Opening of the meeting.
 2. Adoption of the agenda.
 3. Work to date on the implementation of the decisions of the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.
 4. Review of the agenda of the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, presentation of a road map for the conduct of the meeting, and overview of the working documents prepared for the meeting.
 5. Other matters.

6. Adoption of the report of the meeting.
7. Closure of the meeting.

III. Work to date on the implementation of the decisions of the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer

7. Introducing the item, the representative of the Ozone Secretariat drew attention to the note by the Secretariat on issues for discussion by and information for the attention of the Bureau of the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (UNEP/OzL.Pro.34/Bur.1/2). Noting that the actions taken in response to the 24 decisions adopted by the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties were presented in the annex to the note, she provided further updates on a number of those decisions. The decisions had been adopted on the following issues: recognition of the achievements of Paul Jozef Crutzen, Mario José Molina and Frank Sherwood Rowland, winners of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1995; terms of reference for the study on the 2024–2026 replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol; enabling enhanced access and facilitating the transition to energy-efficient and low- or zero-global-warming-potential technologies; illegal import of certain refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat pump products and equipment; identification of gaps in the global coverage of atmospheric monitoring of controlled substances and options for enhancing such monitoring; ongoing emissions of carbon tetrachloride; strengthening institutional processes with respect to information on HFC-23 by-product emissions; strengthening Montreal Protocol institutions, including for combating illegal trade; critical-use exemptions for methyl bromide for 2023; stocks and quarantine and pre-shipment uses of methyl bromide; the composition, balance and workload of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel and its technical options committees; updating the information on relevant safety standards; collecting data to understand potential impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on hydrofluorocarbon consumption for Group 1 parties operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 of the Protocol; data and information provided by the parties in accordance with Article 7 of the Protocol; the status of the establishment of licensing systems under Article 4B, paragraph 2 bis, of the Protocol; revision of the baseline data for Madagascar; enhancing participation in the work of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol through co-option; changes in the membership of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel; the membership of the Implementation Committee; the membership of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund; the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol; and the status of ratification of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol. Other decisions adopted by the parties addressed issues related to the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties and the financial reports and budgets for the Montreal Protocol.

8. The Bureau took note of the information provided.

IV. Review of the agenda of the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, presentation of a road map for the conduct of the meeting, and overview of the working documents prepared for the meeting

9. The Executive Secretary drew attention to the list of documents prepared for the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties (UNEP/OzL.Pro.35/INF/8) and to the agenda of that meeting (UNEP/OzL.Pro.35/1). The agenda of the preparatory segment, to be held from Monday, 23 October to Wednesday, 25 October 2023, included important and sensitive issues, such as the replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the period 2024–2026 and a proposal on reclassification of developing countries. The sensitive nature of some topics meant that the preparatory segment would not be live streamed, and she expressed the hope that political statements would be limited to the high-level segment, to be held on Thursday and Friday, 26 and 27 October 2023. Parties might wish to discuss some matters further in contact groups or informal groups. The intention was to present all the agenda items on Monday and Tuesday, leaving time for the various contact or informal groups to conclude their deliberations during the remainder of the week. A note by the Secretariat (UNEP/OzL.Pro.35/2) and its addendum (UNEP/OzL.Pro.35/2/Add.1) presented issues for discussion by and information for the attention of the parties. On Friday afternoon, the parties would consider for adoption the draft decisions and the report of the meeting, which would be followed by the closure of the meeting.

10. The Bureau took note of the information provided.

V. Other matters

11. In response to a query about the failure of a region to reach consensus on a candidate for the Implementation Committee, the representative of the Secretariat said that the Secretariat could provide support for the conduct of an informal and unofficial poll within the region to agree on a consensus candidate. If that approach did not lead to agreement within the region, then either several members of the regional group acting together or individual members of the group could submit nominations, including – in the case of individual members – self-nominations. If there was more than one candidate for a position, the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties could conduct an election by secret ballot to fill the position.

12. The President of the Bureau said that it would be preferable to reach a decision by consensus rather than embark on the use of processes unfamiliar to the Montreal Protocol.

13. No other matters were discussed.

VI. Adoption of the report of the meeting

14. The Bureau agreed to entrust the Secretariat with the preparation of a draft report for circulation to the Bureau members for their comments. The report would then be finalized and presented to the Bureau members for their approval.

VII. Closure of the meeting

15. The President declared the meeting closed at 4.40 p.m. on Saturday, 21 October 2023.

Annex

List of participants*

Members of the Bureau of the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Parties

President

Mr. Hasan Ali Mubarak
 Head, Hazardous Chemicals
 Management Unit & National Ozone
 Officer
 Environmental Monitoring &
 Protection Directorate
 Supreme Council for Environment
 P.O. Box 18233
 Manama
 Bahrain
 Email: hmubarak@sce.gov.bh

Vice-Presidents

Ms. Jana Mašíčková
 National Focal Point
 Department of Air Protection
 Ministry of the Environment
 Vršovická 65
 Prague 10-100 10
 Czechia
 Email: jana.masickova@mzp.cz

Hon. Adrian Forde, M.P.
 Minister
 Ministry of Environment and National
 Beautification, Green and Blue
 Economy
 10th Floor, Warrens Tower
 Warrens, St. Michael
 Barbados
 Email:
minister.environment@barbados.gov.bb;
adrian.forde@barbados.gov.bb

Mr. Alain Wilmart
 Ozone Layer - F Gas Senior Expert
 DG Environment (DGEM) - Climate
 Change Service
 FPS Public Health, Food Chain
 Security and Environment
 Avenue Galilée, 5/2
 Brussel B-1210
 Belgium
 Email: alain.wilmart@health.fgov.be

Rapporteur

Mr. Marindany Kirui
 Coordinator
 National Ozone Unit (NOU)
 State Department of Climate Change
 and Environment
 Ministry of Environment, Climate
 Change and Forestry
 P.O. Box 30126 - 00100
 Nairobi
 Kenya
 Email: marindanykirui@yahoo.com;
mkirui@environment.go.ke

Multilateral Fund Secretariat

Ms. Tina Birmpili
 Chief Officer
 Multilateral Fund for the
 Implementation of the Montreal
 Protocol
 1000 De La Gauchetière Street West
 Suite 4100, Montreal, Quebec H3B
 4W5
 Canada
 Email: tina.birmpili@un.org

Ozone Secretariat

Ms. Megumi Seki Nakamura
 Executive Secretary
 Ozone Secretariat
 UNEP
 P.O. Box 30552-00100
 Nairobi, Kenya
 Email : meg.seki@un.org

Ms. Maria Socorro Manguiat
 Deputy Executive Secretary
 Ozone Secretariat
 UNEP
 P.O. Box 30552-00100
 Nairobi, Kenya
 Email: maria.manguiat@un.org

* The annex is presented without formal editing.