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

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**Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties to
the Montreal Protocol on Substances
that Deplete the Ozone Layer**
Nairobi, 3–7 November 2025

**Issues for discussion by and information for the attention of the
Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol**

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The present note sets out an overview of the issues on the provisional agenda for the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.¹ Section II provides an overview of items on the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment and section III an overview of items on the provisional agenda for the high-level segment. For most items, a brief summary of the background is given, in particular the relevant discussion that took place during the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, held in Bangkok from 7 to 11 July 2025.

2. Further information on certain items on the provisional agenda will be provided in an addendum to the present note when relevant additional information becomes available, namely:

(a) In response to decision XXXVI/1, paragraph 1, a report of the Secretariat on progress and any outcomes of activities conducted for the purpose of evaluating the suitability of potential sites for monitoring regional emissions of controlled substances, and in response to paragraph 5 of the same decision, updates with regard to cost estimates and options for long-term financing associated with enhancing atmospheric monitoring, as provided for under decision XXXV/14;

(b) In response to decision XXXVI/3, updates by the Scientific Assessment Panel and the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel to their reports on hydrofluorocarbon-23 (HFC-23) under decision XXXV/7, reflecting any additional or new information that has become available; as well as information on and a comparison of best practices and guidelines relating to measuring, estimating, reporting and verifying HFC-23 by-product emissions and their destruction, to be provided by the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel.

3. The addendum will provide summaries of those reports and any other relevant information.

4. Issues not on the provisional agenda or not directly related to the implementation of decisions and related follow-up but still of possible interest to the parties are addressed in an information note on issues that the Secretariat would like to bring to the attention of the parties (UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/INF/3).

¹ UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/1.

II. Overview of items on the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment (3–5 November 2025)

A. Opening of the preparatory segment (item 1 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

5. The preparatory segment of the meeting will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 3 November 2025 at the United Nations Office in Nairobi.
6. The preparatory segment will be chaired jointly by Annie Gabriel (Australia) and Shontelle Wellington (Barbados), the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group.
7. As the meeting will be almost completely paperless, participants are urged to bring their own laptops and handheld devices for accessing meeting documents and information.
8. A statement will be made by the Executive Secretary of the Ozone Secretariat, also representing the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

B. Organizational matters (item 2 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

1. Adoption of the agenda of the preparatory segment (item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

9. The provisional agenda for the preparatory segment is set out in section I of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/1 and will be before the parties for adoption. The parties may wish to adopt the agenda, including any matters that they may wish to raise under item 17, “Other matters”.

2. Organization of work (item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

10. Under item 2 (b), the Co-Chairs are expected to present a proposal to the parties on how they intend to proceed with the work on the items on the agenda.

C. Administrative matters (item 3 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

1. Budget of the Trust Fund for the Montreal Protocol and financial reports (item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

11. In accordance with decision XXXVI/22, on financial reports and budgets for the Montreal Protocol, proposed budgets for 2026 and 2027 of the Trust Fund for the Montreal Protocol are presented in document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/4. In accordance with paragraph 10 of that decision, two budget scenarios for 2026 and 2027 have been presented, with the zero-nominal-growth budgets pegged to the approved budget for 2025.
12. The recommended budgets for 2026 and 2027 are higher than the corresponding zero-nominal-growth scenarios by 2.71 per cent and 5.24 per cent, respectively. However, given the steady reduction in the cash balance over the past years and uncertainties in the financial situation, the Secretariat is reviewing the budgets presented for those years.
13. In accordance with paragraph 9 (b) of decision XXXVI/22, the Secretariat has produced activity fact sheets on its areas of work for 2026 and related activities, using the format applied since 2019. The fact sheets are presented in document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/INF/1.
14. The budget performance report for 2025 as at 30 September 2025 will be provided as an information document (UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/INF/2) no later than two weeks before the start of the meeting. The document will address the Secretariat’s efforts at prudent budget management.
15. The financial reports for the trust funds for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol are considered by the parties annually. The certified financial statements and an overview of the budget performance report for 2024 for the two trust funds are set out in document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/5. The document also includes the certified financial statement for 2024 for earmarked contributions that support the work of the Ozone Secretariat.

The main information on the Vienna Convention and Montreal Protocol trust funds includes the following:

- (a) The budget utilization rates were 95 per cent and 88 per cent, respectively, in 2024;
- (b) Together, the reserves and fund balance at the end of 2024 totalled \$2,201,015 for the Vienna Convention trust fund and \$5,919,551 for the Montreal Protocol trust fund, and the cash balances for the funds were \$2,189,040 and \$6,253,945, respectively;
- (c) The cash balance for the Montreal Protocol trust fund is projected to be \$4,826,073 at the end of 2025.

16. Under item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment, the parties are expected to establish a budget committee to deliberate on and recommend a draft decision on the budget for adoption, as appropriate, during the high-level segment. A placeholder draft decision on the matter is set out in section III of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/3 as draft decision XXXVII/[AA].

2. Consideration of the membership of Montreal Protocol bodies for 2026 (item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

(a) Members of the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure for the Montreal Protocol (item 3 (b) (i) of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

17. Each year, the Meeting of the Parties considers the membership of the Implementation Committee. In accordance with the non-compliance procedure adopted by the Fourth Meeting of the Parties and amended by the Tenth Meeting of the Parties, the Committee consists of 10 parties, each of which selects an individual to represent it. Those parties are elected for two years on the basis of equitable geographical distribution – that is, two are elected to represent each of the regional groupings of African States, Asia-Pacific States, Eastern European States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States. Committee members may serve two consecutive two-year terms. A party that has completed a second consecutive two-year term as a Committee member is eligible for election again only after an absence of one year from the Committee.

18. From the current members of the Committee, Benin, the Dominican Republic, Montenegro, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Saudi Arabia will complete the first year of their two-year terms in 2025; they will therefore continue as members for 2026. Czechia, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Kenya will conclude the second year of their first two-year terms in 2025 and will therefore have to be replaced or re-elected. Chile and the United States of America will conclude the second year of their second two-year terms in 2025 and will therefore have to be replaced.

19. In accordance with decision XII/13, the Committee selects its president and vice-president from among its members, through consultations among the Committee members during a Meeting of the Parties to ensure the continuity of the two offices.

20. During the preparatory segment, the parties may wish to consult among themselves with the aim of nominating new Committee members. A placeholder draft decision on the matter is set out in section III of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/3 as draft decision XXXVII/[BB]. The Secretariat will include the names of nominated parties in the draft decision for consideration and possible adoption, with any amendments that the parties may deem appropriate, during the high-level segment.

(b) Members of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol (item 3 (b) (ii) of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

21. The Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties will consider the membership of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol. In accordance with its terms of reference, the Executive Committee consists of seven members from parties operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol (Article 5 parties) and seven members from parties not so operating (non-Article 5 parties). For 2026, the seven members from Article 5 parties are expected to be selected from the regional groups as follows: two members from African States, two members from Asia-Pacific States, two members from Latin American and Caribbean States and one member to fill the seat that rotates among the regions, including the region of Eastern Europe and Central Asia (decision XVI/38). For 2026, the member to fill the seat that rotates among the regions will be from the Latin American and Caribbean States.

22. Each of the two groups of parties elects its Executive Committee members and reports their names to the Secretariat for endorsement by the Meeting of the Parties. In addition, the terms of reference of the Executive Committee call for the election, from among the members of the

Committee, of a Chair and a Vice-Chair, who alternate each year between Article 5 parties and non-Article 5 parties. As representatives of Italy and Lesotho have served as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, during 2025, the Article 5 parties will be expected to nominate the Chair for 2026 and the non-Article 5 parties will be expected to nominate the Vice-Chair.

23. The Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties is expected to adopt a decision endorsing the selection of the new Committee members and noting the selection of the Committee's Chair and Vice-Chair for 2026. A placeholder draft decision on the matter is set out in section III of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/3 as draft decision XXXVII/[CC].

24. During the preparatory segment, the parties may wish to consult among themselves and consider the new composition of the Committee. The Secretariat will include the names of nominated parties in the draft decision for consideration and possible adoption, with any amendments that the parties may deem appropriate, during the high-level segment.

(c) Co-chairs of the Open-ended Working Group (item 3 (b) (iii) of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

25. Each year, the Meeting of the Parties selects one representative from among Article 5 parties and one representative from among non-Article 5 parties to serve as co-chairs of the Open-ended Working Group in the subsequent year. In accordance with decision XXXVI/20, Annie Gabriel (Australia) and Shontelle Wellington (Barbados) have served as the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group in 2025. The Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties is expected to adopt a decision endorsing the selection of the co-chairs of the Open-ended Working Group for 2026. A placeholder draft decision on the matter is set out in section III of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/3 as draft decision XXXVII/[DD].

26. The parties may wish to consult as necessary during the preparatory segment and nominate two individuals to serve as co-chairs of the Open-ended Working Group in 2026. The Secretariat will include the names of the nominated individuals in the draft decision for consideration and possible adoption during the high-level segment.

D. Terms of reference for the study on the 2027–2029 replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol (item 4 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

27. At the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, the parties began to discuss the terms of reference for a study to estimate the funds that would be required to enable Article 5 parties to achieve compliance with their obligations under the Montreal Protocol during the replenishment period 2027–2029. The terms of reference of the previous study are set out in decision XXXIV/2.

28. During the discussion, reflected in the report of the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group (UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/47/6, paras. 28–34), many representatives stressed the fundamental importance of the Multilateral Fund in helping Article 5 parties to achieve their compliance targets. Several pointed out that the triennium 2027–2029 was a critical time for Article 5 parties, and the replenishment needed to enable them to fulfil their upcoming obligations. Several representatives noted that, since the previous replenishment, Montreal Protocol parties and institutions had amassed more experience and had taken decisions on a number of issues. The triennium 2027–2029 was therefore an opportunity to secure and strengthen work under the Montreal Protocol. Several representatives stressed the need for the replenishment to be based on credible assumptions aligned with approved mandates and decisions taken by the Meeting of the Parties and the Executive Committee since the last replenishment, and on evidence-based cost estimates. Representatives highlighted specific topics that they considered important and for which they deemed that sufficient funding should be available during the following triennium.

29. Subsequently, the representative of Canada, speaking also on behalf of Australia, Japan and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a conference room paper setting out a draft decision, which, he said, was intended to serve as a basis for discussion on the terms of reference for the study on the 2027–2029 replenishment of the Multilateral Fund. Several representatives expressed a preference for using the text of the previous decision as a basis for discussion.

30. Following some discussion, the Open-ended Working Group agreed to establish a contact group, to be co-chaired by Miruza Mohamed (Maldives) and Ralph Brieskorn (Kingdom of the Netherlands), to develop the draft terms of reference for the study on the 2027–2029 replenishment of

the Multilateral Fund, using the draft decision submitted by Australia, Canada, Japan and the United Kingdom, with the entire text bracketed, as the basis for its discussion and taking into account the terms of reference for the previous such study, as described in decision XXXIV/2.

31. Subsequently, the co-chair of the contact group reported that, owing to time constraints, it had not been possible for the group to conclude its work. The Open-ended Working Group therefore agreed to resume discussions on the terms of reference for the study on the 2027–2029 replenishment of the Multilateral Fund at the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties and to forward the draft decision on the matter, as revised by the contact group, to the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties for further consideration. The revised version of the draft decision is set out in section II of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/3 as draft decision XXXVII/[A].

32. During the preparatory segment, the parties may wish to resume consideration of the draft decision for possible adoption during the high-level segment.

E. Emissions of hydrofluorocarbon-23 (HFC-23) (decision XXXVI/3) (item 5 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

33. In paragraph 5 of decision XXXVI/3, the Scientific Assessment Panel and the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel were requested to update their decision XXXV/7 reports on HFC-23 to reflect any additional or new information that became available, and to submit their reports on the matter to the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties.

34. In addition, in paragraph 6 of the same decision, the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel was requested to provide information on and a comparison of best practices and guidelines relating to measuring, estimating, reporting and verifying HFC-23 by-product emissions and their destruction.

35. The Secretariat received information from a number of parties on their current methodologies for estimating and reporting HFC-23 emissions from HCFC-22 production, and on best practice technologies to reduce HFC-23 emissions, in response to paragraphs 3 and 4, respectively, of decision XXXVI/3. The submissions were forwarded to the Scientific Assessment Panel and the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel for consideration in the preparation of their reports.

36. The panels' reports are expected to be available in early September 2025, and a summary of the reports will be included in the addendum to the present note.

F. Enhancing regional atmospheric monitoring of substances controlled by the Montreal Protocol (decision XXXVI/1) (item 6 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

37. In paragraph 1 of decision XXXVI/1, the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties requested the Secretariat, in consultation with the Advisory Committee of the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, to organize activities for the specific purpose of evaluating the suitability of potential sites for monitoring regional emissions of controlled substances and to report on progress and any outcomes of those activities to the Open-ended Working Group at its forty-seventh meeting and to the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties.

38. In response to that request, at the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, the Secretariat and a Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee, A. R. Ravishankara, reported on progress in the implementation of decision XXXVI/1. The Secretariat presented information pertaining to the membership of the Advisory Committee of the General Trust Fund, the terms of reference of the Fund, and the terms of reference of the Committee, as set out in documents UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/47/2 and UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/47/2/Add.1, as well as progress made after the preparation of those documents. The Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee reported on the progress achieved in evaluating the suitability of potential sites for monitoring regional emissions of controlled substances, including the results of and lessons learned from the European Union-funded pilot project on monitoring on Bhola Island in Bangladesh and other scientific studies carried out under the European Union-funded pilot project on regional quantification of emissions of substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol.

39. During the ensuing discussion, several representatives applauded the progress made and noted the ongoing work by the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund on developing a funding modality for projects to enhance regional atmospheric monitoring. A summary of the discussions on the matter during the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group is set out in paragraphs 154–164 of the report of the meeting.

40. The Open-ended Working Group agreed to establish an informal group to discuss the matter further, with discussions to be co-facilitated by Alain Wilmart (Belgium) and Sophia Anselm-Larocque (Dominica).
41. Later in the meeting, the convener of the informal group reported on additional information shared during its discussions. The convener also reported that parties had requested the preparation of a strategy detailing the use of funds and emphasized that the information therein should be streamlined, provide details of the activities conducted under the various funding windows and of how those activities complemented one another, and address the long-term sustainability of regional atmospheric monitoring.
42. Noting that additional information would be provided, the Open-ended Working Group agreed to consider further the issue of enhancing regional atmospheric monitoring of substances controlled by the Montreal Protocol at the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties.
43. The Secretariat, together with the Advisory Committee, will provide to the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties, for its consideration, a report on progress in the implementation of decision XXXVI/1, including updates on the cost estimates and options for long-term financing associated with enhancing atmospheric monitoring. The report of the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee will be summarized in the addendum to the present note and will be made available as document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/INF/6.

G. Development of studies and strategies to find medium- and long-term solutions to the significant accumulation of inventories of refrigerant gases nearing the end of their life cycles in parties operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol (item 7 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

44. At the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, in the context of discussions on life-cycle refrigerant management, the representative of Cuba introduced the draft decision set out in annex II to the note by the Secretariat on issues for discussion by and information for the attention of the Open-ended Working Group at that meeting (UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/47/2). After an initial discussion of the draft decision, as summarized in paragraphs 78–84 of the report of the meeting, the representative of Cuba introduced a conference room paper setting out a draft decision on the development of studies and strategies to find medium- and long-term solutions to the significant accumulation of inventories of refrigerant gases nearing the end of their life cycles in Article 5 parties, in order to highlight concern about the increasing volume of such substances and the impact on those countries lacking the necessary technology or economic capacity to dispose of them. The proposal was co-sponsored by Chile and the Dominican Republic.
45. The Open-ended Working Group agreed to establish a contact group, to be co-chaired by Morane Godfrin (France) and Sergio Merino (Mexico).
46. In his final report to the Open-ended Working Group, the co-chair of the contact group said that the group had made good progress and that the proponents of the draft decision had also worked hard to produce a new text reflecting the discussions held in the group. However, it had not proved possible to reach final agreement, and further discussion would be needed. The Open-ended Working Group therefore agreed to forward the draft decision, as revised by the contact group, to the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties for further consideration. The revised version of the draft decision is set out in section II of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/3 as draft decision XXXVII[B].
47. During the preparatory segment, parties may wish to continue their consideration of the matter and make recommendations on the way forward, including proposing a draft decision for consideration and possible adoption during the high-level segment.

H. Feedstock uses of controlled substances (item 8 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

48. In decision XXXVI/5 of the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties, parties with production and/or use of controlled substances for feedstock were invited to provide to the Secretariat, on a voluntary basis, information on their established national procedures and frameworks for the management of such production and use, including any controls on resulting emissions. As requested in the same decision, the Secretariat compiled those submissions for the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group in documents UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/47/3 and UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/47/3/Add.1.

49. At the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, several representatives drew attention to the growth in the production and use of feedstock, especially of carbon tetrachloride for the production of hydrofluoroolefins (HFOs) and hydrochlorofluoroolefins (HCFOs), and noted that associated emissions from use as well as transport, distribution, storage, handling and repackaging were not insignificant, as had been assumed in the past. A summary of the discussions on the matter during the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group is set out in paragraphs 142–144 of the report of the meeting.

50. Subsequently, the representative of the European Union, also on behalf of Switzerland, introduced a conference room paper setting out a draft decision in which parties were invited to provide further information to the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel and in which the Panel, in turn, was requested to analyse the information submitted by parties and provide an update on that information in its progress reports. Parties were also invited to support activities and research relating to the monitoring of emissions of feedstock substances.

51. The Open-ended Working Group agreed to establish a contact group, to be co-chaired by Liana Ghahramanyan (Armenia) and Morgan Simpson (United Kingdom), to discuss the matter further.

52. Subsequently, the co-chair of the contact group reported that, owing to time constraints, it had not been possible for the group to conclude its work.

53. The Open-ended Working Group agreed to forward the draft decision on feedstock uses of controlled substances, as revised by the contact group, and with a footnote added to clarify that some paragraphs of the draft decision had not been discussed, to the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties for further consideration. The revised version of the draft decision is set out in section II of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/3 as draft decision XXXVII/[C].

54. During the preparatory segment, parties may wish to continue their consideration of the revised draft decision and make recommendations on the way forward, including proposing a draft decision for consideration and possible adoption during the high-level segment.

I. Halon 1301 and its continuing use in the aviation industry; management of other controlled substances used for fire suppression (item 9 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

55. At the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, parties considered the issue of halon 1301 on the basis of the report of the Fire Suppression Technical Options Committee contained in chapter 3 of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel's 2025 progress report.

56. In the discussion, several representatives expressed their grave concern regarding the continued use of halon 1301 in aviation, which was currently projected to continue for at least the next 50 years if alternatives were banned owing to their inclusion in the ban on the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Several representatives also noted the concern that the International Civil Aviation Organization, at its Assembly in September 2025, might extend the current deadline of 2024 to 2035 regarding the use of halon 1301 in cargo compartments for new aircraft designs, in the light of the uncertainty about the use of alternatives. Good management of other controlled substances used for fire suppression in enduring and non-enduring uses was also called for, so that halons could be made available for use where no alternatives were available. A summary of the discussions on the matter during the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group is set out in paragraphs 116–124 of the report of the meeting.

57. The representative of Australia, also on behalf of Canada, the European Union, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States, then introduced a conference room paper setting out a draft decision on halon 1301 and its continuing use in the aviation industry, and on the management of other controlled substances used for fire suppression.

58. The Open-ended Working Group agreed to establish a contact group, co-chaired by Juan José Galeano (Argentina) and Jana Mašičková (Czechia), to discuss the matter further.

59. Subsequently, the co-chair of the contact group reported that, owing to time constraints, it had not been possible for the group to conclude its work. The Open-ended Working Group agreed to forward the draft decision, as revised by the contact group, to the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties for further consideration. The revised version of the draft decision is set out in section II of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/3 as draft decision XXXVII/[D].

60. During the preparatory segment, parties may wish to continue their consideration of the draft decision and make recommendations on the way forward, including proposing a draft decision for consideration and possible adoption during the high-level segment.

J. National and regional initiatives to support the implementation of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol (item 10 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

61. At the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, the representatives of Rwanda and the United Kingdom jointly submitted and introduced a conference room paper setting out a draft decision on the matter.

62. In the draft decision, the Ozone Secretariat was requested to organize a one-day workshop, back to back with the Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties, to share information and experiences on strategies, policies and activities of existing regional centres of excellence and their approaches in promoting sustainable cooling and cold chains, and to prepare a background information paper summarizing the strategies, policies, activities and approaches of existing regional centres of excellence and their contributions to the implementation of the Kigali Amendment. The Executive Committee was requested to consider providing a funding window for non-manufacturing activities to support the implementation of the Kigali Amendment, including for the integration of testing centres for energy efficiency. Finally, parties and stakeholders were invited to submit to the Secretariat, by 1 April 2026, information on strategies, policies and activities that contributed to sustainable cooling and cold chains, including on relevant centres of excellence.

63. In the ensuing discussion, many representatives expressed their support either for the entire draft decision or welcomed particular elements of it. A summary of the discussions on the matter during the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group is set out in paragraphs 198–202 of the report of the meeting.

64. The Open-ended Working Group agreed to establish a contact group, to be co-chaired by Mariska Wouters (New Zealand) and Camilla Noel (Vanuatu), to discuss the proposed draft decision and the issues raised.

65. Subsequently, the co-chair of the contact group reported that, owing to time constraints, it had not been possible for the group to conclude its work. The Open-ended Working Group therefore agreed to forward the draft decision, as revised by the contact group, to the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties for further consideration. The revised version of the draft decision is set out in section II of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/3 as draft decision XXXVII/[E].

66. The Co-Chair urged interested parties to consider engaging in consultations on the outstanding issues during the intersessional period.

67. During the preparatory segment, parties may wish to continue their consideration of the draft decision, taking into account the results of any consultations on the outstanding issues during the intersessional period, and to make recommendations on the way forward.

K. Technology and Economic Assessment Panel organizational issues (item 11 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

1. Options for the organization of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel and its technical options committees (decision XXXV/20) (item 11 (a) of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

68. In decision XXXV/20 of the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties, the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel was requested to provide options relating to its organization and that of its technical options committees. The full report of the Panel on the matter was set out in chapter 8 of its 2025 progress report and summarized in the note by the Secretariat on issues for discussion by and information for the attention of the Open-ended Working Group at its forty-seventh meeting (UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/47/2, paras. 17–21) and the addendum thereto (UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/47/2/Add.1, paras. 19–28 and table 1).

69. At the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, after the presentation by the co-chairs of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel of its response to the request set out in decision XXXV/20, parties exchanged initial views on their preferred options. Views were also expressed on the need for financial assistance for experts from non-Article 5 parties, structured pathways for junior experts, and the timing of a decision on the matter. A summary of the discussions

on the matter during the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group is set out in paragraphs 99–109 of the report of the meeting.

70. The Open-ended Working Group decided that an informal group, to be co-facilitated by Leslie Smith (Grenada) and Alessandro Peru (Italy), would meet with the co-chairs of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel, its technical options committees and interested parties in the margins of the meeting to discuss further the options for the organization of the Panel and its technical options committees.

71. Subsequently, reporting on the group's discussions, the co-chair of the informal group said that, despite meeting twice and discussing an extensive range of issues, the group still did not have any clarity on the way forward. In addition, the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel needed more time to provide additional information. The Open-ended Working Group therefore agreed to resume discussions on options for the organization of the Panel and its technical options committees at the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties.

72. During the preparatory segment, parties may wish to continue their consideration of the matter, taking into account additional information to be provided by the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel, and to make recommendations on the way forward.

2. **Changes in the membership of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (item 11 (b) of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)**

73. In annex 4 to its 2025 progress report, the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel provided information on the status of its membership and that of its technical options committees as of May 2025.

74. Table 1 lists the members of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel whose membership expires at the end of 2025 and whose reappointment requires a decision by the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties. The members of the technical options committees whose membership expires at the end of 2025 and whose reappointment does not require a decision by the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties are listed in annex I to the present note.

Table 1

Members of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel whose membership expires at the end of 2025 and whose reappointment requires a decision by the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Country</i>
Marta Pizano	MBTOC co-chair	Colombia
Ian Porter	MBTOC co-chair	Australia
Helen Tope	MCTOC co-chair	Australia
Helen Walter-Terrinoni	FTOC co-chair	United States of America

Abbreviations: FTOC – Flexible and Rigid Foams Technical Options Committee; MBTOC – Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee; MCTOC – Medical and Chemicals Technical Options Committee.

75. Parties may wish to submit nominations, for consideration by the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties, in accordance with decision XXXI/8 on the terms of reference of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel and its technical options committees and temporary subsidiary bodies – procedures relevant to nominations. In paragraph 3 of that decision, parties are requested, “when nominating experts to the Panel, its technical options committees or its temporary subsidiary bodies, to use the Panel’s nomination form and associated guidelines so as to facilitate the submission of appropriate nominations, taking into account the matrix of needed expertise, and geographical and gender balance, in addition to the expertise needed to address new issues related to the Kigali Amendment, such as energy efficiency, safety standards and climate benefits”. In paragraph 5 of the same decision, the parties are urged “to follow the terms of reference of the Panel, consult the Panel’s co-chairs and refer to the matrix of needed expertise prior to making nominations for appointments to the Panel”.

76. The matrix of needed expertise, as identified by the Panel as of May 2025, is included in annex 5 to its 2025 progress report, reproduced in annex II to the present note and posted on the Secretariat's website.²

77. In accordance with paragraph 4 of the same decision, the Secretariat will make all forms submitted by parties nominating members to the Panel available on the portal of the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties, making it easier for parties to review and discuss the proposed nominations.

78. Nominations to the technical options committees for positions other than those of co-chair and nominations to temporary subsidiary bodies can be made at any time. Appointments are made by the co-chairs of the relevant committees in consultation with the Panel.

79. The terms of reference of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel are posted on the meeting portal for ease of reference to the procedures for nominating and appointing Panel members.³ In addition, the parties may wish to use the online primer on the operation of the Panel.⁴ The nomination forms can be found on the Panel's web page on the Secretariat's website.⁵

80. At the time of preparation of the present note, no nominations had been received by the Secretariat. In the addendum to the present note, the Secretariat will provide any additional information that becomes available.

L. Further strengthening Montreal Protocol institutions (decision XXXVI/9) (item 12 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

81. At its forty-seventh meeting, the Open-ended Working Group considered a summary of common features of licensing systems (UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/47/4) and a compilation of information provided by parties on illegal trade in controlled substances and synthesis of best practices (UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/47/5) that had been prepared by the Secretariat in response to paragraphs 1 and 3, respectively, of decision XXXVI/9. The Open-ended Working Group also had access to an analysis of systemic issues in relation to compliance, based on cases considered by the Implementation Committee over the previous 10 years. The analysis was to be annexed to the report of the seventy-fourth meeting of the Implementation Committee (UNEP/OzL.Pro/ImpCom/74/6), but an advance version had been made available to parties on the meeting portal of the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group. A summary of the discussions on the matter during the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group is set out in paragraphs 172–176 of the report of the meeting.

82. The Open-ended Working Group agreed that interested parties would meet with the Secretariat to consider which topics should be discussed at the one-day informal meeting of the parties to be held back to back with the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties as requested in paragraph 4 of decision XXXVI/9. The representative of the Secretariat reported on the informal consultations, summarizing the suggestions received from parties on the format and content of the informal meeting.

83. In accordance with paragraph 4 of decision XXXVI/9, the Secretariat will organize a one-day informal meeting of the parties prior to and back to back with the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties in order to reflect, on the basis of existing documents, on facilitating the implementation of the Montreal Protocol. A concept note containing the provisional programme will be posted on the meeting portal in advance of the meeting.

84. Immediately after the informal meeting, the Secretariat will prepare a summary of the outcomes of the meeting for the consideration of the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties. Parties may wish to consider the document during the preparatory segment and make recommendations on the way forward.

M. Compliance and data reporting issues: work and recommendations of the Implementation Committee (item 13 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

85. The President of the Implementation Committee will report on party compliance issues considered during the Committee's seventy-fourth meeting, held on 5 and 6 July 2025, and its

² www.ozone.unep.org/science/assessment/teap/teap-expertise-required.

³ www.ozone.unep.org/node/1953.

⁴ www.ozone.unep.org/teap-primer.

⁵ <https://ozone.unep.org/science/assessment/teap>.

seventy-fifth meeting, to be convened on 31 October and 1 November 2025, immediately prior to the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties.

86. Any draft decisions emanating from those meetings of the Committee will be presented by the President for consideration and possible adoption by the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties.

N. Classification of the State of Palestine as a party operating under paragraph 1 of Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol and access to support from the Multilateral Fund (item 14 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

87. At the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, the representative of the State of Palestine introduced a conference room paper setting out a draft decision according to which his country would be recognized as an Article 5 party with a view to becoming eligible for assistance from the Multilateral Fund.

88. A summary of the discussions on the matter during the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group is set out in paragraphs 186–193 of the report of the meeting.

89. As consensus had not been reached, despite much support for the draft decision, the Open-ended Working Group agreed that informal discussions on the matter between interested parties should be held in the margins of the meeting, including to address the questions posed to the State of Palestine.

90. Subsequently, the representative of the State of Palestine said that his delegation had engaged in fruitful informal consultations with interested parties on issues relating to his country's adoption of amendments to the Montreal Protocol and the submission of data and information in line with the requirements outlined in Article 5, paragraph 1. The exchange of information on those issues would continue during the intersessional period with a view to engagement in further discussion on the draft decision and the expectation of addressing all the issues raised and building consensus on the adoption of the decision at the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties.

91. The Open-ended Working Group therefore agreed to resume discussions on the matter at the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties. The draft decision presented by the State of Palestine at the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group is set out in section II of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/3 as draft decision XXXVII/[F].

92. During the preparatory segment, parties may wish to continue their consideration of the matter.

O. Status of ratification of the Kigali Amendment (item 15 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

93. The Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol was adopted on 15 October 2016 by decision XXVIII/1, on the further amendment of the Montreal Protocol, and entered into force on 1 January 2019. At the time of preparation of the present note, 164 parties had accepted, ratified or approved the amendment. Document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/INF/5, to be issued closer to the start of the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties, will set out the status of ratification of the Kigali Amendment by the parties to the Protocol. Any further updates will be provided during the meeting.

94. During the preparatory segment, parties may wish to consider a draft decision, for possible adoption during the high-level segment, recording the status of ratification at the time of the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties and urging further ratification of the Kigali Amendment. A placeholder draft decision on the matter is set out in section III of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/3 as draft decision XXXVII/[EE].

P. Other matters (item 16 of the provisional agenda for the preparatory segment)

95. Under the agenda item, the parties will consider any other matters that they may agree to include on the agenda at the time of its adoption.

III. Overview of items on the provisional agenda for the high-level segment (6 and 7 November 2025)

A. Opening of the high-level segment (item 1 of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

1. Opening

96. The high-level segment is scheduled to be opened at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 6 November 2025.

2. Statements by the President of the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, by a representative of the United Nations Environment Programme and by a representative of the Government of Kenya (items 1 (a), (b) and (c) of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

97. Opening statements will be made by the President of the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol and by representatives of UNEP and the Government of Kenya (item 1 (a), (b) and (c) of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment).

B. Organizational matters (item 2 of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

1. Election of officers for the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

98. In accordance with rule 21 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the parties to the Montreal Protocol, the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties must elect a president, three vice-presidents and a rapporteur. A representative of a party from the group of Latin American and Caribbean States (Grenada) presided over the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties, while a representative of a party from the group of Eastern European States (Romania) served as rapporteur. On the basis of the regional rotation agreed on by the parties, the parties may wish to elect a party from the group of Western European and other States to preside over the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties and to elect a party from the group of Latin American and Caribbean States as rapporteur. The parties may also wish to elect three vice-presidents, one each from the groups of African States, Asia-Pacific States and Eastern European States.

2. Adoption of the agenda of the high-level segment (item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

99. The provisional agenda for the high-level segment is set out in section II of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/1 and will be before the parties for adoption. The parties may wish to adopt that agenda, including any items that they may agree to include under item 8, "Other matters".

3. Organization of work (item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

100. The President of the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties is expected to outline a plan of work for discussing the items on the agenda.

4. Credentials of representatives (item 2 (d) of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

101. In accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the parties to the Montreal Protocol, the credentials of representatives of parties attending a meeting must be submitted to the Executive Secretary, if possible not later than 24 hours after the opening of the meeting. Representatives are urged to arrive at the meeting with duly signed credentials and to submit them to the Secretariat as soon as possible after the start of the meeting. In accordance with rule 19 of the rules of procedure, the elected officers of the meeting will examine the credentials and submit their report thereon to the parties. In accordance with rule 20, pending a decision of the meeting regarding their credentials, representatives will be entitled to participate provisionally in the meeting.

C. Presentations by the assessment panels on their progress reports, including any emerging issues (item 3 of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

102. Under this agenda item, the three assessment panels will present the progress made in their assessments, including any emerging issues. The parties may wish to take note of those reports and take action either at the current meeting, or later, as they deem appropriate.

D. Presentation by the Chair of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol on the work of the Executive Committee, the Multilateral Fund secretariat and the Fund's implementing agencies (item 4 of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

103. Under this agenda item, the Chair of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund will introduce a report by the Executive Committee to the parties, highlighting the key decisions made by the Committee and the work undertaken by the Multilateral Fund secretariat and the Fund's implementing agencies since the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties. The report of the Executive Committee to the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties will be made available as document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/8.

E. Statements by heads of delegation and discussion of key topics (item 5 of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

104. Under this agenda item, heads of delegations will be invited to make statements. As of the first day of the preparatory segment of the meeting, the Secretariat will be accepting requests to speak and compiling a list of speakers on the basis of those requests. In the interest of fairness to all delegations and to ensure that all who wish to speak have an opportunity to do so, it will be important for heads of delegation to limit their statements to four or five minutes. Statements by heads of delegations of parties will be delivered in the order in which their requests to speak are received, subject to the understanding that ministers will be accorded priority.

F. Report by the co-chairs of the preparatory segment and consideration of decisions recommended for adoption by the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties (item 6 of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

105. Under this agenda item, the co-chairs of the preparatory segment will be invited to report to the parties on the progress made in reaching consensus on the substantive issues on the agenda.

G. Dates and venue of the Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (item 7 of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

106. The parties will be provided with information regarding the potential venue for the Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol and may then wish to take a decision on the matter. At the time of preparation of the present note, no offer had been made by any Government to host the Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties. If no such offer is received, the meeting will be convened at the headquarters of the Secretariat at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, where a tentative booking of the conference facilities has been made for the period 2–6 November 2026. A placeholder draft decision on the matter is set out in section III of document UNEP/OzL.Pro.37/3 as draft decision XXXVII/[FF].

H. Other matters (item 8 of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)

107. Any additional substantive issues agreed for inclusion on the agenda under item 2 (b), "Adoption of the agenda of the high-level segment", will be taken up under this item.

**I. Adoption of decisions by the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties
(item 9 of the provisional agenda for the high-level segment)**

108. Under this agenda item, the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties will adopt decisions on the matters on the agenda.

**J. Adoption of the report of the meeting (item 10 of the provisional agenda
for the high-level segment)**

109. Under this agenda item, the parties will adopt the report of the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol.

**K. Closure of the meeting (item 11 of the provisional agenda for the
high-level segment)**

110. The Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol is expected to be closed by 6 p.m. on Friday, 7 November 2025.

Annex I

Members of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel technical options committees whose membership expires at the end of 2025 and whose reappointment does not require a decision by the Meeting of the Parties

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Country</i>
Members of technical options committees		
Khaled Effat	FSTOC member	Egypt
Paul Ashford	FTOC member	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Roy Chowdhury	FTOC member	Australia
Gwyn Davis	FTOC member	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Ilhan Karaağaç	FTOC member	Türkiye
Mohamed Besri	MBTOC member	Morocco
Fred Bergwerff	MBTOC member	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)
Tim Widmer	MBTOC member	United States of America
William Auriemma	MCTOC member	United States of America
Stephanie Bogle	MCTOC member	United States of America
Steve Burns	MCTOC member	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Rick Cooke	MCTOC member	Canada
Maureen George	MCTOC member	United States of America
Jørgen Vestbo	MCTOC member	Denmark
Alex Wilkinson	MCTOC member	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Arzu Yorgancıoğlu	MCTOC member	Türkiye

Abbreviations: FTOC – Flexible and Rigid Foams Technical Options Committee; FSTOC – Fire Suppression Technical Options Committee; MBTOC – Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee; MCTOC – Medical and Chemicals Technical Options Committee.

Annex II

Matrix of expertise needed by the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel as of May 2025

Body	Required Expertise	Article 5/Non-Article 5
Fire Suppression Technical Options Committee	Use of HFCs and alternatives	Central and/or South America, Middle East and southern Africa (2)
	Use of halons and alternatives in merchant shipping and recovery from shipbreaking	Pakistan
	Nuclear power plants	A5 and non-A5
	Civil aviation (especially maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) activities)	A5 and non-A5
	Halon and HFC recycling	A5
	Halon 1301 feedstock use and emissions	A5 and non-A5
Foam Technical Options Committee	Extruded polystyrene (XPS) production in India and China – to replace departing experts Polyurethane system house technical experts – particularly from southern Africa, the Republic of Korea, the Middle East and Latin American countries, especially experts from small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that are still transitioning from HCFC-141b and HFCs. FBA chemistry and foam interactions	A5 or non- A5
Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee	Members with expertise in international agricultural trade and biosecurity	A5 and non-A5
Medical and Chemical Technical Options Committee	Aerosols and MDI propellant manufacturing	A5
	CTC and VLSL global manufacturing and use	A5 or non-A5
	Semiconductor and other electronics manufacturing	East Asia, non- A5
	End-of-life management and destruction technologies	A5 and non-A5
Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heat Pumps Technical Options Committee	No additional expertise needed at this time	
Senior Experts	No additional expertise needed at this time	