**Collective Youth Statement for the Closing Plenary of**
**Thirty-Eight Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (MOP 38)**

Delivered by Clive Donnley, Global Coordinator, Children and Youth Major Group (CYMG) to UNEP

1. As we conclude the 38th Meeting of Parties here in Kigali, we extend our sincere gratitude to the Government of Rwanda for hosting this important gathering, and to the Ozone Secretariat, the Co-Chairs, and all Parties for their continued commitment to advancing the objectives of the Montreal Protocol.

2. As we celebrate the first decade of the Kigali Amendment in the very city where it was adopted, we recognise a decade of collective progress in protecting the climate.

3. However, this milestone is not only an opportunity to reflect on our achievements, but also to ask: **How do we shape the next decade of the Kigali Amendment?**

4. We reaffirm our call for the universal ratification of the Kigali Amendment. Its full implementation requires sustained international cooperation, equitable access to technology, and adequate financial resources, particularly through a strong and sufficient replenishment of the Multilateral Fund.

5. We also encourage the continued efforts to strengthen transparency, monitoring, and emission control measures, particularly in addressing HFC-23 emissions.

6. For young people, the future of the Kigali Amendment is also about the opportunities it can create. Strengthening local commercial refrigeration assembly, developing accessible technical and green skills, and accelerating the transition to climate-friendly refrigerants can support local industries, create decent employment, and empower a new generation of workers. Young people must not be beneficiaries of this transition, but active contributors to it.

7. We also recognise the ongoing UN80 Initiative, particularly Work Package 27 on Environment, as an opportunity to strengthen multilateral governance. We encourage these discussions to preserve the mandates and scientific integrity of multilateral environmental agreements while ensuring meaningful participation of civil society, including children and youth.

8. As the mandated youth constituency to UNEP, we echo the historic Youth Resolution adopted at UNEA-7 (Resolution 7/6), reaffirming the importance of meaningful youth participation in environmental decision-making. We call on Parties to translate this recognition into concrete opportunities for young people to contribute to policy development, technical discussions, and implementation.

9. Building on this commitment, our Third Youth Forum on Climate Protection will serve as an evaluative platform for intergenerational dialogue. Drawing on UNEP's latest assessments on Climate Overshoot, Emissions Gap, and Adaptation Gap Reports, the forum will examine the progress and challenges in ozone and climate protection in the broader lens.

**In this regard, we respectfully put forward three recommendations:**

A. Ensure adequate and predictable replenishment of the Multilateral Fund, supporting technology transfer, national implementation, and stronger monitoring and control of HFC-23 emissions.
B. Integrate youth-focused technical and vocational training, green skills development, and employment opportunities into the national Kigali Amendment implementation strategies, particularly on sustainable cooling and local refrigeration industries; and
C. Strengthen institutional support for meaningful youth engagement, including continued development of the Youth Forum on Climate Protection as a multilateral annual platform for youth-led intergenerational cooperation.

Excellencies, the first decade of the Kigali Amendment demonstrated what collective action can achieve. The next decade must show how we can turn these commitments into tangible progress for our communities, economies, and future generations.

As young people, we stand ready to contribute. We call on all Parties to carry the spirit of Kigali forward through universal ratification, stronger implementation, and a transition that leaves no one behind.

The first decade gave us commitment. Let the next decade deliver the transformation.

Thank you.