

COUNTRY STATEMENT

BY

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FOR

THE 38TH MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
(HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT)

5 TO 6 NOVEMBER 2026

KIGALI CONVENTION CENTRE
KIGALI, RWANDA

Mr./Ms. (to be updated after appointment),
President of the 38th Meeting of Parties to Montreal Protocol

Ms. Megumi Seki Nakamura
Executive Secretary of the Ozone Secretariat

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh and a very good morning.

1. On behalf of the Government of Malaysia, I extend our warmest congratulations to you, Mr./Ms. President on your election as President of the 38th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol. We are confident that your leadership will guide this Meeting towards productive deliberations and meaningful outcomes in our collective efforts to protect the ozone layer.

2. We also wish to convey our sincere appreciation to the Government of Rwanda for hosting this important meeting and to the Ozone Secretariat for the excellent arrangements and warm hospitality extended to all delegations.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

3. Over the decades, the Montreal Protocol has demonstrated what the international community can achieve when environmental ambition is supported by science, sustained cooperation and a shared determination to act. According to the **World Meteorological Organization**, the **Antarctic ozone hole in 2025** was **among the smallest recorded in recent decades**, reflecting the encouraging progress towards the recovery of the ozone layer. This remarkable achievement reaffirms the enduring value of multilateral cooperation and demonstrates that meaningful environmental progress can be achieved alongside economic development.

4. Building upon this remarkable legacy, the **Montreal Protocol continues to evolve in response to emerging global environmental challenges**. As the impacts of climate change intensify and global demand for cooling continues to grow, the Protocol's contribution extends beyond ozone protection to encompass the broader imperative of climate mitigation. It is within this context that the Kigali Amendment provides an important pathway towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions while supporting the transition to more sustainable cooling technologies.

5. This year marks the **10th anniversary of the Kigali Amendment**, adopted here in **Rwanda** in **2016**. Its full implementation could **prevent up to 0.5°C of global warming by 2100**, thus demonstrating the considerable contribution of the Montreal Protocol to global climate action. This milestone provides an important opportunity to reflect on our progress and renew our determination to move forward.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

6. Malaysia remains firmly committed to the objectives of the Montreal Protocol. Building on the progress achieved under our Hydrochlorofluorocarbon Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP), we are now **advancing the implementation of the Kigali Implementation Plan (KIP)**, **strengthening our contribution to ozone layer protection**, **climate action and sustainable cooling**.

7. Malaysia has established its **hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) consumption baseline** at **26.7 million tonnes of CO_2-equivalent** and is committed to achieving a **10% reduction** from this baseline by 2029. Since the HFC consumption freeze took effect on 1 January 2024, Malaysia has made encouraging progress under Stage I of its Kigali Implementation Plan for 2024 - 2029. We **successfully maintained national HFC consumption below our baseline in both 2024 and 2025**. As a further concrete measure, effective **1 January 2026**, Malaysia **prohibited the installation of new fire**

suppression systems using HFC-23 or HFC-125. These achievements reflect our commitment to translating the Kigali Amendment into practical national action through continued collaboration with industry and relevant authorities.

8. Beyond meeting our HFC phase-down targets, Malaysia sees an important opportunity to advance **sustainable industrial development**. As the country continues to strengthen its manufacturing capabilities and digital economy particularly in sectors such as **semiconductors** and **data centres**, the demand for reliable and energy-efficient cooling will continue to grow. Recognising the importance of industry collaboration in facilitating this transition, Malaysia is **promoting the adoption of low-global-warming-potential (low-GWP) alternatives in the refrigeration and air-conditioning sectors** while **engaging other HFC-consuming industries to identify suitable technologies and opportunities for emissions reduction**. Through these efforts, Malaysia seeks to encourage technological innovation while ensuring that environmental commitments are pursued alongside industrial growth and competitiveness.

9. Complementing these industry-focused efforts, Malaysia is also **advancing a more integrated approach to sustainable cooling**, recognising that the environmental benefits of HFC phase-down can be further strengthened through improved energy efficiency and responsible refrigerant management throughout the equipment lifecycle. In this regard, Malaysia is currently developing **national guidelines on refrigerant recovery, recycling and reclamation (RRR)** to promote environmentally sound refrigerant management, minimise refrigerant emissions and support the transition towards more sustainable cooling practices. These efforts are aligned with our **National Energy Transition Roadmap** and our aspiration to achieve **net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050** while reinforcing the synergies between the Montreal Protocol and broader global climate action.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

10. The continued success of the Montreal Protocol rests upon the strength of international cooperation and our shared commitment to ensuring that all Parties are equipped to fulfil their obligations. In this regard, the Multilateral Fund has played an instrumental role by facilitating access to financial resources, technology and technical expertise.

11. The Government of Malaysia **expresses its sincere appreciation to the Multilateral Fund, its implementing agencies and donor countries** for their continued support. As we approach the next replenishment, Malaysia calls for **adequate and predictable resources** to strengthen capacity building, technical transfer, sustainable and energy-efficient cooling as well as responsible refrigerant management, while addressing emerging technical and policy challenges. Such support is essential to an effective, safe and cost-efficient transition to low-GWP alternatives particularly for Article 5 Parties.

12. The tenth anniversary of the Kigali Amendment offers an **important opportunity to reflect on the progress achieved** through a decade of international cooperation and to **chart the course for its continued success**. Our collective efforts must now focus on sustaining the momentum of implementation, strengthening national capabilities and ensuring that the environmental and climate benefits of the Amendment are fully realised.

13. Malaysia **remains firmly committed to the Montreal Protocol and the Kigali Amendment and stands ready to work constructively with all Parties in advancing our shared objectives**. As we look towards the future, let us continue to strengthen the spirit of cooperation that has underpinned the success of the Montreal Protocol, ensuring that our collective commitments translate into meaningful progress and lasting benefits for our environment, our economies and generations to come.

Thank you.