STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF DELEGATION OF VIET NAM

AT THE HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE THIRTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEPLETE THE OZONE LAYER (MOP38)

Kigali, Rwanda, 5–6 November 2026

Mr. President,
Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the delegation of Viet Nam, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Government and people of Rwanda for their warm hospitality, and to the Ozone Secretariat for the excellent arrangements for this meeting. It is a great honor to be here in Kigali, where the historic Kigali Amendment was adopted ten years ago, marking an important milestone in international cooperation to protect the ozone layer and address climate change.

Mr. President,

The Montreal Protocol continues to demonstrate the effectiveness of multilateral cooperation. Scientific assessments indicate that the full implementation of the Kigali Amendment could avoid up to 0.5°C of global warming by the end of this century. Combined with improvements in cooling energy efficiency, the climate benefits could be nearly doubled.

Viet Nam has been a Party to the Montreal Protocol since 1994 and ratified the Kigali Amendment in 2019. We have successfully phased out several major ozone-depleting substances and continue to implement our HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down commitments.

In recent years, Viet Nam has strengthened its regulatory framework, including the management of HFC consumption through a national quota system. We are also advancing policies to support refrigerant life cycle management, alongside efforts to promote sustainable cooling.

With support from the Multilateral Fund and international partners, Viet Nam has continued to strengthen technical capacity and cooperation with industry. Recent refrigerant inventory activities and initial recovery and treatment initiatives are helping us better understand the practical challenges of establishing a sustainable life cycle management system.

These experiences show that effective implementation requires not only sound regulations and appropriate technologies, but also trained technicians, reliable collection networks, better data and sustainable financing.

Mr. President,

As we look ahead, growing demand for cooling presents both challenges and opportunities. For developing countries, the transition must deliver environmental benefits while ensuring access to safe, affordable and energy-efficient cooling.

In this context, Viet Nam would like to emphasize **three priorities**.

First, adequate and predictable financial support remains essential. The replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for 2027–2029 should reflect the actual implementation needs of Article 5 Parties, including technology transition, capacity-building and support for the refrigeration and air-conditioning servicing sector.

Second, HFC phase-down should go hand in hand with improvements in energy efficiency. Access to suitable technologies, technical assistance and capacity-building will be critical to achieving greater climate benefits while addressing the growing demand for cooling.

Third, refrigerant life cycle management deserves greater attention in the next phase of implementation. Recovery, recycling, reclamation and environmentally sound destruction can help prevent emissions from refrigerants already contained in existing equipment. Practical approaches and sustainable financing mechanisms will be important to making these activities viable, particularly in developing countries.

Viet Nam also recognizes the importance of reliable data, atmospheric monitoring and scientific cooperation in supporting effective implementation of the Protocol. We welcome continued dialogue and cooperation in these areas, taking into account national circumstances and technical capacities.

Mr. President,

Viet Nam remains firmly committed to the effective implementation of the Montreal Protocol and the Kigali Amendment. Sustaining the achievements of the Montreal Protocol will require continued efforts to strengthen national institutions, maintain implementation capacity, and respond effectively to emerging challenges. We look forward to continued cooperation with all Parties, the Multilateral Fund and international partners in addressing the challenges ahead.

As we mark the tenth anniversary of the Kigali Amendment, let us build on our collective achievements and work together to ensure that the Montreal Protocol continues to deliver lasting benefits for the ozone layer, the climate and future generations.

Thank you, Mr. President.