



STATEMENT BY

**HONOURABLE DATUK SERI G. PALANIVEL
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
AS HEAD OF MALAYSIAN DELEGATION**

AT

**THE 26th MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL**

HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT

20-21 NOVEMBER 2014

PARIS, FRANCE

Mr. President,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen

First and foremost, on behalf of the Malaysian delegation, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. President for being elected as the President of the 26th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. I would also like to express our appreciation to the Government of France and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for the excellent organization and arrangement made for this meeting. I would like to assure you, Mr. President, that Malaysia supports your effort to make this meeting a success.

Mr. President,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

2. The last 7 years were very challenging for Article 5 countries to meet the obligation on phasing out HCFC. Malaysia is on track in implementing HCFC Phase-Out Management Plan including the strategy and policy to reduce consumption. We would like to report that 80% of the projects on cyclopentane to replace HCFC 141b in selected major foam manufacturers has been completed. With the licensing system in place and the completion of conversion projects in foam sector, we are confident to be able to reduce 10% of HCFC import by 1st January 2015. However, we are concerned about the small foam manufacturers that

may still need to depend on HCFC since no suitable alternative at reasonable cost is available for them. So is in the refrigeration and air conditioning sector that depend heavily on HCFC 22 and HFC. This is another great challenge to all of us to meet another target of 35% reduction in 2020. On top of that we are required to monitor the prohibition of use of methyl bromide for non-quarantine and pre-shipment activities starting from 1st January 2015. This is quite a big task for us as some agricultural activities and structural fumigation are still depending on methyl bromide.

Mr. President,

Ladies and gentlemen

3. As a Party to the Montreal Protocol that champion on the protection of ozone layer and with co-benefit to reduce global warming, Malaysia would like to support the proposed amendment on phase down of HFC. However, we are very much concern not only on the availability of proven and viable alternatives to HCFC but also on the commitment of donor countries to provide sufficient financial assistance for transfer of technologies that are environmentally sound and affordable. In addition, it is utmost important that use of alternatives for HCFC is safe for those handling the refrigerant and also the consumers. We are glad to see the progress in HCFC phase out and acknowledge the substitute which is Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), the most available and safe alternative to HCFC. We are aware of the concern of high global warming potential (GWP) of certain alternatives and will do our best to avoid choosing those chemicals in replacing HCFCs. In this respect, we acknowledged the effort made by the Executive

Committee (EXCOM) in phasing down HFC by approving conversion project to HFC only if it is essential to meet the compliance target.

Mr. President,

Ladies and gentlemen

4. To conclude, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the opportunity given to me to express our commitment and support in the successful implementation of the Montreal Protocol. I believe, with full commitment from all Parties, we will definitely be able to achieve the long term goals of the Protocol. It is also important to acknowledge that the Multilateral Fund model of providing financial and technical assistance to Article 5 countries is an effective and efficient framework by which other Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) should emulate. This meeting has an important agenda to discuss on the replenishment of Multilateral Fund for the 2015-2017 triennium, therefore, we would like to urge the donor parties to continue fulfilling their commitments in providing necessary and adequate financial assistance to ensure the successful implementation of the Protocol in meeting the HCFC phase-out target.

Thank you.