

***Note by the Methyl Bromide Technical Options Committee  
on Draft Version 7  
of the Handbook on Critical Use Nominations for Methyl Bromide***

**SUMMARY OF THE CHANGES MADE TO THE HANDBOOK  
(as required by Decision XXIII/14)**

- The draft seventh version of the Handbook has been revised in time for submission of remaining critical uses of methyl bromide by non A5 Parties and also by A5 Parties, which may seek methyl bromide use after its final phase-out in 2015.
- As in non A5 Parties, it is anticipated that any A5 CUNs will be submitted for annual amounts of MB either one or two years before the year in which MB is required, for use after the final phase-out date.
- Selected sections were moved within the document, to facilitate information flow and simplify the critical use nomination process for both non-A 5 and A 5 Parties. The timetable and standard presumptions can now be found in sections 3.3 and 3.5 respectively, which specifically focus on these topics. These changes however only apply to format of the document and are non-substantive.
- Older sections in the Handbook, which asked Parties for information that was either rarely or never supplied, have been removed from the structures and commodities section as they were considered unnecessary. For example:
  - provision of information on the potential market penetration of newly deployed alternatives and alternatives which may be used in the near future, to bring forward the time when it is estimated that methyl bromide consumption for the nominated use can be reduced and/or ultimately eliminated.
  - identifying comparative disease ratings and yields with the use of methyl bromide formulations and alternatives.
  - Section 14 of the SC form on “Use/emission minimisation measures” has been simplified and now only requires general information.
- The section referring to the MBTOC Code of Conduct and MBTOC membership (previously in section 2.6.3) has been removed as it was not considered relevant to the Handbook.
- In the final paragraph of the section “*Requirements for the nominating parties*” the economic measures or indicators contained in Section 4 of Annex 1 of the meeting report of the EMOP1 have been set out more clearly to a) reflect standard agricultural economic practice, and b) to accommodate the differences between Soils and Structures and

Commodities Nominations. These technical changes should facilitate the task of the nominating party. Economic assessment guidelines have thus been modified to specifically address issues relating to soils and structure and commodity CUNs (numeral 24 in section 4.1 and numeral 15 in section 4.2).

- Nomination forms (Chapter 4) were updated so that only one form is now suggested for both new and continuing nominations for both preplant soil, and structures and commodities.
- Standard presumptions, as approved by the Parties, used to evaluate soils (preplant) and structures and commodity (postharvest) CUNs remain unchanged from Version 6. They have been moved to section 3.5 for easier flow of information.
- Under Decision Ex.I/4 *on conditions for granting and reporting critical-use exemptions for methyl bromide*, the key requirements for the Parties are considered. MBTOC assumed that corresponding dates for annual submission and review of CUNs apply as per the deadlines set out for non A 5 Parties and has included these in brackets for A5 Parties (see Section 2.2 *Requirements for nominating Parties*, section 3.4 on *Continuing nominations* and Chapter 5 on Accounting Frameworks). Parties may wish to consider addition of these new dates and amend Decision Ex.I/4 to reflect them, or simply adopt them through this revised version of the Handbook.
- Appendix B, *Extracts from Meeting Reports and Decisions of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol Relevant to Critical Uses of Methyl Bromide* was updated to include all relevant decisions since version 6 (from 20<sup>th</sup> MOP onwards).