
**Montreal Protocol
on Substances that
Deplete the Ozone Layer**Distr.: General
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**Open-ended Working Group of the Parties
to the Montreal Protocol on Substances
that Deplete the Ozone Layer**
Forty-sixth meeting
Montreal, 8–12 July 2024
Item 10 of the provisional agenda***Emissions of HFC-23: potential changes to reporting form 3
for reporting on HFC-23 (decision XXXV/7, para. 3)****Potential changes to reporting form 3 (paragraph 3 of decision
XXXV/7)****Note by the Secretariat****I. Introduction**

1. The present note was prepared in response to paragraph 3 of decision XXXV/7, in which the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer requested the Ozone Secretariat to provide, in advance of the forty-sixth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, options for consideration by the parties with respect to potential changes to reporting form 3, specifically concerning when HFC-23 is generated, destroyed or maintained as stocks.
2. In presenting options as requested in decision XXXV/7, the Secretariat recognizes that reporting of information on stocks is not required under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol, and that stock levels of HFC-23 are neither added to nor subtracted from either consumption or production in the determination of parties' compliance with the control measures under the Protocol.
3. In preparing the options, the Secretariat assumed, on the basis of the guidance contained in paragraph 3 of decision XXXV/7, that the intention of the proposed changes was to allow accounting for all HFC-23 generation that is captured or destroyed within a country, including monitoring of stocked quantities of HFC-23 across years. It also assumed that the references in paragraph 3 of decision XXXV/7 to HFC-23 destroyed and HFC-23 maintained as stocks pertain to new (unused, not recovered) substances. While stocks are not part of Article 7 reporting, parties that have received or request exemptions for essential or critical uses, report separately on stocks in their reports submitted under the accounting framework provisions consistent with decisions VIII/9 (para. 9) or Ex.I/4 (para. 9 (f)) and XVI/6. The proposed changes therefore draw elements from those accounting frameworks.
4. Additionally, parties may wish to consider including an explanatory note in data form 3 stating that the amount captured for all uses (column 3) refers to both intentional production and unintentional by-production. The resulting edits in form 3 may have implications for other sections of the data reporting forms, such as data forms 4 and 6, and the associated instructions and guidelines.

* UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/46/1.

5. Section II of the present note presents two options for the potential changes to data form 3. The two options are essentially identical in terms of the information sought. They differ only in terms of the layout and presentation of the information, with option 1 presenting changes within data form 3 itself and option 2 presenting a possible annex to data form 3. Parties may wish to consider those options, other options, or the option of not making changes to the form. The changes to the data reporting forms associated with the two options are set out in the annex to the present note.

II. Two options for potential changes to reporting form 3

6. Currently, data form 3, and specifically the section on HFC-23 generation that is captured, has the following columns:

- (a) Column (1) for the annex/group;
- (b) Column (2) for substance name;
- (c) Column (3) for the quantity captured for all uses;
- (d) Column (4a) for the quantity captured for feedstock uses within the country;
- (e) Column (4b) for the quantity captured for destruction;
- (f) Two columns relating to production for exempted essential, critical, high-ambient-temperature or other uses within the country:
 - (i) Column (5) for the quantity;
 - (ii) Column (6) for a reference to a decision of a Meeting of the Parties, a description of the type of use, or other remarks.

7. As is mentioned above, the two options presented in this note for potential changes to data form 3 seek the same information and differ only in terms of layout and presentation of the information being sought. In both cases, therefore, the proposed changes would introduce the following additional fields to data form 3, with all quantities pertaining to new (unused, not recovered) HFC-23:

- (a) On hand at the start of the year;
- (b) Quantity used as feedstock;
- (c) Quantity used for other uses within the country (excludes the “Quantity used as feedstock”);
- (d) Quantity destroyed;
- (e) On hand at the end of the year.

8. The quantity used as feedstock and the quantity used for uses other than feedstock within the country could be combined into a single quantity, with parties reporting the quantity used for all applications during the year; however, feedstocks have been separated out in recognition of the different impact feedstock uses have on the atmosphere compared to other uses (non-emissive versus emissive uses), and because of the special interest parties have manifested in feedstock uses in relation to accounting for or understanding atmospheric emissions.

9. The “quantity used as feedstock” (column B in option 1 and column E in option 2) would be different from the feedstock quantities reported in column 5 of data form 1 on imports of controlled substances and column 4 of data form 3 on “production and HFC-23 generation”. The latter two quantities relate to “intended use” rather than “actual use”. Some or all of the quantity intended to be used may not actually be used within the calendar year but could contribute to the growth of the quantity stocked.

10. The information on “quantity destroyed” (column C in option 1 and column F in option 2) is included in the proposed changes, as the quantity reported in data form 4 on destruction of controlled substances may not be used in accounting for HFC-23 generation that is captured because it could include used or recovered HFC-23, while accounting for HFC-23 generation that is captured or stocks relates solely to new (unused, not recovered) HFC-23.

11. The information on imports, exports and HFC-23 generation that is captured that is needed to account for all HFC-23 generation that is captured or stocked within a country is available in data forms 1, 2 and 3, respectively. In option 1 that information is cross-referenced, while in option 2 it is reproduced.

A. Option 1: adding rows to data form 3 in the section on HFC-23 generation that is captured

12. Option 1 is to add new sub-rows to data form 3 on “production and HFC-23 generation”, just below the row for reporting HFC-23 generation that is captured, with columns for stocks of HFC-23 on hand at the start and end of the year, the quantity used for as feedstock, the quantity used for other uses within the country and the quantity destroyed. This approach is similar to the approach used to report amounts of methyl bromide used for quarantine and pre-shipment applications.

13. Under this option, columns for information on imports, exports and HFC-23 generation that is captured are not included in the new rows, as that information is already being provided by parties in the current versions of the reporting forms. The quantity for imports is found in column 3 of data form 1 on imports, the quantity for exports is found in column 3 of data form 2 on exports, and the quantity of HFC-23 generation that is captured is found in column 3 of data form 3 on “production and HFC-23 generation”. The “Notes” section of the data form would indicate where those data could be found.

14. The data on imports, exports and HFC-23 generation that is captured would be needed for monitoring of “HFC-23 that is generated, destroyed or maintained as stocks”. While using this option avoids the potential for errors, as data are only entered in one place, it also means that the completeness and accuracy of the information would not be easily discerned visually, as pertinent information would need to be sought in another section or form.

15. The form for option 1 is presented in the annex to the present note.

B. Option 2: adding an annex to data form 3

16. Option 2 is to add an annex to data form 3 on “production and HFC-23 generation”, similar to the approach taken to changes made to data form 1 on imports pursuant to decision XXIV/12.

17. In addition to the same columns provided for in option 1, for stocks of HFC-23 on hand at the start and end of the year, the quantity used for feedstock, the quantity used for other uses within the country and the quantity destroyed, the new annex would include columns for information already available in the data forms on imports, exports and production of controlled substances. The quantity for imports in the new annex should match with column 3 of data form 1 on imports, the quantity for exports should match with column 3 of data form 2 on exports, and the quantity for HFC-23 generation that is captured should match with column 3 of data form 3 on “production and HFC-23 generation”.

18. Under this option, all pertinent data would be found in the annex to data form 3, making it possible to quickly check the consistency and completeness of the information. This option would entail extra work, however, owing to the double entry of information, which would also increase the possibility of transcription errors.

19. The form for option 2 is presented in the annex to the present note.

Annex

Option 1: adding rows to data form 3

Extract from data form 3 on production and HFC-23 generation

(1) Annex/group	(2) Substance	(3) Captured for all uses	(4a) Captured for feedstock uses within your country	(4b) Captured for destruction	Production for exempted essential, critical, high-ambient- temperature or other uses within your country		
					(5) Quantity	(6) Decision / type of use or remarks	
F-Group II	HFC-23 (CHF3)						
		(A) On hand at the start of the year	(B) Quantity used as feedstock	(C) Quantity destroyed	(D) Quantity used for other uses within the country*	(E) On hand at the end of the year	
Comments:							
<p>Note: *The “Quantity used for other uses within the country” excludes the “Quantity used as feedstock”.</p> <p>In accounting for HFC-23 generation that is captured or stocks of HFC-23 across years, the following quantities would be required:</p> <p>(a) The quantity imported, which is found in column 3 of data form 1 on imports.</p> <p>(b) The quantity exported, which is found in column 3 of data form 2 on exports.</p> <p>(c) The quantity generation that is captured, which is found in column 3 of data form 3 on “production and HFC-23 generation”.</p> <p>The amount produced for all uses refers to both intentional production and unintentional by-production.</p>							

Option 2: adding an annex to data form 3

All quantities pertain to new (unused, not recovered) HFC-23

(A) On hand at the start of the year	(B) Quantity imported (obtained from column 3 of data form 1 on imports)	(C) Quantity exported (obtained from column 3 of data form 2 on exports)	(D) Total generation that is captured (obtained from column 3 of data form 3 on “production and HFC-23 generation”)	(E) Quantity used as feedstock	(F) Quantity destroyed	(G) Quantity used for other uses within the country*	(H) On hand at the end of the year
Comments:							
<p>Note: *The “Quantity used for other uses within the country” excludes the “Quantity used as feedstock”.</p> <p>The amount produced for all uses refers to both intentional production and unintentional by-production.</p>							

