Thank you for inviting the IPCC to participate at this high-level segment of the 30th meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and the opportunity to present some of the findings of the recently approved/accepted IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C.

Firstly, allow me to congratulate the Scientific Assessment Panel of the Montreal Protocol for the release of the latest Scientific Assessment of Ozone Depletion that presents the concrete results of the global, collective actions in healing the ozone layer. Despite all the achievements so far, there is broad recognition that further global, ambitious and timely climate actions are needed to reduce to risks of climate change to the environment, people and livelihoods.

As you know, the IPCC SR15 responds to the invitation by the UNFCCC during COP 21 for the IPCC to provide a special report in 2018 on impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global GHG emission pathways. The IPCC accepted the invitation in April 2016 and included that impacts and pathways should be addressed in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty. This ensured consistency between the report and the Paris Agreement, in particular the aim to limit warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels while pursuing efforts to hold it to 1.5 degrees. Due to limited literature during the last IPCC assessment report, the AR5, the assessment of impacts and emissions trajectories for global warming of 1.5°C was very limited. Fortunately, many publications since the AR5 were produced, and the Special Report could be produced based on the assessment of nearly 6,000 studies.

Four key messages from the report, presented in more depth in the Summary for Policy Makers can be summarized as follows:

- Global warming from human activities is estimated to be approximately 1°C above pre-industrial levels and is already affecting people, ecosystems and livelihoods all around the
world. Even at 1°C, nearly 20% of the global population live in regions that experience warming above the global average in one or more seasons.

- Limiting warming to 1.5°C will bring clear benefits to natural and human systems compared to warming of 2°C or higher. As examples, the report projects approximately 60 million more people affected by drought at 2°C than at 1.5. Sea level rise is expected to be 10cm less at 1.5°C than at 2°C. Limiting warming to 1.5°C is not impossible but would require unprecedented transitions in all aspects of society.

- Actions to limit warming to 1.5°C can go hand-in-hand with achieving other world goals, particularly the sustainable development goals of the Agenda 2030.

The Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C is unique since it was prepared with the participation of all three IPCC working groups, highlighting the cross-disciplinary nature of the work. Another feature of the report is its focus on sustainable development, and the sustainable development goals, although the report acknowledges the need for more scientific literature relating climate change actions and trade-offs and synergies with the SDGs.

One of the findings in the Special Report is that limiting warming to 1.5°C requires that CO₂ emissions reach net zero near 2050 and concurrent deep reductions in emissions of GHG other than CO₂ and other climate forcers, including HFCs. As part of the larger group of fluorinated gases, HFCs are also assumed to decline in 1.5°C-consistent pathways. Projected reductions of F-gases by 2050 are projected to be deeper than the published estimates of reductions to be achieved with full implementation of the Montreal Protocol’s Kigali Amendment of approximately half the emissions in 2010. Although the present emissions of HFCs contribute a small proportion to the annual GHG emissions, their use in the air conditioning sector is expected to grow rapidly over the next few decades if alternatives are not adopted. However, this projected future impact can be mitigated through better servicing and maintenance of equipment and switching of cooling gases.

The report recognizes that the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol is a demonstration that a global environmental agreement facilitating common but differentiated responsibilities is possible, with developing countries benefiting from leap-frogging the trial-and-error stages of innovative technology development experienced first by the developed countries.
To finalize, the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C is clear that although the long-term warming is mainly driven by CO₂ emissions, reducing non-CO₂ emissions is part of most mitigation pathways. The report notes that the temperature change from short lived climate forcers disappears within decades after emissions of these forcers are ceased. For some HFCs, alternatives exist with reduced warming effects that, if combined with improved energy efficiency would create an ideal situation where emissions of CO₂ and other co-emissions would be addressed simultaneously.

So, as it can be seen, the Special Report has many elements that are not only relevant to the Climate Change Convention, but also to the Montreal Protocol and, in particular, regarding the phasing out of HFCs set out in the Kigali Amendment. With the upcoming COP-24 in Katowice next month and the Talanoa dialogue under the Paris Agreement, the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5oC will certainly provide the climate change negotiators with the most updated scientific information to support their policy decisions.

Thank you for your attention.