

## **Statement for the Minister (*Head of Delegation*)**

### **Greetings:**

*Mr. President, Excellences' and distinguished colleagues,*

*On behalf of the Republic of Vanuatu, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the government of Italy and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) for the outstanding organization of this meeting and the warm hospitality of the people of Italy.*

*I also wish to convey my sincere appreciation for the excellent work done by the ozone secretariat and the assessment panels for their efforts in dealing with issues on substances that deplete the ozone layer.*

### **Body:**

*I am pleased to announce that Vanuatu is among the Parties that have ratified all the amendments of Montreal Protocol and therefore the implementation of the country program is on the way.*

*The Republic of Vanuatu is implementing the Hydrochlorofluorocarbons phase-out management plan, we believe that the accelerated phase out of HCFC's is going to be another significant landmark in the history of Montreal Protocol and our Government will continue to strive to enable its compliance under this protocol although our consumption level is very low.*

*In the same way, Vanuatu has also ratified the Kigali amendment on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2018, this is awaiting endorsement by the National Parliament.*

*Apart from the ratification of the Kigali amendment, I hope that other member countries will jointly agree with Vanuatu that there are a number of outstanding issues. I am confident that parties will show similar commitments and resolve issues arising now and beyond.*

*The Republic of Vanuatu trusts that in order to address these issues, parties must attain full compliance to the Montreal Protocol, this would be among the key tools to realize the Paris Agreement and to continue the fight against climate change.*

*Therefore, I wish to declare that Vanuatu will continue to prioritize and support work towards addressing the obligations under the Montreal Protocol. Furthermore, I would like to highlight the need for access of parties under Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol to energy efficient technologies in the refrigeration, air conditioning and heat-pump sectors taking into account the safety standards which will also contribute to our Nation Sustainable Development Goals.*

### **Conclusion:**

*As a Party to the Convention, I am confirming that Vanuatu is fully committed to cooperate with the global community to jointly address the coherent issues of ozone depleting substances and climate change worldwide.*

*Excellency's, distinguish delegates,*

*We are here in Rome to discuss imperative ozone depleting substance concerns, our decisions today will impact our future generation therefore it requires our collective responsibility to continue to advocate for*

*the protection of our ozone layer now and into the future. Let us work towards realistic outcomes that will project positive feedbacks to our countries and globally.*

*Thank you*