



TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL: BANGKOK, THAILAND: 21ST TO 25TH OCTOBER 2013.

**STATEMENT BY HEAD OF DELEGATION:
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBAWE**

The President of the 25th Meeting of Parties to the Montreal Protocol

Distinguished Delegates

Ladies and Gentlemen

Firstly, I would like to join other delegates who have spoken before me to extend to you, Mr. President, my warmest congratulations on your election to the bureau of the 25th Meeting of Parties to the Montreal Protocol. I would like to assure you of my Country's support and utmost co-operation during your tenure of Presidency.

I also extend my gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Thailand for the warm hospitality since our arrival into the country. In addition I also wish to thank the Ozone Secretariat for the excellent arrangements for my delegation to attend this important meeting.

Mr President, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to extend my congratulations to the Ozone Family for the great achievements we have made so far. The Montreal Protocol has no doubt been the most successful Multilateral Environment Agreement to date. This has been made possible by the dedication and commitment by former and current office bearers at the Ozone Secretariat and all Parties to the Protocol. My delegation extends warmest wishes to Mr. Marco Gonzalez during his retirement and hope that he will still play an important role as we tackle more challenging issues that lie ahead.

The impacts of Climate Change are being felt and experienced in most parts of the globe more than ever before. This calls upon the Montreal Protocol to play its complementary role by avoiding alternatives that have high Global Warming Potentials and promote ozone and climate friendly chemicals particularly refrigerants. The recovery of the Ozone Layer alone is not a major achievement in the face of adverse impacts of climate change and other environmental challenges.

Mr. President, as developing countries, our environmental responsibilities compete with other socio-economic responsibilities of our Governments. The Multilateral Fund has played an important role in the success of ODS Phase out activities in developing countries including Zimbabwe. With the phase out of HydroChloroFluoroCarbons (HCFCs) still in its preliminary stages in developing countries, continued funding is needed to comply with control measures. Our refrigeration and air conditioning industry needs adequate financial and technological support to shift to non-HCFC technology.

Mr President, allow me to express my sincere gratitude to the assistance my Country has received from the Multilateral Fund Secretariat over the years. This has helped my Government to remain in compliance with the ODS phase out provisions under the Montreal Protocol. To this end I extend my sincere appreciation to the work done by Ms Maria Nolan during her tenure as the Chief Officer of the Multilateral Fund Secretariat. On behalf of my delegation, I will her well in her retirement and congratulate Mr Eduardo Ganem on his appointment as the new Chief Officer.

Lastly Mr. President, as earlier alluded, my Government strongly believes that the success of the Montreal Protocol relies heavily in its collaboration with other Multilateral Environmental Agreements. My delegation therefore supports the continued work of Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) in finding lasting solutions to the problems of stratospheric ozone layer depletion and global warming.

I thank you all

Hon. Simon Musanhu (M.P.)
Deputy MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND
CLIMATE
GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE