



**JOINT TENTH CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION AND THE TWENTY-SIXTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL: PARIS, FRANCE: 17<sup>TH</sup> - 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2014.**

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

Presidents of the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties to the Vienna Convention and the 26<sup>th</sup> 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, the Presidents, my warmest congratulations on your election to the bureaus of the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties to the Vienna Convention and the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Parties to the Montreal Protocol. I would like to assure you of my Country's support and utmost co-operation during your tenures of Presidency.

I also extend my gratitude and appreciation to the Government of France 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 Environmental Agreement to date.

This has been made possible by the dedication and commitment of former and current office bearers at the Ozone Secretariat and all Parties to the Convention and Protocol. My delegation extends warmest congratulations and welcome to Ms. Tina Birmpili on her appointment as Executive Secretary. I wish her strength, patience and perseverance as we tackle more challenging issues that lie ahead.

The progress we have collectively made in phasing out the production and consumption of ODS is very evident from the data submitted by Parties and compiled by the Ozone Secretariat. Latest findings by the Scientific Assessment Panel in its Report of 2014 confirm that the ozone hole is recovering. I greatly appreciate the collaborative efforts exerted by Governments of the World, Industry, NGOs and especially the Media in addressing this global problem.

Mr President, the impacts of Climate Change are being felt and experienced in most parts of the globe more than ever before. As we tackle the phase out of the remaining ODS, namely the HCFCs, I call upon the Montreal Protocol Parties to play their complementary role by avoiding alternatives that have high Global Warming Potentials and promote ozone and climate friendly chemicals particularly in the refrigeration and air conditioning sector.

If this is not done urgently, the benefits of the recovery of the Ozone Layer are soon going to be outweighed by the adverse impacts of climate change and other global environmental problems. These global environmental problems are closely interwoven and hence a holistic approach is needed.

Mr. President, as a developing country, Zimbabwe is faced with major socio-economic responsibilities in addition to environmental protection obligations. This calls for strict and at times unbalanced allocation of scarce resources within the country. The Multilateral Fund played and still continue to play an important role in my country's successful ODS Phase out programmes particularly in the agricultural sector.

With the phase out of HydroChloroFluoroCarbons (HCFCs) now gathering momentum in my country, continued funding is needed to comply with HCFC control measures. Our refrigeration and air conditioning industry needs adequate financial and technological support to shift to non-HCFC and non HFC technologies.

Mr President, allow me to express my sincere gratitude to the assistance my Country has received from the Multilateral Fund Secretariat over the years. However, there are challenges that my Government is facing in the implementation of the HCFC Phase out Management Plan which require continued assistance. The major challenge is the non availability of alternative technologies at reasonable cost. Currently our technicians cannot get Hydrocarbon refrigerants and servicing tools at affordable prices locally or within the region.

In addition, the banks of recovered refrigerants, halons and empty methyl bromide cylinders in my country are increasing. With the absence of proper destruction facilities in the country, my Government is faced with a severe waste management challenge. Although I am told that the Montreal Protocol does not fund non-consumption activities, I appeal for serious decisions to be made during this meeting on such matters.

In conclusion, Mr. President, my Government strongly supports the adoption of decisions that will mitigate the adverse impacts of Climate Change through use of zero or low GWP refrigerants. The success of the Montreal Protocol in isolation will not be a major cause for celebration if other environmental problems are not adequately resolved.

As earlier alluded, these global environmental problems are closely intertwined and therefore need collaborative efforts. My delegation therefore proposes that the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) continue the search for lasting solutions to stratospheric ozone layer depletion and global warming with focus on zero ODP and zero GWP refrigerants.

I thank you all for your attention.

Hon. Saviour Kasukuwere (M.P.)  
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND CLIMATE  
GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE