**Mandate for a possible contact group on the feasibility and ways of managing HFCs**

The Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol at its thirty-fifth meeting held in Bangkok from 22 to 24 April 2015, agreed that “it would continue to work inter-sessionally in an informal manner to study the feasibility and ways of managing HFCs, including, inter alia, the related challenges set out in annex II to the [report of the thirty-fifth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group], with a view to the establishment of a contact group on the feasibility and ways of managing HFCs at the thirty-sixth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group” (paragraph 128, UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/35/6).

The informal meeting was convened on the 12-13 of June in Vienna on the above mentioned basis.

The parties have recognised in their interventions the success of the Montreal Protocol and its institutions in phasing out ODSs.

Parties agree that nothing should be considered agreed until everything is agreed.

~~[Parties agree that they shall resolve the list of challenges as mentioned below first.~~

~~Parties agree to consider the feasibility and ways of managing HFCs in a contact group, where the parties shall resolve the following issues:]~~

[Parties in a contact group shall consider the feasibility and ways of managing HFCs, where the parties first shall resolve the following issues by formulating processes, mechanisms and approaches as required thereof:]

* Relevance and recognition of the special situation of developing countries and the principles under the Montreal Protocol which have enabled sufficient additional time in the implementation of commitments by A5 countries,
* [Enhancing the commitments by non A5 parties to maintain the MLF as the financial mechanism and provide sufficient additional funding through the MLF [commensurate with what is needed to enable [A5 party compliance with any control measures, if agreed] [A5 parties’ management of HFCs],]

[Appropriate financial mechanism for management of HFCs in A5 parties, should any HFC control measures be agreed]

* The elements in paragraph 1(a) of decision XXVI/9 including IPR issues in considering the feasibility and the ways of managing HFCs,
* Flexibility in implementation that enables countries to set their own strategies and set their own priorities in sectors and technologies,
* Exemption process and a mechanism for periodic review of alternatives including the consideration of availability or lack of availability of alternatives in all sectors in A5 countries and special needs for high ambient countries, based on all the elements listed in paragraph 1(a) of decision XXVI/9,
* Relationship with the HCFC phase out,
* Non-party trade provisions, and
* Legal aspects, synergies and other issues related to the UNFCCC in the context of HFC management under the MP.

[[Then,]Parties will discuss in the contact group the ways of managing HFCs including [the proposed amendments] [amending the MP to phase down HFCs [at an appropriate time]] and other options suggested/proposed by Parties.]

[Then, the parties will discuss in the contact group the pending matters related to the management of HFCs] [including amending the MP to phase down HFCs].

[Then, the parties will discuss the pending matters related to the management of HFCs].

[Then, the parties will discuss in the contact group the ways of managing HFCs including the proposals submitted by the parties.]