



**INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF REFRIGERATION
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**26th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (MOP-26)
Paris, France, November 17-21, 2014**

***Statement given by Didier Coulomb,
Director of the International Institute of Refrigeration***

Madam, Mr President, Dear Delegates,

The International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR) is an independent intergovernmental science and technology based organization which promotes knowledge of refrigeration and associated technologies that improve quality of life in a cost-effective and environmentally sustainable manner including:

- Food quality and safety from farm to consumer
- Comfort in homes and commercial buildings
- Health products and services
- Low temperature technology and liquefied gas technology
- Energy efficiency
- Use of non-ozone-depleting and low global warming refrigerants in a safe manner.

Refrigeration (including air conditioning) is indispensable to life, thus its use will continue to expand steadily in the future, particularly in developing countries.

However, refrigeration contributes to two major threats to the environment: ozone depletion and climate change. Initial actions designed to address these issues led to the Montreal and Kyoto Protocols.

The impact of the refrigeration sector on the environment is two-fold:

- Refrigeration uses refrigerant fluids, some of which exert a negative effect on the environment if released into the atmosphere due to equipment leaks or incomplete recovery when disposal of equipment takes place:
 - CFCs, and to a lesser extent HCFCs, contribute to the depletion of stratospheric ozone;
 - CFCs, HCFCs and HFCs are generally potent greenhouse gases which cause global warming.
- Refrigeration technologies use energy and thus indirectly contribute to the emission of CO₂. Refrigeration accounts for about 17% of worldwide electricity use. For this reason, and also in order to address cost and future power production capacity issues, replacement of a refrigeration system is acceptable only if the energy efficiency of the new system is greater than that of the system it replaces.

Consequently, for many years the IIR has been organizing conferences, publishing guides and Informatory Notes in order to assist all stakeholders, countries, businesses, universities, to reduce the emission of refrigerants and the energy consumption of equipment. This is reflected in 2014 by:

- The publication of Informatory Notes on the containment of refrigerants in refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat-pump systems; on the reduction of refrigerant loads in refrigeration systems; on a range of regulations limiting the use of HFCs with a focus on the European regulation on fluorinated gases;
- the publication of a guide on CO₂, following other IIR guides;
- the organization of conferences, in particular on natural refrigerants, in China, in August this year.

Several actions were carried out with the UNEP: participation in UNEP conferences in the Middle East, participation in the drafting or editing of documents, including some aimed at developing countries with hot climates, in common events.

2015 will be a key year for all of us, with the adoption of plans for the phase-out of HCFCs, the establishment of new European regulations on HFCs and especially with the Paris meeting on the climate and the possible adoption of a new international agreement on global warming. In any case, we must develop and adopt low-GWP, high-efficiency technologies in the refrigeration sector in all countries.

The IIR will help you to do that, in an impartial manner
Make use of our expertise. Thank you