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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF  
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL  
Sixty-fourth Meeting  
Montreal, 25-29 July 2011

**IMPLEMENTATION OF MONTREAL PROTOCOL ACTIVITIES IN HAITI  
POST THE IMPACT OF THE DEVASTATING 2010 EARTHQUAKE  
(SUBMITTED BY UNEP IN RESPONSE TO DECISIONS 61/52 AND 62/70)**

## **Introduction**

1. Decision 62/70: Following the discussion, the Executive Committee decided to request UNEP, as lead agency, to present the strategy and action plan to assist Haiti to return to the pre-earthquake implementation level of the Montreal Protocol requested in decision 61/52 to the 63<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Executive Committee. This report was prepared by UNEP in consultation with UNDP.
2. The earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12, 2010 was one of the deadliest natural disasters on record. Over 230,000 people perished, 300,000 more were wounded, and well over a million were displaced. Housing, infrastructure, public buildings and businesses all sustained considerable damage. Damages and losses were evaluated at US\$ 7.9 billion, or around 120 percent of GDP. On October 21, 2010, an outbreak of cholera was confirmed in Haiti, and the latest available UN data indicates that about 209,000 cases have been reported and more than 4,000 people have died.
3. Today, recovery and reconstruction are taking place, albeit at a frustratingly slow pace and not currently at the scale of existing needs.
4. In the implementation of the Montreal Protocol in Haiti, UNEP and UNDP as implementing agencies have to work in accordance to current UN policies and rules for Haiti and in the context of a country in post-disaster management including ensuring transparency and accountability.
5. The high demand and competition for skilled local labour by international organizations and NGOs has made it difficult to find and retain good local consultants (especially within the budgets that were estimated prior to the earthquake). To give an example, the minimum starting rate of a national consultant to assist in the conduct of survey is now US\$ 4,000 per month, not including cost of travel and other expenses. Before the earthquake similar scale skills was estimated at US\$ 1,500 per month. The Multilateral Fund projects previously approved for Haiti were based on pre-earthquake costs.
6. Both UNEP and UNDP have to be constantly adjusting to the day-to-day dynamism of the current situation in order to ensure that the Montreal Protocol's implementation will have the maximum effect in the country and in accordance to agency rules of implementation.
7. UNEP in collaboration with UNDP wishes to advise that given the present political situation of Haiti, an interim report is being submitted to explain the situation and updating the Executive Committee on actions and assistance provided since the 61<sup>st</sup> meeting up to date.
8. In consideration to this present situation, UNEP in consultation with UNDP requests that special permission be given to allow for flexibility for the implementation of the approved projects and for the preparation of the country's HCFC Phase out Management Plan (HPMP). This request is made taking into consideration the day-to-day challenges, fluctuation of national including governmental priorities and associated

difficulties of implementation with a country under post-disaster management and in a period of establishment of a new government following the general election held in March 2011. The implementation of the Montreal Protocol in this post-disaster management is pegged on the following structures:

- a. Maintenance of governmental institutionalism to widen the support and knowledge base of the Montreal Protocol implementation including the maintenance of political support and strengthening of the National Ozone Unit (NOU) office.
- b. Co-ordination with the other UN offices assigned to Haiti engaged in post-disaster management and rebuilding of Haiti to encourage that non-ODS technologies are imported into Haiti and to be engaged with the training and other capacity building activities being conducted under the Montreal Protocol.
- c. Coordination with international agencies (both of UN and non-UN) engaged in the rebuilding efforts in Haiti. This includes engagement in policies for purchases, operations and final disposal of ODS-containing technologies being imported for use by these international agencies.
- d. Continuation of capacity building of the National Ozone Officer appointed in May 2009.
- e. Encourage increasing involvement of all sectors - private and public - in the implementation of the Montreal Protocol and in the context of the national rebuilding processes.
- f. Encourage as far as possible that equipment and infrastructure being provided through international support in the rebuilding processes are ozone- and climate-friendly.

### **Pre-earthquake status of Montreal Protocol implementation**

9. During the period from November 2006 to November 2009, Haiti had advanced in the implementation of the Institutional Strengthening (IS) project (ISP) despite two changes in National Ozone officers over this period. In particular, the NOU was able to work together with the private and government sectors in order to address the national responsibility for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol for the ODS phase-out. A Governmental Ozone Committee had been created to include the private sector, other Government Offices and UN Peacekeeping.

10. The Ministry of Environment signed an agreement with UNEP to administrate the IS project with a total amount of US\$ 100,000 which is still in progress. In accordance with the IS project, the government manages the expenditures of this project including hiring the National Ozone Officer, operational costs, national travel, meetings and workshops as submitted in the project document. The National Ozone Officer reports directly to the Minister of Environment. The NOU Action Plan had been integrated into the Ministry of Environment National Action Plan.

11. In March 2009 Haiti's licensing system was completed. Measurable advancement was reached on the training of technicians and customs officers. Haiti's ODS consumption

has been reduced to comply with their commitments under the Montreal Protocol as shown in the 2008 ODSs data reports.

12. However, some difficulties were being faced and partially overcome. It should be emphasized that given the challenges of limited human and institutional resources of Haiti, the NOU relied heavily on the technical and institutional support of UNEP's Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) for the purposes of achieving the outlined objectives and of the results expected for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol in Haiti. On an average and on a daily basis, UNEP CAP devotes 3-4 hours on required follow-up activities to allow for any measurable deliverable. This is not including the time of senior management and the support services of UNEP's Haiti office.

13. Before the earthquake, the extreme poverty conditions of Haitian life, political instability and weakness of public institutions were well known through communication mass media and official reports. Such a situation had prevented a fully completion of projects approved by the Multilateral Fund, even before the earthquake of 2010.

14. By that time, main planned activities for the period 2010 – 2011 had included: a) the continuation of implementation of the Import/Export Licensing System and ODS data reporting, b) completion of the Refrigerant Management Plan (RMP) which were UNDP components, c) launching the Terminal Phase out Management Plan (TPMP) and d) establishment of the baseline for HCFC and Prepare the HPMP.

15. Additional policy actions envisaged were: a) the development of measures to improve communications with the NOU and Customs Officials of the Dominican Republic to prevent and control any potential illegal trade of ODS. b) Public awareness activities on ozone layer protection issues had been also planned to raise awareness among the general public as well as among policy and decision makers. This was and it is still extremely important within a context where housing and food, public health, childhood and other social and political problems might be capturing most of the political attention in the country.

#### **Main results obtained in the period of reporting (July 2010 to June 2011)**

16. Through a coordinated and joint compliance assistance approach implemented by UNEP and UNDP to support the Government of Haiti, the main outputs achieved are listed as follow:

- a. 2009 and 2010 ODS data reports submitted by National Ozone Officer to the Ozone Secretariat and Multilateral Fund Secretariat.
- b. The country is in compliance with the ODS phase-out schedule established by the Montreal Protocol.
- c. Country negotiators and technical officers are currently attending international and regional meetings and training activities of Montreal Protocol.
- d. Governmental officers and service sector capacity is being re-built.
- e. National Ozone Unit and Custom facilities re-equipped.
- f. IS project disbursement resumed under the rules and procedures agreed in Haiti by the United Nations system.

- g. The RMP and TPMP are in progress and are expected to be completed respectively by 2011 and 2012.
- h. A comprehensive train-the-trainer seminar was conducted by an international expert in June 2011 for a selected group of trainers in Haiti. The second part of the training will be completed in August 2011, and the new trainers will start the training of 300 local refrigeration technicians in Haiti. This is in accordance to the RMP and TPMP and in cooperation with UNDP.
- i. UNDP-Tools and Equipment to conduct the training seminars in good refrigeration practices were procured in early 2011, and have been used in the train-the-trainer seminars. A kit of good practices for refrigeration technicians and workshops will be delivered in a couple of months to Haiti. The Purchase order with the selected company has been signed.
- j. UNEP and UNDP are in the process of identifying 3 technical institutions / schools that can be used for the future training of refrigeration technicians and engineers in Haiti.
- k. The HCFC survey will be started by the second half of 2011. In agreement with the National Ozone Officer, support will be solicited from senior Ozone Officers in the Caribbean region.

### **Challenges and Opportunities**

17. Due to the country's situation briefly introduced above, a detailed report of actions carried out (presented in the Annex 1) and the IS project plan of action approved by the 59th Executive Committee meeting, challenges ahead and opportunities to achieve and sustain Montreal Protocol's compliance are listed as:

- Newly-elected authorities are expected to assume the control of the government's institutions, before approving a medium- or even short-term strategic plan for environmental issues, including the Montreal Protocol.
- Increased political support is needed for the strengthening and regularization of National Ozone Unit within the Ministry of Environment as well as integration of IS project activities as part of the General Action Plan of the Ministry of Environment.
- Continual training and sensitization of Customs administration to enforce the HCFC licensing system and to establish the country border dialogue with Dominican Republic Customs is needed.
- Provide the Line Ministries regular updates on the Montreal Protocol to ensure that the decisions taken within the Governmental Ozone Committee are effectively addressed.
- Use of the respective Haiti offices of UNEP and UNDP offices to continue fostering high-level political interest for the Montreal Protocol's implementation.
- The HPMP preparation process could be used to conduct a national discussion and awareness to lead the international assistance being received. Avoiding the installation of HCFC refrigeration and air conditioning equipment and promoting energy efficiency equipment will be a convenient cost/benefit combination for country development as well as Montreal Protocol's compliance.
- Institutionalize the refrigeration service training in good practices on non-ODS alternatives. A special plan for the informal sector should be developed since this subsector is the main source of charging refrigerant in leaking system amongst other

inadequate handling of refrigerants and emissive uses such as flushing. The creation of an association of technicians is also recommendable.

- Public education and awareness-raising for end-users for hiring properly trained technicians for air-conditioning and refrigeration servicing.

## Annex 1

### Actions conducted to maintain the Montreal Protocol implementation

This report provides a status for the period until June 2011, as follows:

- 1.1 National Ozone Unit (NOU):** The National Ozone Officer required support in addressing post disaster rebuilding including changes in UN national (Haiti) operating rules. To address this limitation, additional support through the UNEP's Haiti and Panama offices is provided. All payments process under the Institutional Strengthening project including the procurement processes for the equipment required reestablishing the NOU, has to be conducted via the UNDP Haiti office. Procurement of the equipment required for the rebuilding of the NOU has been completed. The NOO is a contracted position and through the Ministry of Environment.
- 1.2 To assist on the facilitation of disbursement: UNEP assisted the National Ozone Officer in the preparation of the required progress and financial reports** ensuring that these reports are of an acceptable standard and under the rules of reporting. This was particularly important for the financial reports including ensuring that the reports were signed off by the appropriate/designated office on the ministry of environment.
- 1.3 Re-equipping of the National Ozone Office:**
- 1.3.1** UNEP assisting on the request and analysis of quotations in accordance with the UNDP Haiti rules for national purchases.
  - 1.3.2** The hand-over was done officially with a letter to the Minister of Environment. Equipment purchased included both for the NOO and for the conduct of training.
  - 1.3.3** Outreaching and information printed material was prepared in French and delivered by UNEP. A distribution plan has to be prepared by the NOO.
- 1.4 Haiti UNEP's Office:** This office established in 2008 and funded under the Environment Fund assist in the administrative implementation of the Montreal Protocol implementation. In the October 2010 and through the TPMP a national monitoring and reporting officer was contracted. This contract was not extended after 2 months due to difficulties in fulfilling the agreed terms of reference on the part of the consultant. As an interim measure, a Haitian national from the UNEP's Haiti office was assigned to have closer follow up with the National Ozone Unit and under the supervision of the Manager of the UNEP's Haiti office. The funding for this service is provided by the UNEP's Haiti office (funded via UNEP's Environment Fund) and including:
- 1.4.1** Day to day coordination with the line ministry and NOU
  - 1.4.2** Provide UNEP/ROLAC will guidance on the political situation as it may affect Montreal Protocol implementation
  - 1.4.3** Advise on resources availability to conduct national training
  - 1.4.4** Advise on potential partnership and alliances to assist in the Montreal Protocol implementation
  - 1.4.5** Provide and quality control and oversight function on the resources being solicited by the NOU through approved Montreal Protocol projects, such as example estimation of cost services and goods.

- 1.4.6** Follow-up on disbursements to the NOU as this is done through the UNEP's Haiti office and using the UNDP (Haiti) administrative processes
  - 1.4.7** Coordinate with the NOU and UNDP Haiti office on national procurement activities and delivery of equipment to be provided under approved projects, national organization of workshops for the training of technicians, boarder control and customs.
  - 1.4.8** Day to day follow-up with the NOU, UNDP and UNEP Panama offices
  - 1.4.9** Technical and Administrative Assistant in the procurement of services for the NOU.
- 1.5 UNEP Panama office** assigned dedicated resources (French speaking) to assist the NOU in preparation of reports, of training workshops, ensure attendance to regional meetings, coordination with the UNEP Haiti office, conduct follow-up with UNDP on the project delivery. That UNEP officer dedicates 50% of her time to working on the Montreal Protocol implementation in Haiti.
- 1.6 Networking with the National Ozone Officers of the Caribbean:** UNEP continues to encourage regular participation to this meeting. For the in March 2011, an agenda item was dedicated for challenges in the implementation of the Montreal Protocol in Haiti. In additional to the National Ozone Officer, other senior environment officer attended as part of the capacity building of additional nationals for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol.
- 1.7 Regional Training of Technician:** Haiti participated in the Caribbean regional workshop for air-conditioning and refrigeration technicians: for longer term alternatives and skills standardization held in Guyana, March 2011. In this workshop a special session was dedicated to brainstorm on how the Caribbean region can assist this sector in the rebuilding processes. In July 2011, another technician attended a training programme in Cuba on longer term alternatives for air-conditioning and refrigeration.
- 1.8 Training of Customs, Boarder control and other Joint initiatives:** UNEP provided new model refrigerant identifiers provided and agreement made for the training of customs officers starting April 2011 and with focus on the border control between the Dominica Republic and Haiti. The Customs authority of the Dominica Republic has given their commitment to assist and participate in this training.
- 1.9 Green Customs Training:** A Senior Custom Officer attended the Caribbean Green Customs Initiative (GCI) Expert Meeting on nationalization of the GCI training, March 2011 with the objective of approaches to nationalization of the GCI methodology.
- 1.10** The tri-lateral project called **Caribbean Biological Corridor** (Haiti, Dominica Republic and Cuba) funded by the European Union will provide training facility located in the Dominica Republic. Such facility is located close to the boarder of Haiti and allowing for training in boarder control for both countries. Based on trade information most of the ODS and ODS containing technologies entering Haiti passes through the borders from the Dominica Republic.
- 1.11 Interim Haiti Recovery Commission (IHRC):** the implementation of the Montreal Protocol is included in the IHRC project preparation managed by the UNEP

Haiti and included strengthening institutional capacities of public sector and of local organizations at the borders of the Dominican Republic and Haiti to allow for the management of trans-boundary natural resources and of goods controlled under Multilateral Environment Agreements.

**1.12 UNDP Components:** All activities that were implemented under the RMP update and TPMP before the earthquake struck Haiti is in the process of being reviewed.

- UNDP's current focus is to provide training to a select group of potential trainers in Haiti, and subsequently extend the training to a group of 300 refrigeration technicians in Haiti.
- Based on information gathered, the training has to be geared for different target groups and with focus in other cities outside of Port of Principe.
- First training (with an international trainer) planned for May of 2011 for the first train the trainers, and the subsequent level will be given shortly after.
- UNDP has procured tools and equipment for the train the training seminars, and it is currently stored at the UN compound in Haiti.
- It will be brought to the training facility when it has been identified and made ready.
- UNDP is currently in the process of procuring 300 kits of good practices (50 kits for smaller workshops and 250 kits for individual technicians from the informal sector (the distinction between formal and informal sector is now more blurred). The kits of good practice should arrive to Haiti in July of 2011.
- The kits will be provided to technicians that successfully finish the courses in good refrigeration practices.

**1.13** The NOO in Haiti together with UNEP and UNDP are currently in the process of identifying three technical schools that in the future can be used to formally train new refrigeration technicians and to give courses in good refrigeration practices to technicians that need an update. The aim is to find technical school outside of Port au Prince. The Schools will be equipped with tools and equipment that will allow them to do proper training of the refrigeration technicians. The curriculum will also be updated and standardized. It should be noted at all of the technical schools in Puerto Principe were destroyed by the earthquake of 2010.

**1.14** The joint work of UNEP, UNDP and the National Ozone Office in Haiti make it possible to achieve the first training of trainers workshop held from 25-28 May 2011. This occasion was attended by a group of 24 participants. It was conducted by a person skilled in the refrigeration and acclimatization technologies. Environmental topics studied in this workshop were: the protection of the ozone layer, greenhouse effect, different refrigeration systems and their applications in domestic, commercial and industrial appliances, alternative refrigerants and actual trends, refrigerant recovery and recycling methods applied to refrigerators.

**1.15** To continue strengthening the capacity and to comply with the Montreal Protocol it is contemplated to continue with the preparation and training of phase II courses. It is expected in the future this series of workshops to reach other departments of Haiti.

Following capacity building in Haiti, Refrigeration technicians attended to the hydrocarbon technology workshop held in Cuba, 5-7 July 2011.

- 1.16** Additionally, UNEP in collaboration with the National Ozone Officer is planning to carry out a workshop on Halons before the end of August 2011. The objective of the workshop is to train and sensitize the sector on alternative non-HCFC technologies. Given the weak import controls at this time, there is the risk of obsolete technologies being imported.
- 1.17** At the request of National Ozone Officer in Haiti, UNEP is preparing a national workshop for journalists and media in Haiti to celebrate the International Ozone Day, 2011. The objective is to better prepare the media on environmental issues and having a better local impact. As priority items in the same is the issue of health, new cooling technologies acclimatization, the illegal trade in ODS and Green Customs.
- 1.18** UNEP is working on follow-up the preparation of documents to obtain full ratification of the Montreal Protocol Amendments by Haiti. This process is delayed as the draft instrument for the ratification of the Beijing has to be approved by the Parliament. Following on the election in March 2011, the new Parliament is in the process of being established.