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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Twenty-ninth Meeting
Beijing, 24-26 November 1999

WORK PROGRAMME OF UNEP FOR THE YEAR 2000

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FUND SECRETARIAT

1. UNEP is requesting approval from the Executive Committee of US \$2,940,599 for its 2000 work programme as indicated in Table 1.

Table 1

UNEP 2000 Work Programme

Country / Region	Type of Activity	Activity/Project	Amount Requested (US \$)	Amount Approved in 1998 (US\$)	Amount Recommended (US \$)
Africa	Networking	African region networks (French-speaking, English-speaking)	452,550	431,000	452,550
Asia	Networking	West Asia regional network	120,750	115,000	120,750
Asia	Networking	Asia regional networks (South-East & Pacific and South Asia)	219,450	209,000	219,450
LAC	Networking	Latin American region network (LCA South, LAC Central, LAC Caribbean)	418,950	399,000	418,950
Global	Recurring Info. Exchange	Collect prioritised sectoral data from world wide sources	117,600	112,000	117,600
Global	Recurring Info. Exchange	Update the OAIC CD-Rom	69,300	66,000	69,300
Global	Recurring Info. Exchange	Disseminate awareness material, technical and policy information	357,000	347,000	357,000
Global	Recurring Info. Exchange	Provide direct query-response service	84,000	80,000	84,000
Global	Recurring Info. Exchange	Publish the OzonAction newsletter and special supplements	364,000	347,000	364,000
Global	Recurring Info. Exchange	Maintain contact database of experts and mailing list for OzonAction Programme publications	44,000	42,000	44,000
Global	Recurring Info. Exchange	Provide international Halon Bank Management Information Clearinghouse services	93,450	89,000	93,450
Global	Non-recurring Info. Exchange	Deliver the OzonAction newsletter and other information through world wide web home page site	26,250	25,000	26,250
Global	Other	Conduct outreach at conferences and workshops	55,000	55,000	55,000
Global	Other	Support to national activities	30,000	30,000	30,000
Global	Other	Advisory and expert group meetings	75,000	75,000	75,000
Global	Other	Travel	75,000	75,000	75,000
Sub-Total			2,602,300		2,602,300
Agency support costs			338,299		338,299
Total:			2,940,599		2,940,599

Recurring information exchange and networking

2. At its 21st Meeting, the Executive Committee decided that recurring information-exchange activities and networking would be capped at the funding levels approved for UNEP's 1996 work programme, i.e., US \$1.05 million for recurring information exchange and US \$1.1 million for networking. It also decided that the levels of funding for those activities

would not be increased in future years except by a factor of up to 5 per cent to cover inflation (Decision 21/14).

3. As indicated in Table 1, UNEP has applied a 5 per cent increase to each budget line item except for those items classified as "Other".

4. UNEP was requested to provide a justification of why their recurring information and exchange and networking projects should be increased by 5 per cent due to inflation. UNEP indicated in the third footnote in its work programme that the specific items most susceptible to inflation were staff costs and travel. UNEP provided a justification for the 5 per cent increase in Annex I of its work programme.

OAIC diskette update and the report on efforts to make halon bank management clearinghouse services even more cost-effective

5. Decision 28/12 requested reports on inter alia the OAIC diskette update (1999) project (GLO/SEV/26/TAS/167) and the request for UNEP to pursue its efforts to make halon bank management clearinghouse even more costs-effective. These reports were submitted after the Secretariat prepared the document on implementation delays. They are attached to UNEP's work programme request as the Executive Committee is being requested at the 29th Meeting to approve UNEP's recurring information exchange programme that includes the ongoing annual OAIC diskette update and the annual costs of the halon bank management clearinghouse. UNEP noted that Decision 21/14 allows UNEP the "flexibility to apportion, according to its own priorities, the amounts [approved for individual projects within the recurring information clearinghouse and networking activities]".

6. UNEP indicated that the recurring information programme provided an updated diskette in July 1998. For 1999, UNEP decided to produce the update in a different medium, CD-ROM. The CD-ROM version could replace the diskette system that required the use of 8 floppy diskettes. UNEP also noted that 66 per cent of National Ozone Units had CD-ROM capacity.

7. The Secretariat noted in its comments on UNEP's progress report the average cost per query for halon banking was US \$3,560 per query for 1998. There were a total of 83 queries to the clearinghouse from its initiation in 1993 through 1998. UNEP notes that the cost effectiveness of the programme could be measured as a result of its queries' referrals that led to a reduced need for virgin halon amounting to 2,295 tonnes/ODP yielding a cost-effectiveness of US \$0.17 kg./ODP. UNEP indicated that its programme addressed more than the queries as it incorporates halon banking as part of its recurring information exchange and networking activities. It also liaises with halon banks and updates manufacturers' and halon bank lists.

8. UNEP did not indicate how it could make its halon banking management more cost-effective.

Other activities

9. The amounts requested for activities included in Table 1 classified as "Other activities" are the same amounts as have been previously approved on an annual basis. In its conduct of outreach at conferences and workshops, UNEP is indicating a new focus, i.e., to foster integrated

environmental management and cross cutting activities between the Montreal and Kyoto Protocols, POPs/PICs through roundtable forums.

Integrated environmental management

10. Among its recurring information exchange and networking programmes, UNEP plans to promote environmental options that maximise multiple environmental benefits (e.g. Kyoto and Montreal Protocols) by including components on such topics in information training and networking services to be undertaken in 2000. UNEP has cited Decision V/8 and Article 2F, para. 7 as a basis for its involvement in integrated environmental management. This reference states that “controlled substance in Group I of Annex C are selected for use in a manner that minimises ozone depletion, in addition to meeting other environmental, safety and economic considerations”.

Accuracy of information in UNEP’s work programme request

The Secretariat noted to UNEP that several quotes about the TEAP replenishment study were inaccurate as a corrigendum had been issued. Therefore, based on the corrigendum, the TEAP study stated that implementation of investment projects could be facilitated by policy frameworks that embrace both investment and non-investment projects, but not that the implementation of investment projects is greatly facilitated by policy frameworks that embrace”.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Fund Secretariat recommends approval of UNEP’s 2000 work programme in the amount of US \$2,602,300 and US \$338,299 in support costs.
2. The Executive Committee may wish to consider:
 - (a) UNEP’s report on efforts to make its halon bank clearinghouse even more cost-effective.
 - (b) The new focus of UNEP in integrated environmental management through its project “Conduct outreach at conferences and workshops” as well as part of its recurring information exchange activities and networking.



United Nations Environment Programme

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PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

Division of Technology, Industry and Economics

Energy and OzonAction Unit

Tour Mirabeau, 39-43 quai André Citroën, 75739 Paris – Cedex 15, France, Tel: +33.1.44.37.14.50;

Fax: +33.1.44.37.14.74

E-mail: uneptie@unep.fr URL: <http://www.uneptie.org/>

2000 WORK PROGRAMME OF UNEP

29th Meeting of the Executive Committee
November 1999

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Introduction

As the Financial Mechanism under the Montreal Protocol enters the new millennium, Article 5 countries are experiencing a paradigm shift with respect to their needs for non-investment activities under the Protocol. Until now, the emphasis under the Multilateral Fund has been to use non-investment activities to enable countries to expedite conversion through large investment projects. Given the substantial progress achieved by large users of ozone depleting substances (ODS) in shifting to alternatives, the emphasis for non-investment activities in 2000 and beyond will be to support smaller conversion projects in small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), low volume consuming countries (LVCs) and in “residual” applications of ODS. Additionally, greater emphasis in non-investment activities will need to be placed on enabling those countries where investment projects are already approved. The phaseout needs to be successfully completed in such countries as well as set-up and enforce effective policy measures, and avoid “backsliding” to ODS use.

I. Basis for this Work Programme

This Work Programme has been developed in accordance with UNEP’s proposed 2000 Business Plan and takes into consideration the input received through a separate feedback system of 8 sub-regional Networks of ODS Officers consisting of 100 developing countries, as well as input and direction received specifically from:

- Decisions taken at the 9th and 10th Meetings of the Parties
- Decisions taken at the 1999 and earlier meetings of the Executive Committee
- 19th Open –Ended Working Group meeting results
- Feedback from National Ozone Units (NOU) collected through the Regional Network Coordinators
- Separate NOU feedback on specific services collected by UNEP TIE Paris
- Retreat organized by the Multilateral Fund Secretariat (July 1999)
- Inputs from Implementing and Bilateral Agencies
- 1999 Regional Network Meetings and national training workshops
- UNEP’s 1999 Informal Advisory Group meeting
- The 1998/1999 TEAP/TOC assessment reports.

In addition to this Work Programme, UNEP expects to submit amendments in 2000 in response to country requests and to take forward the directions given by the Parties at their 11th Meeting in November 1998.

II. Programme Overview

UNEP’s OzonAction Programme under the Multilateral Fund strengthens the capacity of NOUs in Article 5 countries to meet their commitments under the Montreal Protocol by providing a range of need-based, non-investment services. By using the multiplying effect through NOU and the Internet, UNEP enables these services to reach other key national target groups, such as industry, industry associations, and the general public. With the non-investment services and encouragement and guidance provided by UNEP, the NOUs and principal stakeholders are well-positioned to undertake the action required to phase out ODS in an expeditious and cost-effective manner.

ODS reductions in a country are more cost-effective if the investment and non-investment projects are designed and implemented as mutually-reinforcing elements of a comprehensive country programme.¹ Accordingly, UNEP carefully designs and implements its “enabling” services such that they complement and support the investment and technical assistance projects of the other Implementing and Bilateral Agencies². Complimentarity and synergy with the activities of those agencies continue to be key criteria when UNEP develops its Business Plan and implements the projects contained therein.

UNEP’s services to Article 5 countries are organized as follows:

- Clearinghouse activities and Networks of ODS Officers that promote the exchange of information, experience and know-how required by Article 5 countries to meet their commitments under the Montreal Protocol, including those required to set policies, adopt alternative technologies, report data, and operate the NOU effectively.
- Country-specific and regional support activities including Country Programmes (CP), Institutional Strengthening (IS) projects, Refrigerant Management Plans (RMPs), Halon Management Plans (HMPs) and Total Phase-out Management Plans (TPMPs) that primarily support low-volume consuming countries (LVCs) that do not have major investment projects, with particular focus on establishing policy frameworks to implement the Montreal Protocol and developing sectoral strategies and plans to achieve specific phase out deadlines. These activities respond to particular non-investment needs (e.g. national training programmes in refrigeration, training for customs agencies), specified in CPs and RMPs or expressed as a priority regional need through the Regional Networks of ODS Officers.

Following Executive Committee Decision 21/14, this Work Programme reflects the Committee’s desire that UNEP’s clearinghouse be divided into two categories:

- “Recurring” activities which are “capped” at a specific funding level each year, plus up to 5% to allow for inflation.³ These activities include information exchange⁴ and Networking of ODS Officers.
- “Non-recurring” activities which are considered for funding by the Executive Committee on the merit of individual proposals.

¹ TEAP “Supplementary Report to Assessment of the Funding Requirement for the Replenishment of the Multilateral Fund

² This also includes complimentarity with ozone-related Global Environment Facility (GEF) activities.

³ In 1999 UNEP did not request any increase in this funding compared to 1998 approved funding. The specific items most susceptible to inflation are staff costs and travel. See Annex 1 for a justification.

⁴ Collection of sectoral data from worldwide sources; updated OAIC database; dissemination of information materials; direct query response service; maintenance of contact database of experts and mailing list of OzonAction programme publications; halon bank management clearinghouse services; publication of the OzonAction newsletter and special supplements.

III. Programme Focus

Since the outcome of the discussions on the Replenishment of the Multilateral Fund will not be known until the Meeting of the Parties (November 1999), this Work Programme is based by agreement on the assumption that resources available in 2000 will be similar to those available in 1999.

As in previous years, this portion of UNEP's 2000 Work Programme addresses recurring activities only. The second half of this Work Programme, the non-recurring elements, will be proposed by UNEP later as per agreement with the Executive Committee.

In 2000, the programme through its recurring activities will continue to assist Article 5 countries with implementing the decisions of the Parties, meeting their CFC reduction obligations, and preparing for the 2002 freeze of halons and methyl bromide. The new focus of these activities is indicated in Section VI. This will be done within the context of the following objectives that have guided the programme in the past and which shall continue in 2000:

1. To provide services that strengthen NOUs to enable their countries to successfully phase-out ODS in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. This includes providing:
 - *technical and policy information* required to take informed decisions about implementing approved investment and non-investment projects to achieve ODS reduction;
 - *training* that builds skills and strengthens local technical capacity and managerial expertise required to manage programmes and projects;
 - *opportunities for exchanging experiences with their peers* in the region and from developed countries, who can transfer lessons learned and exert constructive "peer pressure" to those lagging behind in phase-out activities.
2. To promote low-cost phase-out without major investment costs through proper management of ODS, containment and emission reduction methods, and refrigerant management plans (RMPs).

IV. Evolving Needs

Through its clearinghouse and Networking activities, UNEP will respond to the following evolving and new needs of Article 5 countries in 2000:

- *Preventing growth in consumption of methyl bromide and disseminating the results of completed demonstration projects to expedite the deployment of methyl bromide conversion projects:* Increasing the awareness of key stakeholders, especially methyl bromide users, is a priority in countries where methyl bromide consumption is significant or growing. UNEP will continue to provide assistance to Article 5 countries to develop and implement strong policy measures to prevent

growth in consumption for new uses and encourage the adoption of alternatives; encourage Article 5 countries to ratify the Copenhagen Amendment and develop and implement methyl bromide action plans for phase out; emphasize dissemination of the results of demonstration projects to ensure the adoption of alternatives; continue farmer education and training.

- *Devising innovative approaches to address the **SME** sector:* UNEP will help selected countries develop their strategy for cost-effective ODS phase out for SMEs drawing on the results of the SME projects approved so far for Brazil, China, Indonesia, Iran, India and Malaysia, and the experiences of NOUs, and Implementing and Bilateral Agencies
- *Training and information on the use of **alternative refrigerants** in the servicing sector:* UNEP will deliver need-based “train the trainer” courses to countries specifically in the African region on issues associated with adopting alternative refrigerants (including hydrocarbons and HFCs) in the refrigeration servicing sector. The project will seek cofinancing by the Executive Committee and the Global Environment Facility depending on eligibility.
- *Understanding and developing strategies for **destruction technologies**:* UNEP will assist Article 5 countries to develop long-term strategies for collection, storage, disposal and destruction of ODS and ODS containing equipment.
- *Assistance to **sustain the phase out**:* In order to safeguard the success already achieved in phasing out ODS and to avoid potential “backsliding” into ODS use, UNEP will help countries expedite approved projects and avoid potential future pitfalls through risk analysis, development of effective policy frameworks, and enforcement.
- ***Induction training of new ODS officers** to improve the effectiveness of NOU operations:* Through the existing Network activity, UNEP will provide more formalized induction training for new ODS officers in the political and operational aspects of policy and technical issues related to Montreal Protocol implementation.
- ***More effective communication with ODS stakeholders**:* UNEP will continue to use a variety of communication and information dissemination modes in response to the current communication capabilities of NOUs⁵, however with a greater emphasis on electronic information dissemination, particularly via the web site and CD-ROM. Non-traditional communication methods (e.g. farmer to farmer exchanges for methyl bromide sector, reaching SMEs through local and regional business development centres) will be explored and used when appropriate. As part of its recurring clearinghouse activities, UNEP will undertake a pilot project to cost-effectively deliver “distance SMEs through its web site by adapting an existing training module to on-line HTML format.

⁵ Based on an on-going UNEP survey of computer capabilities of NOUs undertaken through the Regional Networks, 63% have access to the World Wide Web, 61% have email and 66% have CD-ROM (as of September 1999).

- ***Integrated environmental management:*** UNEP will initiate dialogues in the Networking for a to promote good practices in containment and emission reduction of alternative refrigerants including HFCs. Wider information on technology choices which meet the objectives of both the Montreal and Kyoto Protocols is needed by NOUs. The opportunities also exist to harmonise the efforts between the Montreal Protocol and the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and Prior Informed Consent (PICs) convention, which would be help Article 5 countries reap multiple environmental benefits.

V. Programme Summary: Content and Costs

ACTIVITY	BUDGET (US\$)	
1. RECURRING ACTIVITIES		
1.1 CLEARINGHOUSE		
1.1.1 INFORMATION EXCHANGE		
Collect prioritized sectoral data from worldwide sources	117,600	
Update the OAIC CD-ROM	69,300	
Disseminate awareness materials, technical and policy information	357,000	
Provide direct query-response service	84,000	
Publish the <i>OzonAction</i> newsletter and special supplements	364,000	
Maintain contact data base of experts and mailing list for <i>OzonAction</i> Programme publications	44,000	
Deliver the <i>OzonAction</i> newsletter and other information through world wide web home page site	26,250	
Provide International Halon Bank Management Information Clearinghouse services	93,450	
SUB-TOTAL		1,155,600
1.1.2 NETWORKING		
Asia Regional Networks (South East Asia & Pacific and South Asia)	219,450	
Latin America Region Network (LAC South, LAC Central, LAC Caribbean)	418,950	
Africa Region Network (French-speaking, English-speaking)	452,550	
West Asian Region Network	120,750	
SUB-TOTAL		1,211,700

ACTIVITY	BUDGET (US\$)	
<i>TOTAL FOR RECURRING ACTIVITIES</i>		2,367,300
2. NON-RECURRING ACTIVITIES		
2.1 CLEARINGHOUSE		
2.1.1 INFORMATION EXCHANGE		
Conduct outreach at conferences and workshops	55,000	
SUB-TOTAL		55,000
2.1.2 TRAINING		
Support to national activities	30,000	
SUB-TOTAL		30,000
<i>TOTAL FOR NON-RECURRING ACTIVITIES</i>		85,000
3. COUNTRY-SPECIFIC SUPPORT ACTIVITIES		
SUB-TOTAL		
4. ADVISORY AND EXPERT GROUP MEETINGS	75,000	
SUB-TOTAL		75,000
5. TRAVEL	75,000	
SUB-TOTAL		75,000

Note: The amount under 1, "Recurring Activities", is 5 % more than last year to meet the inflationary cost over the last two years in personnel, travel and materials. See Annex 1 for the justification.

VI. Programme Details

A. Recurring Activities

1. *Clearinghouse activities*

Background

Through regular feedback mechanisms, UNEP has ascertained the key information needs of NOUs to be:

- general awareness about the need to phase-out, how, and when;
- what technical options are currently available;
- how to evaluate and select an appropriate technical option and where to obtain the required technology, equipment, and chemicals;
- how to implement phase-out programmes or projects; and
- how to establish the required policy framework to support ODS phase out activities.

UNEP has developed information clearinghouse services that respond to each of these evolving needs:

- *collecting* focussed sectoral data (including halon banking information) from worldwide sources;
- *reformatting, editing and supplementing* the information so that it meets the needs of target groups;
- *delivering* the information through a range of communication media; and
- *conducting* outreach activities.

These activities will be implemented in close cooperation with the TEAP/TOCs, and Implementing and Bilateral Agencies.

In 2000, the following activities will be undertaken within the “recurring clearinghouse” activity:

- Work closely with Implementing Agencies and Bilateral Agencies to widely communicate to relevant methyl bromide users the **results of demonstration projects** to encourage the early adoption of alternatives and use of good practices.
- Through the Networking activity, provide assistance to improve the quality and consistency of **reporting data on methyl bromide consumption**.
- Collect and disseminate **policy case studies** related to meeting the CFC reduction targets, and the 2002 freeze target for halons and methyl bromide.
- Continue to support **data reporting to establish the freeze baselines** in Network countries, and expand this activity to address the 2002 freeze baselines for halons and methyl bromide, and widely communicate the results.
- Collect and disseminate to NOUs information related to **new substances with ozone depleting potential**, including any available alternatives.

- Promote environmental options that **maximize multiple environmental benefits** (e.g. Kyoto and Montreal Protocols) by including components on such topics in information, training and Networking services to be undertaken in 2000.
- Publicizing the **successes of ozone protection leaders** (NOUs, organizations, and companies) through recognition programmes to achieve wider political awareness and a multiplying effect by fostering imitation.
- Increase the delivery of **existing electronic ozone protection publications** to NOUs via the world wide web and CD-ROM, and expand the use of electronic media to promote improved communication between UNEP and NOUs and among NOUs through on-line discussion forums.
- Broaden the existing **coverage of information in the OzonAction newsletter** by publishing an annual feature-type magazine supplement.

Information Collection

1.1 Title: Collect prioritized sectoral data from worldwide sources

Objectives: Provide NOUs with up-to-date, quality-reviewed information collected from worldwide sources on alternative technologies, products and services, regulatory policies, legislation, national, corporate, and NGO phase-out activities, experts and events.

Priority: Providing information (a) to support the freeze targets of 2002 for halons and methyl bromide (b) information on new substances with ODP.

New focus: Streamline electronic information delivery to reduce costs associated with printed materials.

Description: This activity includes:

- identify, acquire, and abstract select critical sectoral information that addresses Article 5 needs;
- contact industry, industry associations, government, NGOs, Implementing Agencies and their consultants on a regular basis to obtain sectoral information;
- organize, reformat, compile, and/or repackage the information on technologies and know-how.

Time Frame: January 2000 - December 2000

Cost: US\$ 117,600

Project Milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Data collection	Month 1
Reports prepared	regularly
Dissemination	Month 12
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

Formatting/Repackaging Information

1.2 Title: Update the OAIC database

Objectives: Provide NOUs and others (e.g. Implementing Agency field consultants) with up-to-date technical and policy information via a regular CD-ROM data base.

Priority: Provide information related to the 2002 freeze targets for halons and methyl bromide.

New focus: Include key electronic documents produced by other organizations.

Description: This activity includes:

- update, reproduce and disseminate *one* version of the OAIC diskette version;
- modify the software to include new data sets, add graphics, and improve user-friendliness;
- modify the diskette software to accommodate revised data sets, such as *inter alia* Multilateral Fund's *Policies, Procedures and Guidelines* document, *Inventory of Approved Projects*;
- collect feedback about user needs and recommendations for improvement.

Time Frame: January 2000 - December 2000

Cost: US\$ 69,300

Project Milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Identify and retain expert consultant	Month 5
Contract awarded	Month 6
Dissemination	Month 12
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

Delivery**1.3 *Title:* Disseminate awareness material, technical, and policy information**

Objective: Continue to disseminate the sector-specific information collected by the clearinghouse to NOUs, especially information that will be contribute to the Parties' meeting the 2002 freeze targets. The information will continue to be disseminated through a range of delivery mechanisms that are intended to meet the differing needs of developing countries.

Priority: Dissemination will include case studies on policies, licensing systems, recovery and recycling and methyl bromide demonstration projects.

New focus: Use email list servers to disseminate information electronically and to explore the cost implications of disseminating new publications in CD-ROM format.

Description: This activity includes:

- disseminate sectoral information to developing countries via mail, phone, fax, diskette and email;
- reproduce documents provided by the clearinghouse (for those publications for which printing costs are not indicated elsewhere in this Work Programme);
- mail or ship documents to international, regional and other workshops and meetings attended by developing countries and to specific individual requests;
- collecting feedback from countries on how such information is used.

Time Frame: January 2000 - December 2000

Cost: US\$ 357,000

Project Milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Query response	continuing
Bids requested	As needed
Contract awarded	2 weeks after bids received
Dissemination	Continuing
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

1.4 Title: Provide direct query-response service

Objectives: Provide specific technical and policy information upon request to NOUs, industry and other stakeholders to respond to their need for specific information related to the ODS phase out.

Priority: Provide early responses to NOUs and other government departments and industries in developing countries and follow up on the further action taken.

New focus: Develop discussion forums through email where feasible on queries raised by Article 5 countries.

Description: Research and respond to technical and policy questions concerning ODS phase-out issues received from government, industry, and other groups in developing countries. Selective response will be provided to developed countries and will be referred to their appropriate national Environmental Protection Agency. The discussion forum will be developed through electronic means where possible.

Time Frame: January 2000 - December 2000

Cost: US\$ 84,000

Project Milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Query response	continuing
Response made	Max 5 days after receipt of query
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

1.5 Title: Publish the OzonAction newsletter and special supplements

Objectives: Continue to provide the Parties (specifically NOUs, industry, NGOs and ozone protection focal points) with the latest news on ODS phase-out activities worldwide in a newsletter format.

Priority: Include information on successes of developing countries in sustaining the 1999 CFC freeze and strongly promoting activities to lead to the 2002 freeze of halons and methyl bromide.

New focus: (a) Improve the dissemination through NOUs (b) conduct the 2nd reader's survey to help devise improvements in the newsletter (c) collect and publish success stories with economic information.

Description: Publish and disseminate the *OzonAction* newsletter worldwide 4 times a year in 5 languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish) containing the latest news from the Executive Committee, the Ozone and Multilateral Fund Secretariats, the Implementing Agencies, Governments, industry and NGOs. This news covers, *inter alia*, technology and product up-dates, the latest scientific findings, and the environmental effects of ozone depletion. The newsletter will highlight success stories of how countries are preparing to meet the 2002 freeze for halons and methyl bromide. A survey will be conducted and a strategy will be implemented for cost-effective dissemination of the newsletter.

Time Frame: January 2000 - January 2001

Cost: US\$ 364,000

Project Milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Bids requested	Month 1
Contract awarded	Month 2
Issues published	quarterly
Dissemination	One week after each issue is published
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

1.6 Title: Maintain contact data base of experts and mailing list for OzonAction Programme publications

Objectives: To update and regularly maintain the existing mailing list database in order to enable efficient distribution of OzonAction publications to the international ozone protection community.

Priority: Improve the cost-effectiveness of information dissemination through targeted email lists.

Description: Regularly inputting, quality reviewing and producing updated lists for use in dissemination activities, including provision of such updated lists to other implementing agencies, the Multilateral Fund and Ozone Secretariats, and others who request them.

Time Frame: January 2000 - December 2000

Cost: US\$ 44,000

Project Milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Contract awarded	Month 1
Mailing list updated	quarterly
Dissemination	Regularly, as needed
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

- 1.7** **Title:** **Continue delivering OzonAction Newsletter and other information through World Wide Web home page site**
- Objectives:* Provide NOUs, industry associations and other target groups in Article 5 countries with the OzonAction Newsletter and other information via a World Wide Web (WWW) home page site.
- Priority:** (a) Improve the graphic interface and search feature to improve usability of the web site (b) create special discussion areas, both public and with limited access (c) improve and enhance the sector-specific content of the web site.
- New focus:** Explore and pilot “distant learning” to SMEs and other ODS users via the web site by adapting existing training materials into on-line learning modules.
- Description:* Convert the English, Spanish and French versions of the 2000 newsletter and other key existing OzonAction information into the required hypertext mark-up language (HTML) and portable document formats (PDF) required for use on the WWW. Activities include:
- reformat information in HTML/PDF as required by WWW;
 - regularly upload/update/check information on the WWW site;
 - regularly compile user statistics;
 - promote awareness and use of the site by NOUs through developing & disseminating pamphlets and other publicity materials.
- Time Frame:* January 2000- December 2000
- Cost:* US\$ 26,250

Project milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Identify and retain expert consultant	Month 3
Contract awarded	Month 4
Issues online	Two weeks after hard copy is printed
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

Halon Bank Clearinghouse

1.8 Title: Provide International Halon Bank Management Information Clearinghouse Services

Objectives: Provide the Parties with information about national halon banking, recycled halon availability, and non-halon fire protection alternatives, with emphasis on facilitating the international transfer of recycled halon for banking purposes as per Parties' Decision IV/26.

Priority: (a) Increase awareness about the need to take action vis-à-vis the 2002 freeze target (b) support national and regional activities to develop and implement halon management plans.

New focus: Further improve the cost-effectiveness of the activity by implementing a web-based system for collecting and forwarding requests for banked halon.

Description: This activity includes:

- cooperate closely with the UNEP Halons TOC on the operation and development of the IRHBMIC information clearinghouse;
- regularly update descriptions of national halon banks and their contact information; and
- respond to individual requests for information about recycled halon availability.

Time Frame: January 2000 - December 2000

Cost: US\$ 93,450

Project Milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Query response	continuing
Updating halon information	As needed
Dissemination	As needed
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

Outreach**1.9 Title: Conduct outreach at conferences and workshops**

Objectives: Ensure that the clearinghouse is up-to-date on the latest technical developments; disseminate information directly to conference participants; and obtain feedback on the needs of developing countries on technical and policy issues of concern.

Priority: Forums related to Ministerial conferences, regional and global meetings involving industry, trade and policies.

New Focus: Foster integrated environmental management and cross cutting activities between the Montreal and Kyoto Protocols, POPs/PICs through roundtable fora.

Description: This activity includes:

- participate in major national, regional and international phase-out conferences and workshops (including TEAP, TOC and OORG meetings) to disseminate and collect the information;
- obtain feedback on developing country information needs through participation in, or co-sponsorship of, round-table sessions; and
- cover travel and exhibition booth/equipment rental for UNEP staff/consultants to conduct outreach at select major ODS phase-out events.

Time Frame: January 2000 - December 2000

Cost: US\$ 55,000

Project milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Meetings/exhibits	2 per year
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

2. Networking**Background**

The objective of the Networks of ODS Officers is to strengthen the capacity of NOUs to design and implement effective policies and strategies that are well-adapted to the conditions in their countries. The Networks:

- Provide a regular forum for efficient exchange of information, ideas and experiences among ODS Officers;
- Improve access to available information;
- - Facilitate feedback, in particular to UNEP but also to the Multilateral Fund Secretariat, Ozone Secretariat and Implementing Agencies, on difficulties encountered by the developing countries and the need for further support in terms of information, training material and workshops, etc.;
- Inform ODS officers of decisions of the Executive Committee and the meetings of the Parties and assist with their implementation;
- Promote sharing of information materials developed by Network member countries;
- Review progress on implementation of CPs;
- Assist with collecting and verifying accurate data; and
- Initiate relevant joint activities.

Network activities typically include (a) two workshops or meetings annually for the ODS Officers in the network, (b) involvement in planning and implementation of workshops and other training activities implemented by UNEP (c) informal exchange of experience between network members throughout the year, and (d) exchange of information between Networks using contacts (both formal and informal) between the Regional Network Coordinators.

Networking activities in 2000 will be refocussed to:

- Avoid Network meetings turning into general repetitive workshops of “presentations”
- Foster one-to-one and small group discussions for specific and focussed policy dialogues.
- Mainstream the countries which are lagging behind by organizing specific meetings and interaction with them.

- Avail opportunities of regional trade meetings, ministerial meetings to sustain the momentum of ODS policy setting
- Empower NOUs by facilitating their dialogue with higher level officials in other ministries.
- Provide a forum to implement the integrated training strategy option previously approved by the Executive Committee.

The priorities for the Networking activities in 2000 will be to:

- Σ Assist with **data collection, verification and reporting** to the Multilateral Fund Secretariat and Ozone Secretariat;
- Σ Continue to use and **further develop the Trends Analysis tool** to help monitor compliance in Network countries, identify specific needs for assistance, and help resolve problems (Trends Analysis will also be expanded to address the 2002 freeze baselines for halons and methyl bromide);
- Σ Implement the "**Policy Mentor Programme**" initiated in 1998 to promote direct consultation on policy setting and enforcement between NOUs and their peers in developed and developing countries;
- Σ Support the **development of domestic policies** in Article 5 countries and their enforcement, to help the countries meet their obligations under the Protocol.
- Σ Research and refine concepts that promote successful phase out in innovative and cost-effective ways (e.g. **Terminal Phase Out Management Plans**);
- Σ **Promote the ratification of the Montreal Protocol and amendments** by all Article 5 countries.
- Σ Share experiences on **licensing systems, data reporting and monitoring** of ODSs, and ideas for improvement;
- Σ Facilitate the implementation of **the decisions of the 10th and 11th Meetings of the Parties**;
- Σ Promote information exchange on **methyl bromide alternatives and emission reduction methodologies**;
- Σ Review past and guide future **training activities at the regional level** (not associated with investment projects);
- Σ Provide **information on non-ODS technologies**, particularly relevant to the replacement of CFCs and HCFCs.

2.1 *Title:* **Asia Region Networks**

Description: The Asian region Network consists of two sub-networks:
The *South East Asian Pacific (SEAP)* region consists at present of the ODS Officers from 10 developing (Brunei, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao P.D.R., Malaysia,

Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam) and 2 developed countries (Australia, Sweden).

The network for *South Asia* is now operating and consists at present of the ODS Officers from 11 developing (Iran, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, China, Maldives, Nepal) and 1 developed country (United Kingdom).

Priority: Work with NOUs of DPR-Korea and the Maldives.

Time frame: January 2000 - December 2000

Cost: US\$ 219,450

Project milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Sub-allotments made	Month 4
Annual meeting	As decided
Follow-up meeting	4 months after annual meeting
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

2.2 Title: Latin American Region Networks

Description: The Network for Latin America is currently divided into three sub-networks:

There are presently 10 developing country members of the *Southern Latin American Network* (Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela) and 2 developed country members (USA, Canada).

There are presently 9 developing country members of the *Central Latin American Network* (Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama) and 2 developed country members (USA, Canada).

There are presently 13 developing country members (English-speaking) of the *Caribbean Network* (Belize, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Bahamas, Barbados, St Lucia, Antigua and

Barbuda, St Kitts and Nevis, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, Dominica) and 3 developed country members (Canada, USA, United Kingdom).

Priority: Policy dialogue with the Dominican Republic (where consumption is rising) and new entrants including Belize.

Time frame: January 2000 - December 2000

Cost: US\$ 418,950

Project milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Sub-allotments made	Month 4
Annual meeting	As decided
Follow-up meeting	4 months after annual meeting
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

2.3 *Title:* **African Region Networks**

Description: There are presently two African Networks one for English-speaking countries and one for all French-speaking countries.

There are 21 developing country members of *the English-speaking African Network* (Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe) and 2 developed country members (Germany, South Africa).

There are presently 22 developing country members of the French-speaking African Network (Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Comoros, Congo Dem. Rep., Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia, Zaire) and 2 developed country members (France, Switzerland).

Priority: Mainstream Liberia, Libya, Madagascar and Zaire.

Time frame: January 2000 - December 2000

Cost: US\$ 452,550

Project milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Sub-allotments made	Month 4
Annual meeting	As decided
Follow-up meeting	4 months after annual meeting
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

2.4 **Title:** West Asian Region Network

Description: The *West Asian Regional Network* includes 13 developing countries (Bahrain, Iraq [non-Party], Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, National Authority of Palestine [non-Party], Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates, Yemen) and 2 developed countries (France, Germany).

Priority: Policy dialogue with Yemen and non-Parties (through the Finnish Fund).

Time frame: January 2000 - December 2000

Cost: US\$ 120,750

Project milestones:

Task	Date (start after approval of project)
Sub-allotments made	Month 4
Annual meeting	As decided
Follow-up meeting	4 months after annual meeting
Submission of PCRs	6 months after project completion

B. Non-Recurring Activities

1. Training

Background

Training activities will continue in the direction established by the Training Strategy approved by the Executive Committee. Within this framework, the use of the Regional Networks of ODS Officers as the main vehicle for coordination will be reinforced.

During 2000, training activities will continue to support new control measures approved at the 9th Meeting of the Parties, while also starting to assist developing countries to meet their next obligations under the Montreal Protocol, i.e. the 2002 freeze of halons and methyl bromide.

1.1 Support to National Activities

Objectives: Assist Article 5 countries by funding their participation to specific training activities or related meetings not included within their action plans.

Target: NOU officers, and/or industry representatives, as appropriate.

Cost: US\$ 30,000

Additional training projects will be submitted as part of the second half of UNEP's 2000 Work Programme to be submitted for the Executive Committee's consideration at its first meeting of 2000.

2. Country Programmes and Institutional Strengthening

UNEP will continue to assist LVCs and VLVCs through CPs and IS projects. Funding for the formulation of CP and IS projects under the 2000 Work Programme will be requested later in the year.

Cost: Not yet available (see UNEP's 2000 Business Plan proposal).

3. Country-Specific Support Activities

3.1 Implementation of RMPs through country-specific training

Description: UNEP will implement the training projects contained in the RMPs being developed in cooperation with bilateral agencies and other Implementing Agencies. Requests for specific funding will be submitted later during the year.

Time frame: January 2000 - December 2001

Cost: Not yet available (see UNEP's 2000 Business Plan proposal).

VII. Programme Management

The programme will be co-ordinated and managed by the Chief of the Energy and OzonAction Unit, under the overall guidance of the Director of UNEP's Division of Industry, Technology and Economics (UNEP TIE).

Information Exchange

Information exchange activities will be undertaken by two Information Officers on fixed-term contracts who are experienced in clearinghouse operations, databases and publications, as well as experience from working at the NOU-level in implementation of national information activities. They are supported by an Associate Information Officer, a Documentation Assistant, and an Information Assistant. Informal expert working groups will advise on the data collection and dissemination systems and preparation of information papers/fact sheets. Activities will be carried out in close association with TEAP/TOCs (specifically the HTOC for halon bank clearinghouse activities), and the World Bank's OORG.

Networking and Training

Networking activities will be performed by the Regional Network Coordinators (RNCs) who have consultancy/fixed-term contracts and are located at UNEP's Regional Offices in Bangkok, Mexico City, Nairobi and Bahrain. The RNCs are under the overall management of the Network Manager. The RNCs monitor and understand the situation, needs and progress in their regions, and work closely with the countries on a regular basis. The Network Manager will continue to guide and co-ordinate the RNCs' work programmes, guide the operation of each network and monitor their progress, assist in "cross-fertilisation" between the individual Networks, and facilitate the integration of Country Programmes, Institutional Strengthening and implementation of the Training Strategy endorsed by the Executive Committee within the networking function. A priority will be to ensure regular and quality feedback on the extent to which the programme meets the needs of NOUs.

The training activities will be performed by two Programme Officers supported by an assistant at General Staff level as per the principles and procedures defined for the implementation of the Training Strategy, and will be closely co-ordinated with NOUs in the countries and integrated with the other activities of the OzonAction Programme.

Local governments and local technical experts will be key players in the needs identification, design, implementation and follow up stages as called for in the Training Strategy. International experts will

continue to be engaged to provide advise and expertise. Activities will be co-ordinated with UNIDO, UNDP and World Bank.

For both networking and training activities, UNEP's Regional Offices' infrastructure would be utilized for cost-effective implementation. Additionally, whenever possible networking and training activities will be held back to back with other UN meetings or non-UN meetings (such as USEPA), to maximize cost-effectiveness.

Annex 1: Justification of increase in recurring costs due to inflation

The following are specifically based on US dollar inflation rates and USA examples to negate the effect of exchange rate fluctuations.

As regards inflation, OECD statistics indicate that the inflation rate over the last five years has remained between 2 to 2.5% per annum, which translates into a 5% inflation rate for the last two years. Additionally, wages over the last year have risen by 3.5% overall and for the last quarter this increase is about 4%. In the last two years, therefore, this translates into an increase of more than 6% to 8%. A similar argument can be made for travel costs: despite plummeting fuel costs in the 1996-1998 period, a survey of more than 600 companies documented that airfares during the period increased more than 14%.

Item	Inflation Rate (%)	Period covered	Source
Wages	3.5	11/98 – 11/99	Economist, 25/11/99
Consumer prices	2-2.5	1998 – 1999	www.oecd.org , Main Economic Indicators, October 1999
Air travel	>14%	7/1996 – 7/1998	USA Today Travel Guide (www.usatoday.com/life/travel/business)
Air travel	4-5% (predicted)	1999	American Express 1999 Trends & Forecasts Preview for the Business Travel Industry, quoted at www.fita.org/travel/Nov98tips.html
Air travel	5.1 (predicted)	1999	Runzheimer International study, quoted in The Business Journal of San Jose and Silicon Valley (www.amcity.com/sanjose/)

Based on available 1997 – 1999 data, UNEP TIE Administration estimates follows:

Type of staff	Average annual salary increase (1997-1999)	Average annual step increase (1997 – 1999)	Total average increase on annual basis
Professional Staff	3.3%	2.1 – 2.6%	5.4 – 5.9%
General Services	3.5% (estimated)	3.2%	6.7%

These data do not include post allowances or any other adjustments.

Note:

- UNEP did not request any increase to its recurring costs due to inflation in its 1999 Work Programme.
- Over a two year period, the inflation rate will be approximately twice the annual rate indicated in the above tables.



United Nations Environment Programme

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PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE

ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

Division of Technology, Industry and Economics Energy and OzonAction Unit

Tour Mirabeau, 39-43 quai André Citroën, 75739 Paris – Cedex 15, France, Tel: +33.1.44.37.14.50; Fax: +33.1.44.37.14.74
E-mail: uneptie@unep.fr URL: <http://www.uneptie.org/>

Report to the 29th Executive Committee Meeting on OzonAction Information Clearinghouse Diskette (1999)¹

Executive Committee Request

At its 28th meeting, “having considered the comments and recommendations of the Sub-Committee on Monitoring, Evaluation and Finance² the Executive Committee decided... to request that reports on the OAIC diskette update (1999) project be submitted to the Twenty-ninth Meeting of the Executive Committee”³ This report provides the requested update.

Date of Release

In its latest Progress Report (1998)⁴, UNEP reported that the “OAIC-DV 7.0 project was delayed due to the release date of previous diskette (i.e. OAIC-DV 6.0). Version 7.0 was now initiated and expected to be finalized in October 1999.”⁵ (please refer to attached “Project History”).

As per UNEP’s 1998 Work Programme, Version 7 was scheduled for release in December 1998. However, as noted above the schedule was affected by the later-than-expected release of the previous version in July 1998. Releasing another version in December was considered too soon because:

- More time was time required for new information to emerge
- The programming and design lead time required
- UNEP was awaiting the release of the electronic versions of the updated TEAP and TOC reports, which it considers to be “essential reading” for Article 5 NOUs (those reports were also delayed in their release, which affected the database development schedule.)

Accordingly, UNEP reported in its Progress Report a revised deadline of October 1999.

¹ GLO/SEV/26/TAS/167

² UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/28/4, paras. 20 and 21

³ Decision 28/13

⁴ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/28/8

⁵ Ibid., Section 1.2

Two Versions Combined

As noted in the Secretariat's comments to the Progress Report, UNEP "indicated that it has decided to produce the 1998 and 1999 versions in CD-ROM format with enhanced capabilities."⁶

As per the Progress Report, the two versions have been combined in the single CD-ROM and now contain approximately 5 times the amount of information contained in the previous version (now 100 MB). With the production and dissemination of this CD-ROM, both of the projects are now completed.

Choice of CD-ROM

The previous 6 versions of the database used floppy diskettes. The decision to shift to a "CD-ROM format with enhanced capabilities" was based on feedback collected from National Ozone Units (NOUs) through undertaken through the Regional Networks of ODS Officers⁷:

- 63% have access to the World Wide Web
- 61% have email
- 66% have CD-ROM

UNEP has been monitoring these trends and is confident that NOUs are increasingly becoming accustomed to exchanging data electronically via CD-ROM, email and the web.

Institutional Strengthening projects contain provisions for both computer equipment and telecommunications such as that required to access the Internet. UNEP continues to encourage NOUs through the Regional Networks and IS projects to adopt the equipment required for both Internet and CD-ROMs.

As in the case of those countries that either cannot or prefer not to use the CD-ROM, UNEP will make the information available to them in hardcopy upon request.

Project Update

The OAIC, now in an enhanced CD-ROM format, is finalized and will be disseminated at the Beijing Meeting of the Parties. It will also be disseminated separately to NOUs by mail in November.

The CD-ROM now contains a full range of full-text publications that are essential references for NOUs and other focal points, including key Multilateral Fund/Executive Committee documentation, TEAP/TOC reports and UNEP publications.

UNEP will undertake intensive feedback collection and analysis, particularly through the Regional Networks, to assess the NOUs assessment of the continued utility of this service. UNEP will provide this information to the Executive Committee at a later date.

⁶ Ibid., Page 3

⁷ *UNEP Survey of Computer Capabilities of NOUs*, as of September 1999

History of OAIC Database Project

Version	Approval Date	Project number	Date of dissemination to NOUs	Description		
				Medium	Operating system	Significant enhancements
8	November 1998	GLO/SEV/26/TAS/167	November 1999	CD-ROM	Windows 95/NT, Macintosh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Significantly increased data content. ▪ PDF documents now possible, enabling full text printable material. ▪ Built-in web browser enables links to ozone protection web sites through the CD-ROM. ▪ Multilingual screens, help and partial data. ▪ Apple-compatible
7	November 1997	GLO/SEV/23/TAS/140				
6	February 1997	GLO/SEV/21/TAS/125	July 1998	Floppy disks (8)	Windows 3.1	
5	May 1996	GLO/SEV/19/TAS/99	April 1997	Floppy disks (6)	Windows 3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Significant increase in data contained in diskette ▪ User-friendly menus ▪ Improved navigation and search features
4	March 1995	GLO/SEV/16/TAS/72	June 1996	Floppy disks (2)	DOS	
3	March 1994	GLO/SEV/12/TAS/47	November 1995	Floppy disks (2)	DOS	
2			April 1995	Floppy disks (2)	DOS	
1	1993	Part of GLO/SEV/09/TAS/42	June 1994	Floppy disks (1)	DOS	



Division of Technology, Industry and Economics

Energy and OzonAction Unit

Tour Mirabeau, 39-43 quai André Citroën, 75739 Paris – Cedex 15, France, Tel: +33.1.44.37.14.50; Fax: +33.1.44.37.14.74
E-mail: uneptie@unep.fr URL: <http://www.uneptie.org/>

Report to the 29th Executive Committee Meeting on Efforts to Make Halon Bank Management Clearinghouse Services Even More Cost-effective

Executive Committee Request

At its 28th meeting, “having considered the comments and recommendations of the Sub-Committee on Monitoring, Evaluation and Finance¹ the Executive Committee decided...to request UNEP to pursue its efforts to make halon bank management clearing-house services even more cost-effective and to report to the Twenty-ninth Meeting of the Executive Committee.”² This report provides the requested update.

Background

During the above-referenced MEF Sub-Committee meeting, UNEP provided an oral explanation of the project components and the elements to be considered in determining its cost-effectiveness. However, as time ran out during the meeting UNEP was unable to provide the Sub-Committee with the full explanation. The full explanation is attached to this note and we hope it helps to shed light on the projects cost-effectiveness (see Attachment 1).

In short, UNEP’s position is that:

- The project comprises many more activities than “query response” including nine discrete activities in 1998. A simple comparison of “queries to dollars” therefore is inappropriate and an over-simplification.
- the project is already quite cost effective and results in the indirect phase out of halons
- the project has assisted in avoiding future halon demand through its halon bank “matchmaking service”.

Project Update

The case for the cost-effectiveness of the project is indicated in the attachment. However, in keeping with the Executive Committee’s desire, UNEP is continuing to investigate ways to improve this track record.

¹ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/28/4, paras. 20 and 21

² Decision 28/13

At present, UNEP is evaluating the following approaches to improve the cost-effectiveness of the project:

- Developing a database tracking system to quantify more accurately halon exchanges assisted by UNEP, so that these data can be reported to the Executive Committee.
- In cases where no feedback was provided after UNEP provided its “matchmaking service”; actively follow-up with persons the persons involved to determine whether or not halon transfers took place.
- Increasing the accessibility of the “matchmaking service” by creating on-line web forms linked to halon banks electronically.
- Creating a web- or email-based discussion forum for halon users, halon bank managers, interested HTOC experts, UNEP and others to create a “self-help” mechanism for Article 5 countries.

While data from the Scientific Assessment Panel indicate that atmospheric halon concentrations are still increasing, the second control measure applicable to Article 5 countries – the 2002 halon freeze – is just around the corner. In this context, UNEP continues to receive feedback from NOUs through the Regional Networks that non-investment assistance related to the halon management is a priority need. The Parties in a recent decision have also emphasized a keen need for all countries to develop halon management strategies³, which relies largely on information exchange and training support.

UNEP welcomes suggestions about further improving the cost-effectiveness of any of its activities, including the Halon Bank Information Management Clearinghouse.

³ Decision X/7

**Response to MFS Comments on UNEP's 1998 Progress Report Concerning
International Halon Bank Management Information Clearinghouse
(GLO/HAL/23/TAS/145)⁴**

MFS Comments

The Executive Committee has approved funds for the halon bank management clearinghouse services since 1993. The following table indicates the number of queries reported by UNEP, the amount of funding received from the Executive Committee and the average cost per query. The Committee may wish to consider how to make the programme more cost-effective.

Year	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Number of queries	6	N/A	10	12	30	25
Funds approved	US\$ 100,000	US\$ 50,000	US\$ 35,000	US\$ 29,000	US\$ 85,000	US\$ 89,000
Average cost per query	US\$ 16,000	N/A	US\$ 3,500	US\$ 2,416	US\$ 2,833	US\$ 3,560

A

UNEP Response

According to Executive Committee Decision 21/14, the International Halon Bank Management Clearinghouse project is classified as part of the recurring clearinghouse activities and therefore falls under the specified funding cap.⁵ This project is also subject to that part of the Executive Committee's Decision that gives UNEP the flexibility to apportion the project funding according to its own priorities.

⁴ UNEP Progress Report, UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/28/8, page 3, para 12

Para 24 (a) classified the following activities as recurring information exchange activities : the collection of sectoral data from worldwide sources; updated OAIC diskette version; dissemination of information materials; direct query response service; maintenance of contact database of experts and mailing list of OzonAction programme publications; halon bank management clearinghouse services; publication of the OzonAction newsletter and special supplements.

Para 24(d) specifies that activities [above]...would represent caps, and the levels for those activities would not be increased in future years except by a factor up to 5 percent to cover inflation.

Para 24(f) specifies That UNEP should have the flexibility to apportion, according to its own priorities, the amounts referred to in subparagraphs 24(a) to 24(c) above.

The halon bank clearinghouse project includes many more activities than just query response as indicated in the Fund Secretariat's comments, therefore a simple comparison of cost-to-query is not appropriate. A broader analysis taking into account all of the activities would be more useful for understanding the impact and cost-effectiveness of this project.

Background

Recalling that UNEP established this clearinghouse in accordance with Parties' Decision IV/26, which specified the mandate as:

- X collect and disseminate information relevant to international halon bank management; and
- X liaise with and coordinate its activities with the Implementing Agencies designated under the Financial Mechanism to encourage Parties to provide pertinent information to the clearinghouse.

The clearinghouse in the long term is intended to facilitate bilateral and multilateral cooperation to phase out halons in developing countries. UNEP continues to closely consult the UNEP Halons Technical Options Committee and the Informal Advisory Group to determine specific activities and deadlines for each year.

Specific Activities

In terms of activities, in 1998 alone UNEP performed the following under this project:

- X Researched and responded to approximately 25 technical and policy queries.
- X Provided referral service for companies seeking sources of recycled halon from national halon banks (involves liaisons with approximately 30 halon banks for each request).
- X Regularly updated the list of national halon banks through direct contact with national halon bank managers.
- X Updated information papers List of Manufacturers of Halon Recovery, Recycling and Reclamation Equipment
- X Supported the development of the halon bank management plan concept and project proposals for South East Asia, West Asia and the Caribbean (in cooperation with bilateral agencies).
- X Prepared background information about halon banking/halon alternatives to support meetings of the Networks of ODS Officers.
- X Continued dissemination of halon banking information materials.
- X Specifically developed and included halon banking/halon alternatives information on the OzonAction world wide web home page site.
- X Strengthened the international network of halon banks, thus contributing to effective global halon bank management.

Similar activities for the clearinghouse during 1993-1997 can be found in UNEP's Progress Reports for those years. Since 1993 the activities have increased and the project cost has increased accordingly.

By acting as a link between those who have experience (halon banks, individual experts, alternatives suppliers, recycling and recovery equipment manufacturers) and those who seek such

information and technology, the project continues to support the halon phase out and halon bank management in Article 5 countries, and sustaining the halon phase out in developed countries.

Cost Effectiveness

It is difficult to present the results of any non-investment project in terms of the traditional cost-effectiveness concept used by the Multilateral Fund (i.e. US\$/ODP tonnes phased out), however some aspects of the halon bank clearinghouse make a similar evaluation possible.

The effectiveness of the clearinghouse can be seen indirectly in the fact that 39 Article 5 countries reported zero consumption of halons in 1996⁶, whereas in 1997 the number of such countries increased to 65⁷.

In more direct terms, since 1993 the clearinghouse service has supported the international transfer of at least 257 MT of halons⁸ through its halon availability referrals. In the absence of this Amatchmaking≡ service with halon users and national halon banks, there could have been demand for virgin halon from producing countries to meet this need. The amount of reduced demand for virgin halons is at least equivalent to the avoided cost of phasing out newly produced halon in the future.

A good example: in 1998 a company confirmed to UNEP that 3 MT of recovered halon 1211 was obtained with the assistance of UNEP=s halon banking clearinghouse. By helping them obtain banked halon, UNEP has helped achieve future phase out costs the avoidance of new ODS production.

Based on this quantity of halons handled (i.e. 257 MT = 2295 ODP tonnes) and using the total cost of the project from 1993 to 1998 (i.e. US\$ 388,000), the cost effectiveness of the clearinghouse is US\$ 0.17/ODP kg⁹. Put another way, the phase out of 2295 ODP tonnes at a cost-effectiveness rate of US\$ 1.48/ODP kg would have cost the Multilateral Fund US\$ 3.4 million, whereas UNEP=s halon bank clearinghouse activities cost just US\$ 388,000.

Conclusion

The cost effectiveness of the halon bank clearinghouse project is far greater than any other halon project approved by the Multilateral Fund, and it illustrates the very high cost-effectiveness of non-investment projects in general.

UNEP welcomes suggestions about further improving the cost-effectiveness of any of its activities, including the Halon Bank Information Management Clearinghouse, however it is important to remember that this project includes many more activities than indicated in the Secretariat=s comments.

⁶ Report of the 20th Implementation Committee Meeting, UNEP/OzL.Pro/ImpCom/20/4 Page 6, Para 23 (b)

⁷ Report of the 20th OEWG, UNEP/OzL.Pro/WG.1/19/L.1/Add.1, Page 14, para 50 (d)

⁸ Requests handled by the clearinghouse from August 1993 - December 1998 included halon-1211 (37.7 MT), halon-1301 (216 MT), and halon-2402 (3.7 MT) and 5 which did not specify the tonnage.

⁹ For comparison, the standard halon sector cost effectiveness general threshold is 1.48 \$/kg ODP.