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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Thirty-fourth Meeting
Montreal, 18-20 July 2001

PROJECT PROPOSAL: MALAWI

This document consists of the comments and recommendations of the Fund Secretariat on the following project proposal:

Fumigant:

- Second payment under the national programme for the phaseout of all non-essential and non-qps methyl bromide UNDP

**PROJECT EVALUATION SHEET
MALAWI**

SECTOR: Fumigant ODS use in sector (2000): 129 ODP tonnes

Sub-sector cost-effectiveness thresholds: n/a

Project Title:

- (a) Second payment under the national programme for the phaseout of all non-essential and non-qps methyl bromide

Project Data	Methyl bromide
Enterprise consumption (ODP tonnes)	
Project impact (ODP tonnes)	
Project duration (months)	
Initial amount requested (US \$)	1,000,000
Final project cost (US \$):	
Incremental capital cost (a)	
Contingency cost (b)	
Incremental operating cost (c)	
Total project cost (a+b+c)	
Local ownership (%)	100%
Export component (%)	0%
Amount requested (US \$)	1,000,000
Cost effectiveness (US \$/kg.)	
Counterpart funding confirmed?	
National coordinating agency	
Implementing agency	UNDP

Secretariat's Recommendations	
Amount recommended (US \$)	1,000,000
Project impact (ODP tonnes)	
Cost effectiveness (US \$/kg)	
Implementing agency support cost (US \$)	120,000
Total cost to Multilateral Fund (US \$)	1,120,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Second payment under the national programme for the phaseout of all non-essential and non-qps methyl bromide

Background

1. At its 32nd Meeting, the Executive Committee approved a national programme for the phase out of 129 ODP tonnes of MB used in tobacco seedbeds by the end of 2004, which represents all non-essential and non-QPS uses in Malawi.
2. The total funding level approved in principle for the project was US \$2,999,824, with a first tranche of US \$400,000 allocated to UNDP at that meeting. Based on annual progress reports, the remaining funding could be requested in tranches including US\$1,000,000 in mid-2001.

SECRETARIAT'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION

COMMENTS

Progress report for the period 2000-2001

3. Implementation of the project started in February 2001. Taking into consideration the initial level of funding approved (US \$400,000), the Government of Malawi and UNDP agreed to focus on activities to gather momentum for the actual implementation of the alternative technologies once the second tranche of funding is approved, and to hold a workshop with concerned stakeholders to ensure the long-term sustainability of the project. Regional consultants were identified and contracts issued.
4. The official launch of the programme took place on 9 May 2001. The workshop was held for more than 50 participants from the Government (Agriculture, Environment), Agricultural Research and Extension trusts (ARET), farmer organisations, chemical suppliers and universities. Resource staff included consultants from the tobacco industry in Zimbabwe and UNDP.
5. Following the workshop, it was agreed to address first tobacco growers with a larger MB consumption; implement training programmes and awareness campaigns in the use of the alternative technologies selected, and involve parliamentarians who will be responsible for passing legislation on imports of MB. Subsequently, materials for the floating tray system and alternative chemicals to MB (basamid and metam sodium) were purchased for use in a surface area of 69 ha. In addition, 10 training sessions (two each in southern and northern regions and six in the central region) were implemented. These activities will result in the phase out of at least 19.3 ODP tonnes of MB by the end of 2001.

Action plan for the 2nd tranche funding

6. The Government of Malawi and UNDP prepared detailed action plan with the following specific activities to achieve a further reduction of 20.9 ODP tonnes by the end of 2002:

Activities in 2001	
June 2001	Train of trainers in construction and use of micro-tunnel float system
June	Training of farmers in construction and use of micro-tunnels
June-August	Train farmers in the use of basamid, IPM programmes and micro tunnels
June	Visit a country where the floating tray system is already implemented by representatives of farmers and trainers
June-July	Construction of micro-tunnels by farmers, led by trainers (hands-on training)
June-July	Farmers erect micro tunnel float systems
June-August	Farmers prepare and treat seedbeds with basamid
End-June until all tobacco is harvested	Monitor performance of alternatives versus MB (such as seed germination rate, seedling survival, seedling growth, transplant survival; tobacco yields, quality and grade of leaf, costs)
June-September (until final transplant)	Farm visits by trainers to follow up and on-site assistance
June-August	Continuous training of farmers for later sowings
June-August	Prepare additional basamid beds for late sowing
July	Receive 2 nd tranche funding (34 th Meeting)
July-September	Field days for farmers and technicians to see alternative plots to MB; farmer-to-farmer information exchange
August-September	Discuss with potential local suppliers of trays and soilless media and develop a plan for future in-situ production (possibly by 2003)
August-September	Prepare detailed workplan for implementation of Phase II
September-October	Procure additional materials for construction of micro-tunnels in 2002
October-December	Preparation for video
November-December	Interim report on monitoring of the seedbeds (technical and economic analysis); parameters probably for seedlings because tobacco is not harvested yet
November-December	Review and amend work plan for 2002 as required and necessary
Activities in 2002	
January 2002 onwards after tobacco harvest	Preparation and dissemination of information through ARET'S phone hotline, including comparison of yields, tobacco leaf quality, costs, profits, and farmer views
Mid-March to April	Two-day workshop with trainers and farmers to get feedback before submission of a full report.

RECOMMENDATION

7. The Fund Secretariat recommends blanket approval of the project with associated support costs at the funding level shown in the table below:

	Project Title	Project Funding (US\$)	Support Cost (US\$)	Implementing Agency
(a)	Second payment under the national programme for the phaseout of all non-essential and non-qps methyl bromide	1,000,000	120,000	UNDP