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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Fifty-fourth Meeting
Montreal, 7-11 April 2008

**REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF APPROVED PROJECTS
WITH SPECIFIC REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Pre-session documents of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol are without prejudice to any decision that the Executive Committee might take following issuance of the document.

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Introduction

1. The Government of Germany, UNDP and UNEP have submitted progress reports on the implementation of the following projects, where specific reporting requirements are contained in the agreements for consideration by the Executive Committee at its 54th Meeting:

- (a) Afghanistan: National phase-out plan (2007 progress report, verification report and 2008 work programme) (Germany and UNEP); and
- (b) Fiji: Terminal phase-out management plan (progress report) (UNDP and UNEP).

2. The Secretariat reviewed the progress reports in light of the original project proposals, ODS data reported by the Governments concerned under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol, and relevant decisions taken by the Executive Committee and the Meeting of the Parties.

3. Progress reports on the implementation of national phase-out plans or terminal phase-out management plans (TPMPs) from Cuba and Uruguay submitted by the Government of Canada and UNDP, and Panama submitted by UNDP, were also received by the Secretariat. Funding for their corresponding tranches was not requested at this time, since these projects have experienced some delays. The Secretariat noted that the three countries are in compliance with their obligations under the Montreal Protocol, and that a comprehensive progress report will be submitted together with the funding request at a future Meeting of the Executive Committee.

4. The Government of Japan also submitted a progress report on the implementation of the Mongolia TPMP from January to December 2007, since the report submitted to the 53rd Meeting only covered the period until August 2007. All funding tranches have already been approved by the Executive Committee.

Afghanistan: National phase-out plan (Germany and UNEP)

5. The national phase-out plan (NPP) was approved by the Executive Committee at its 47th Meeting. Under the NPP, the Government of Afghanistan committed to phasing out all CFCs by 1 January 2010 and CTC by 1 January 2007. The Executive Committee approved in principle US \$1,065,806 plus agency support costs of US \$98,905 for the Government of Germany and US \$39,650 for UNEP, for the implementation of the NPP. The Executive Committee has already approved the funding for the two tranches included in the NPP at its 47th and 48th Meetings.

Progress report

6. A number of results have been achieved so far during the 2007 work programme of the Afghanistan NPP, including: the implementation of ODS regulations including the ODS licensing system, translation and distribution of UNEP's customs training manual in the local language, distribution of 15 ODS identifiers among customs officers, distribution of 26 recovery and recycling machines and training of 58 refrigeration service technicians in good service practices. Technical assistance was also provided to two foam plants one small commercial refrigeration manufacturing enterprise. CTC used as a solvent has been phased-out through a voluntary agreement between the Government of Afghanistan and the sole user of CTC, who switched over to a water-based system. Many information and awareness activities were also

implemented. By the end of 2007, US \$871,517 had been disbursed. The balance of US \$194,289 would be disbursed in 2008.

7. In 2007, an audit of the 2006 consumption verification report was undertaken by an independent auditor who concluded that total CFC and CTC consumption was 94.5 and 0.1 ODP tonnes respectively in 2006. The report also stated that “comprehensive ODS rules and regulations along with detailed procedures are now in place. All relevant major stakeholders such as the Customs Department, Ministry of Trade and importers are well informed and aware of these regulations”.

Second work programme

8. The planned activities for 2008 include enforcement of the approved ODS regulations; continued training for refrigeration service technicians and customs officers; the establishment of two additional training centres for technicians; distribution of recovery and recycling equipment among service workshops; continued awareness activities; and management and monitoring activities.

Secretariat's comments

9. The Secretariat noted the comprehensive progress report on the implementation of the Afghanistan NPP, together with the supporting documents, including the favourable verification report on national ODS consumption in Afghanistan. The 2006 CFC consumption of 94.5 ODP tonnes reported by the Government of Afghanistan under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol was already 95.5 ODP tonnes below the allowable level of CFC consumption for that year (190.0 ODP tones). The consumption of CFC of 57.0 ODP tonnes in 2007 estimated to be at a level similar to that allowed for the year.

10. The Secretariat discussed technical details related to the assistance provided to the CFC-based foam and refrigeration manufacturing enterprises and also requested additional information on the four training centres that have been established in the country. UNEP, as the lead implementing agency, indicated that the four training centers have been equipped, and refrigeration training programmes have been conducted in two of the centres. The other two centers will be operational hopefully by early April 2008. UNEP also reported that the two foam companies have already converted their production processes to methylene chloride. These foam companies will receive further training and technical assistance in the proper and safe use of methylene chloride during first quarter of 2008. With the assistance provided through the NPP, the refrigeration manufacturing company converted its production to HCF-134a refrigerant and HCFC-141b as foam blowing agent.

11. The Secretariat also asked UNEP whether the Government of Afghanistan would be able to phase-out the remaining CFC consumption before the end of 2009 with the remaining funding available in the NPP. On this issue, UNEP indicated that CFCs are only consumed in the refrigeration servicing sector. This consumption is being addressed through training and recovery and recycling operations, and strengthening enforcement of the licensing system. The Government is also proposing discussions with the customs authorities of Pakistan and Iran at the end of March 2008 to strength border controls. With the control of demand and supply, the Government is quite confident that it will maintain compliance and phase out CFC consumption before the end of 2009.

Secretariat's recommendation

12. The Executive Committee may wish to take note of the progress report on the implementation of the 2007 work programme of the national CFC phase-out plan (NPP) for Afghanistan, and approve the annual implementation programme for 2008.

Fiji: Terminal Phase-out management plan (UNEP and UNDP)

13. The TPMP for Fiji was approved at the 47th Meeting of the Executive Committee at a total cost of US \$120,000 plus agency support costs for UNEP and for UNDP. The TPMP for Fiji was approved on an on-time funding basis, with the condition that the country must submit annual reports on the implementation of the activities undertaken the previous year.

Progress report

14. In 2007 alone, a total of 119 technicians were trained in good refrigeration practices, bringing the overall number of trained technicians in Fiji to almost 1000 since the inception of the train-the trainers' course in refrigeration. During the same period, 68 customs officers were trained. There are currently 300 trained customs officers in the country.

15. Extensive work has also started on the review of legislation in the country, with three consultative meetings held in 2007. A final revised regulation is expected before 2009. The equipment component of the TPMP was noted not to be fully operational in 2007, and UNDP is expecting that, with the agreement on equipment specifications, it will be able to initiate procurement in early 2008.

Secretariat's comments

16. Fiji has consistently reported zero CFC consumption since 2000. Its 2006 CFC consumption under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol remains zero. Fiji has been implementing the activities under the TPMP to ensure that this zero CFC consumption is sustained until 2010 and beyond.

Secretariat's recommendation

17. The Executive Committee may wish to take note of the progress report on the implementation of the TPMP for Fiji.
