

Annex XXXVI

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE CONTROL OF EMISSIONS OF HFC-23 GENERATED IN THE PRODUCTION OF HCFC-22 IN FRIO INDUSTRIAS ARGENTINAS

Purpose

1. This Agreement represents the understanding of the Government of Argentina (the “Country”) and the Executive Committee to ensure that by 1 January 2022 and thereafter, emissions of Annex F, Group II substance (“HFC-23”) generated in the HCFC-22 production line at Frio Industrias Argentinas (“FIASA”) were destroyed in compliance with the Montreal Protocol.
2. The Country agrees to meet the annual emission limits of up to a maximum of 0.1 kilogramme of HFC-23 per 100 kilogrammes of HCFC-22 produced by 1 January 2022, until the completion of the project on 1 January 2031, as set out in row 1.1 of Appendix 1-A (“The Targets, and Funding”), and commits that annual emissions will continue to be controlled and verified in the same manner after the completion of the project, including by means of policies and legislation.

Funding

3. Subject to compliance by the Country with its obligations set out in this Agreement, the Executive Committee agrees, in principle, to provide the funding set out in row 2.1 of Appendix 1-A to the Country following any reductions as specified in paragraph 6. The Executive Committee will, in principle, provide this funding at the first Executive Committee meeting of the years specified in Appendix 1-A.
4. The Country accepts that, by its acceptance of this Agreement and performance by the Executive Committee of its funding obligations described in paragraph 3:
 - (a) The Country is precluded from applying for or receiving further funding from the Multilateral Fund in respect to the control of emissions of Annex F, Group II, substances generated in each production line that manufactures Annex C, Group I, or Annex F substances;
 - (b) In accordance with sub-paragraph 9(b), the Country will accept independent verification of the achievement of the annual emission control limits of HFC-23 as set out in row 1.1 of Appendix 1-A. The aforementioned verification will be commissioned by the Lead implementing agency;
 - (c) The cost for the destruction of every kilogramme of HFC-23 by-product generated above the maximum 360,378 allowable kilogrammes eligible for funding under this Agreement, throughout the duration of the project, will be covered by FIASA, under the supervision of the Country;
 - (d) A maximum amount of US \$502,766, out of the total funding specified in Appendix 1-A, was associated with incremental operating costs (IOCs) and would be divided into annual tranches to be provided to the Country upon verification of the quantity of HFC-23 by-product destroyed;
 - (e) Any remaining funds held by the Lead implementing agency or the Country will be returned to the Multilateral Fund upon financial completion of this Agreement; and

- (f) There will be no additional funding from other sources outside the Multilateral Fund, including HFC-23 credits or offsets, for the control of HFC-23 by-product emissions from the HCFC-22 production line concerned, during or after completion of the project.

5. The Funding of this Agreement will not be modified on the basis of any future Executive Committee decisions that may affect the funding provided by the Multilateral Fund of any other projects or any other related activities in the Country.

6. The Country accepts that the funding specified in row 2.1 of Appendix 1-A in any given year will be reduced according to the following table:

	$x_{w,i-1} \geq 3.24\%$	$x_{w,i-1} < 3.24\%$
$P_{HCFC-22,i-1} \leq 1,540$ and $i \leq 2025$	$IOC_{max,i} - \min(1000 \times P_{HCFC-22,i-1} \times 0.0324, D_{HFC-23,i-1}) \times 1.40$	$IOC_{max,i} - \max(1000 \times P_{HCFC-22,i-1} \times 0.0324, D_{HFC-23,i-1}) \times 1.40$
$P_{HCFC-22,i-1} \leq 1,300$ and $i > 2025$		
$P_{HCFC-22,i-1} > 1,540$ and $i \leq 2025$	$IOC_{max,i} - \min(1000 \times 1,540 \times 0.0324, D_{HFC-23,i-1}) \times 1.40$	0
$P_{HCFC-22,i-1} > 1,300$ and $i > 2025$	$IOC_{max,i} - \min(1000 \times 1,300 \times 0.0324, D_{HFC-23,i-1}) \times 1.40$	0

Where:

$P_{HCFC-22,i}$ = production of HCFC-22 in year i (mt)

$Q_{HFC-23,i}$ = quantity of HFC-23 by-product generated in year i (kg)

$D_{HFC-23,i}$ = quantity of HFC-23 by-product destroyed in year i (kg)

$x_{w,i} = \frac{Q_{HFC-23,i}}{P_{HCFC-22,i}}$ (%)

$IOC_{max,i}$ = the agreed maximum IOCs in year $i = \begin{cases} 1,540 \times 0.0324 \times 1.40 \times 1,000 = \text{US } \$69,854 & \text{when } i \leq 2025 \\ 1,300 \times 0.0324 \times 1.40 \times 1,000 = \text{US } \$58,968 & \text{when } i > 2025 \end{cases}$

7. Notwithstanding paragraph 6, any reductions in the funding specified in row 2.1 of Appendix 1-A due to an increase in the $x_{w,i}$ that were due to circumstances beyond the control of FIASA would be considered by the Executive Committee on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the information contained in the tranche request as described in Appendix 2-A (“Format of Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans”).

8. If in any given year prior to 2025 production of HCFC-22 at FIASA were to fall below 1,540 mt or in any year after 2025 below 1,300 mt, the Country could request funding above that specified in Appendix 1-A for a subsequent year to destroy HFC-23 by-product generated from production of HCFC-22 above 1,540 mt if prior to 2025 and above 1,300 mt thereafter, in line with decision 87/52(b)(iii), on the understanding that any such requests would be submitted by the Country for individual consideration by the Executive Committee, and as long as the following conditions are met, subject to the circumstances described in paragraph 7:

- The request is prior to the date of completion of the Agreement;
- x_w in that year is less than or equal to 3.24 per cent; and
- The total quantity of HFC-23 by-product for which funding is requested for destruction through the completion of the Agreement was equal to or less than 360,378 kilogrammes.

Conditions for funding release

9. The Executive Committee will only provide the Funding when the Country satisfies the following conditions at least 10 weeks in advance of the first Executive Committee meeting of the years specified in Appendix 1-A:

- (a) That the Country has emitted up to a maximum of 0.1 kilogramme of HFC-23 per 100 kilogrammes of HCFC-22 produced for all relevant years. Relevant years are all years since the year in which this Agreement was approved except for 2021;
- (b) That the meeting of the Targets referred to in sub-paragraph (a) has been independently verified for all relevant years, by a verifier who will be commissioned by the Lead implementing agency;
- (c) That the Country has submitted a Tranche Implementation Report in the form of Appendix 2-A for all the activities required for the destruction of HFC-23 by-product from the HCFC-22 production line concerned, and that it has achieved a significant level of implementation of activities initiated with previously approved tranches; and
- (d) That the Country has submitted a Tranche Implementation Plan in the form of Appendix 2-A covering each calendar year until and including the year for which the funding schedule foresees the submission of the next tranche or, in case of the final tranche, until completion of all activities foreseen.

Flexibility in the reallocation of funds

10. The Country agrees to document in advance either in a Tranche Implementation Plan, or as a revision to an existing Tranche Implementation Plan to be submitted at least 10 weeks in advance to any meeting of the Executive Committee, for its approval:

- (a) Reallocations categorized as major changes related to *inter alia*:
 - (i) Issues potentially concerning the rules and policies of the Multilateral Fund;
 - (ii) Changes which would modify any clause of this Agreement;
 - (iii) Changes in the annual levels of funding allocated for the different tranches;
 - (iv) Provision of funding for activities not included in the approved Tranche Implementation Plan, or removal of an activity in the Tranche Implementation Plan, with a cost greater than 20 per cent of the total cost of the last approved tranche; and
 - (v) Using a different technology for the destruction of HFC-23 by-product that has already been selected in the project proposal, on the understanding that any submission for such a request would identify the associated incremental costs, confirmation that the annual emission limits of up to a maximum of 0.1 kilogramme of HFC-23 per 100 kilogrammes of HCFC-22 produced will be maintained, and that potential savings related to the change of technology will decrease the overall funding level under this Agreement; and

- (b) Reallocations not categorized as major changes may be incorporated in the approved Tranche Implementation Plan, under implementation at the time, and reported to the Executive Committee in the subsequent Tranche Implementation Report.

11. Should FIASA decide to permanently close its HCFC-22 production line prior to 1 January 2024, the Country, through the Lead implementing agency, could submit a request for funding for that closure on the understanding that:

- (a) The funding would be based on the total agreed funding of US \$2,262,630, minus the funding already approved in Tranche Implementation Plans approved by the Executive Committee and minus US \$20,000 for independent verification for each year through 2030 subsequent to the year of the production closure;
- (b) An independent verification of production line closure was submitted in line with the guidelines for the verification of ODS production phase-out;
- (c) The request would be submitted at least ten weeks prior to the Executive Committee meeting at which it would be considered; and
- (d) FIASA would not be eligible for further funding from the Multilateral Fund for the production of any Annex C, Group I, or Annex F substances under the Montreal Protocol.

Flexibility in the date of commencement of destruction of HFC-23

12. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 2, and due to the extraordinary circumstances brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic which could delay the completion of the refurbishment of the incinerator, the Country will have flexibility, only if necessary because the onsite cryogenic tank has reached its maximum capacity and only in 2022, to emit to the atmosphere the quantity of HFC-23 by-product generated that exceeds the maximum capacity of the onsite cryogenic tank prior to the completion of the refurbishment of the incinerator, on the understanding that:

- (a) The funding for the second tranche to be requested in 2024 will be reduced by US \$1.40 for every kilogramme of HFC-23 by-product that was not destroyed in 2022; and
- (b) The Country would be exempt from any penalty for emissions of up to the quantity of HFC-23 by-product emitted because the onsite cryogenic tank reached its maximum capacity and that quantity emitted was below that generated between 1 January 2022 and 30 April 2022.

Lead implementing agency

13. The Country agrees to assume overall responsibility for the management and implementation of this Agreement and of all activities undertaken by it or on its behalf to fulfil the obligations under this Agreement. UNIDO has agreed to be the Lead implementing agency (the "Lead IA"). The role of the Lead IA is contained in Appendix 4-A ("Role of the Lead Implementing Agency"). The Executive Committee agrees, in principle, to provide the Lead IA with the fees set out in rows 2.1 of Appendix 1-A.

Monitoring

14. The Country will ensure that it conducts accurate monitoring of its activities under this Agreement. The institutions set out in Appendix 3-A ("Monitoring Institutions and Roles") will monitor and report on implementation of the activities in the previous Tranche Implementation Plans in accordance with their

roles and responsibilities set out in the same appendix. This monitoring will also be subject to independent verification as described in sub-paragraph 9(b) above.

15. The Country agrees to evaluations, which might be carried out under the monitoring and evaluation work programmes of the Multilateral Fund or under the evaluation programme of the Lead IA taking part in this Agreement.

Non-compliance with the Agreement

16. Should the Country, for any reason, not meet the Targets for the destruction of HFC-23 by-product generated in the production of HCFC-22 set out in row 1.1 of Appendix 1-A or otherwise does not comply with this Agreement, the Country agrees that it will not be entitled to the Funding in accordance with the Targets, and Funding. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, funding will be reinstated according to a revised schedule determined by the Executive Committee after the Country has demonstrated that it has satisfied all of its obligations that were due to be met prior to receipt of the next tranche of funding under the Targets, and Funding. The Country acknowledges that the Executive Committee may reduce the amount of the Funding by the amount set out in Appendix 5-A (“Reductions in Funding for Failure to Comply”) in respect of each kilogramme emitted of HFC-23 generated in the production of HCFC-22 beyond the target specified in row 1.1 of Appendix 1-A in any one year. The Executive Committee will discuss each specific case in which the Country did not comply with this Agreement, and take related decisions. Once decisions are taken, the specific case of non-compliance with this Agreement will not be an impediment for the provision of funding for future tranches as per paragraph 9 above.

17. The Country will comply with any reasonable request of the Executive Committee and the Lead IA to facilitate implementation of this Agreement. In particular, it will provide the Lead IA with access to the information necessary to verify compliance with this Agreement.

Date of completion

18. This Agreement will be concluded on 1 January 2031. Should at that time there still be activities that are outstanding, and which were foreseen in the last Tranche Implementation Plan, the completion of the Plan will be delayed until the end of the year following the implementation of the remaining activities upon approval by the Executive Committee. The reporting requirements as per sub-paragraphs 1(a), 1(b), 1(c), and 1(d) of Appendix 2-A will continue until the time of the completion of the Plan unless otherwise specified by the Executive Committee.

Validity

19. All of the conditions set out in this Agreement are undertaken solely within the context of the Montreal Protocol and as specified in this Agreement. Except “production”, all terms used in this Agreement have the meaning ascribed to them in the Montreal Protocol unless otherwise defined herein. “Production” in this Agreement means the total amount of HCFC-22 produced for all uses, including controlled and feedstock uses, and irrespective of any subsequent destruction, recycling and reuse of that HCFC-22.

20. This Agreement may be modified or terminated only by mutual written agreement of the Country and the Executive Committee.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1-A: THE TARGETS, AND FUNDING

Row	Particulars	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total
1.1	Maximum allowable emissions of Annex F, Group II substances per 100 kg of Annex C, Group I substances produced (kg)	n/a	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	n/a
2.1	Lead IA (UNIDO) agreed funding (US \$)*	1,527,851	-	-	112,757	112,757	101,853	101,853	101,853	101,853	101,853	2,262,630
2.2	Support costs for Lead IA (US \$)	106,950	-	-	7,893	7,893	7,130	7,130	7,130	7,129	7,129	158,384
3.1	Total agreed funding (US \$)	1,527,851	-	-	112,757	112,757	101,853	101,853	101,853	101,853	101,853	2,262,630
3.2	Total support costs (US \$)	106,950	-	-	7,893	7,893	7,130	7,130	7,130	7,129	7,129	158,384
3.3	Total agreed costs (US \$)	1,634,801	-	-	120,650	120,650	108,983	108,983	108,983	108,982	108,982	2,421,014

* The agreed funding in any given year may be adjusted in line with paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of this Agreement.

APPENDIX 2-A: FORMAT OF TRANCHE IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS AND PLANS

1. The submission of the Tranche Implementation Report and Plans for each tranche request will consist of the following parts:

- (a) A narrative report, with data provided by tranche, describing the progress achieved since the previous report, reflecting the situation of the Country in regard to destruction of HFC-23 by-product from the production lines of HCFC-22 concerned. The report should include *inter alia* the amounts of HCFC-22 produced, the amounts of HFC-23 by-product generated in the production lines concerned, and the amounts of HFC-23 by-product that were destroyed, stored, sold, and/or vented, and the destruction technology used, to allow the Secretariat to assess the results achieved in terms of amounts of HFC-23 that had been destroyed and emitted. The report should further highlight successes, experiences, and challenges related to the different activities included in the Plan, reflecting any changes in the circumstances in the Country, and providing other relevant information on and justification for any changes vis-à-vis the previously submitted Tranche Implementation Plan(s), such as delays, uses of the flexibility for reallocation of funds during implementation of a tranche, or other changes;
- (b) An independent verification report providing *inter alia* the amounts of HCFC-22 produced, the amounts of HFC-23 by-product generated, and the amounts of HFC-23 by product that were destroyed, stored, sold, and/or vented, provided together with each tranche request;
- (c) A written description of the activities to be undertaken during the period covered by the requested tranche, highlighting implementation milestones, the time of completion and the interdependence of the activities, and taking into account experiences made and progress achieved in the implementation of earlier tranches; the data in the plan will be provided by calendar year; and
- (d) An Executive Summary of about five paragraphs, summarizing the information of the above sub-paragraphs 1(a) to 1(c).

APPENDIX 3-A: MONITORING INSTITUTIONS AND ROLES

1. In Argentina, the National Ozone Unit (OPROZ) is a tripartite coordination office for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol. It is composed of a representative of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Secretary of Industry, Knowledge Economy and Foreign Trade Management, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship.

2. UNIDO is appointed as the Lead IA and will be responsible for the overall management, monitoring of progress, performance verification and reporting to the Fund Secretariat and the Executive Committee. The project will be implemented by UNIDO and will be coordinated through the Secretary of Industry, Knowledge Economy and Foreign Trade Management. UNIDO will work in close cooperation with OPROZ and FIASA. The work will be carried out under the supervision and guidance of the Project Manager of UNIDO. Necessary local coordination and control will be done by OPROZ.

3. Monitoring of HCFC-22 production and HFC-23 by-product generation will be carried out through monthly reporting and semi-annual control visits: the focus of the review will be to verify the information provided by FIASA, with supporting documentation and accounting records including *inter alia*: daily and monthly production reports; anhydrous hydrogen and chloroform stocks, and HCFC-22 production; delivery notes, ozone depleting substances and raw materials sales invoices, ozone depleting substances customs clearance, accounting books (value-added tax, inventory and balance), HFC-23 by-product generation and destruction reports.

APPENDIX 4-A: ROLE OF THE LEAD IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

1. The Lead IA will be responsible for a range of activities, including at least the following:
 - (a) Ensuring performance and financial verification in accordance with this Agreement and with its specific internal procedures and requirements;
 - (b) Assisting the Country in preparation of the Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans as per Appendix 2-A;
 - (c) Providing independent verification to the Executive Committee that the Targets have been met and associated tranche activities have been completed as indicated in the Tranche Implementation Plan consistent with Appendix 2-A;
 - (d) Ensuring that the experiences and progress is reflected in updates of the overall plan and in future Tranche Implementation Plans consistent with sub-paragraphs 1(a) and 1(c) of Appendix 2-A;
 - (e) Fulfilling the reporting requirements for the Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans and the overall plan as specified in Appendix 2-A for submission to the Executive Committee;
 - (f) Ensuring that appropriate independent technical experts carry out the technical reviews;
 - (g) Carrying out required supervision missions;
 - (h) Ensuring the presence of an operating mechanism to allow effective, transparent implementation of the Tranche Implementation Plan and accurate data reporting;
 - (i) In case of reductions in funding for failure to comply in accordance with paragraph 16, to determine, in consultation with the Country, the allocation of the reductions to the different budget items;
 - (j) Ensuring that disbursements made to the Country are based on the use of the indicators;
 - (k) Providing assistance with policy, management and technical support when required; and
 - (l) Timely releasing funds to the Country/participating enterprise for completing the activities related to the project.
2. After consultation with the Country and taking into account any views expressed, the Lead IA will select and mandate an independent entity to carry out the verification of the destruction of HFC-23 generated in each HCFC-22 production line as per sub-paragraph 9(b) and sub-paragraph 1(b) of Appendix 2-A.

APPENDIX 5-A: REDUCTIONS IN FUNDING FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY

1. In accordance with paragraph 16, the amount of funding provided may be reduced by US \$12.56 per kilogramme of emission of HFC-23 generated in each HCFC-22 production line beyond the level defined in row 1.1 of Appendix 1-A for each year in which the target specified in row 1.1 of Appendix 1-A has not been met, on the understanding that the maximum funding reduction would not exceed the funding level of the tranche being requested. Additional measures might be considered in cases where non-compliance extends for two consecutive years.