

Annex XIV

VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON RENEWAL OF INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING PROJECTS SUBMITTED TO THE 87th MEETING

Afghanistan

1. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase X) for Afghanistan and noted with appreciation that Afghanistan reported 2018, 2019 and 2020 country programme implementation data and 2018 and 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Afghanistan maintains an operational licensing and quota system for HCFCs and is enforcing the ban on imports of HCFC-based equipment. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation that the Government has progressed in the ratification of the Kigali Amendment and finalized the proposal for revising ODS regulations to include HFCs in the licensing system which is in the process for adoption. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that the Government of Afghanistan will continue implementing the HCFC phase-out management plan and IS project activities as well as enabling activities, both at the policy and project levels to meet the next targets of the Montreal Protocol.

Belize

2. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase X) for Belize and noted with appreciation that Belize reported 2019 and 2020 country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat and 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee noted that the Government of Belize has an operational licensing and quota system, that its HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) is being implemented and mainstreamed into the national planning process, and that the procedure for the ratification of the Kigali Amendment has been initiated. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that the Government of Belize will continue implementing activities that will ensure the compliance of the country with the targets of the Montreal Protocol and of its HPMP Agreement with the Executive Committee.

Burkina Faso

3. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase XIV) for Burkina Faso and noted with appreciation that Burkina Faso reported 2019 and 2020 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee further noted that the Government of Burkina Faso has taken steps to phase out its consumption of HCFCs, in particular, implemented an HCFC licensing and quota system, trained customs officers and refrigeration technicians, and involved relevant stakeholders in the implementation of Montreal Protocol projects. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Burkina Faso to reduce HCFC consumption, and is therefore hopeful that, within the next two years, the Government will continue the implementation of its HCFC phase-out management plan and the IS project to achieve the compliance with the Montreal Protocol.

Burundi

4. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase IX) for Burundi and noted with appreciation that Burundi reported 2019 HCFC data under the country programme implementation report and Article 7 of the

Montreal Protocol to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating the country's compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Burundi has taken steps to phase out its HCFC consumption, namely the implementation of an HCFC import licensing and quota system, and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee further noted with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by Burundi on 26 March 2021 and the advancement of the enabling activities project to phase down HFCs. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Burundi to reduce HCFC consumption, and is confident that the Government will continue implementing activities to enable the country to comply with the obligations under the Montreal Protocol.

Cambodia

5. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase XI) for Cambodia and noted with appreciation that Cambodia submitted 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol and 2019 and 2020 country programme implementation reports indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Cambodia maintains an operational licensing and quota system for HCFC trade control and an electronic licensing system, that the amendment of existing regulations to include HFC import and export control is at the final stage prior to enactment, that the HCFC phase-out management plan is being implemented as planned, and that information outreach and awareness raising activities are conducted. The Executive Committee further acknowledged with appreciation that Cambodia ratified the Kigali Amendment on 8 April 2021. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that Cambodia will continue activities both at the policy and project levels to meet the future targets of the Montreal Protocol.

Chile

6. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project for Chile (phase XIII) and noted with appreciation that the Government of Chile reported 2018, 2019 and 2020 country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat and Article 7 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee further noted that the Government of Chile has taken steps to phase out ODS consumption; in particular, implementation of HCFC imports controls through the licensing and quota system, and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee also noted with appreciation the activities initiated to facilitate the implementation of the Kigali Amendment, including the establishment and implementation of an HFC licensing system. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Chile and is hopeful that, within the next two years, the Government of Chile will continue implementation of the HCFC phase-out management plan and IS project activities and achieve and sustain the required reduction in HCFC consumption as per the Montreal Protocol.

Congo (the)

7. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase X) for the Congo and noted with appreciation that the Congo reported 2020 HCFC data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of the Congo has taken steps to phase out its HCFC consumption, in particular by enforcing the HCFC licensing and quota system, training customs officers and refrigeration technicians under the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) and organizing meetings with stakeholders, and conducting awareness-raising activities. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation the efforts of the Government of the Congo to reduce HCFC consumption and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the country will ratify the Kigali Amendment and continue the effective implementation of its HPMP and IS project to achieve and sustain the compliance with its obligations under the Montreal Protocol.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

8. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase X) for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and noted with appreciation that the country reported 2019 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats indicating that it is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has taken steps to phase out HCFC consumption, in particular, enforcement of the HCFC import control, training of customs officers on prevention of illegal ODS trade and refrigeration technicians on HCFC alternatives, and awareness raising on the HCFC phase out. The Committee further acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Democratic Republic of the Congo to introduce an HFC licensing system. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo will continue with the implementation of its HPMP including submission of stage II of the HPMP in 2022 and the IS project to enable the country to achieve and sustain the compliance with the Montreal Protocol.

Equatorial Guinea

9. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase IV) for Equatorial Guinea and noted with appreciation that Equatorial Guinea reported 2019 HCFC data to the Ozone and Multilateral Fund Secretariats, indicating the country's compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Equatorial Guinea has taken steps to reduce HCFC consumption, namely the implementation of HCFC import controls through a licensing and quota system and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee further acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Equatorial Guinea to implement the enabling activities project for HFC phase-down and the ratification of the Kigali Amendment. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that the Government of Equatorial Guinea, in the next two years, will continue the implementation of its HCFC phase-out management plan and the IS project to achieve the next Montreal Protocol targets and will ratify the Kigali Amendment.

Eritrea

10. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase V) for Eritrea and noted with appreciation that Eritrea reported 2019 and 2020 country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat and data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee noted that the Government of Eritrea has taken steps to phase out HCFC consumption, including implementation of a licensing and quota system, and has advanced the ratification of the Kigali Amendment. The Committee is, therefore, confident that, the Government of Eritrea, in the next two years, will continue the implementation of its HCFC phase-out management plan to achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction target of the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2025 and will finalize the Kigali Amendment ratification process.

Eswatini

11. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase VII) for Eswatini and noted with appreciation that Eswatini reported 2019 and 2020 country programme data, and 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee acknowledged that the Government of Eswatini continued to implement its HCFC import and export licensing quota system; carried out training for refrigeration technicians and customs officers; developed and organized public awareness activities. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that the Government of Eswatini will continue implementing activities to enable the country to comply with the obligations under the Montreal Protocol. The Committee also noted with

appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by Eswatini on 24 November 2020 and the steps undertaken to meet the initial obligations under the Amendment.

Gabon

12. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase XI) and noted with appreciation that Gabon has reported 2018, 2019 and 2020 HCFC data under the country programme implementation reports and 2018 and 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol indicating that the country is in compliance with its obligations under the Montreal Protocol and that an operational HCFC licensing and quota system is in place. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Gabon has trained refrigeration technicians and customs officers; gained stakeholder support through meetings with the National Ozone Committee, importers and refrigeration association; and raised the public awareness on ozone protection. The Committee further noted with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by Gabon on 28 February 2018. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Gabon during the reporting period and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the country will continue the implementation of its HCFC phase-out management plan and IS project to achieve and sustain the target of 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required by 1 January 2025.

Gambia (the)

13. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase XI) for the Gambia and noted with appreciation that the Gambia has reported 2020 country programme implementation data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee also noted that the Government of the Gambia has an operational HCFC import and export licensing and quota system in place and has implemented activities under stage I of the HCFC phase-out management plan. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation that the country ratified the Kigali Amendment on 5 May 2021. The Committee is, therefore, confident that the Gambia will continue its gradual reduction of HCFC consumption to achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction target required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2025.

Grenada

14. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase VII) for Grenada and noted with appreciation that Grenada has reported 2020 country programme implementation data and data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Multilateral Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Grenada to continue implementing its HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) despite the constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, being on track with the HCFC phase-out schedule, and enforcing an operational electronic licensing and quota system for the import of HCFCs. The Executive Committee also noted with appreciation that Grenada ratified the Kigali Amendment on 29 May 2018. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that the Government of Grenada will continue implementing activities both at the policy and project levels to ensure its compliance with the Montreal Protocol and the targets set in its HPMP Agreement with the Executive Committee.

Guinea-Bissau

15. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase VII) for Guinea-Bissau and noted with appreciation that Guinea-Bissau reported 2019 data under the country programme implementation report and Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Guinea-Bissau has taken steps to

phase out its HCFC consumption, in particular through the implementation of HCFC licensing and quota system and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee appreciated the efforts of the Government of Guinea-Bissau to reduce HCFC consumption and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the Government will continue implementation of its HCFC phase-out management plan and the IS project to achieve and sustain the compliance with the Montreal Protocol reduction targets.

Iraq

16. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase V) for Iraq and noted with appreciation that Iraq reported 2019 and 2020 data under country programme implementation reports and Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee appreciated the efforts of the Government of Iraq to reduce the consumption of HCFC and be on track to achieve future obligations. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the Government of Iraq will continue with the implementation of its HCFC phase-out management plan and IS project activities to achieve the Montreal Protocol target of 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption by 2025 and set the required groundwork for ratifying the Kigali Amendment.

Kiribati

17. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase VIII) for Kiribati and noted with appreciation that Kiribati reported 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and under the country programme implementation report to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Kiribati has amended legislation to introduce an HFC licensing system, is implementing the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP), conducted information outreach and awareness raising activities, participated in Montreal Protocol-related meetings, and promoted gender equality in all Multilateral Fund-funded projects. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Kiribati and is, therefore, hopeful that the Government will continue the implementation of the HPMP and the IS project to achieve and sustain the HCFC phase-out targets of the Montreal Protocol.

Kuwait

18. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase VIII) for Kuwait and noted with appreciation that Kuwait reported 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and under the country programme implementation report to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Kuwait to reduce the consumption of HCFCs and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the Government of Kuwait will continue with the implementation of its HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) and IS project activities to further reduce its HCFC consumption in accordance with the targets of the Montreal Protocol and set in its HPMP Agreement with the Executive Committee, and to complete the process for ratification of the Kigali Amendment.

Liberia

19. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase IX) for Liberia and noted with appreciation that Liberia reported 2020 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that Liberia implemented HCFC import controls through the licensing and quota system, and trained customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee further noted with appreciation that Liberia ratified the Kigali Amendment on

12 July 2020. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Liberia and is, therefore, confident that the country will continue its gradual reduction of HCFC consumption to achieve the 67.5 per cent required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2025.

Madagascar

20. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase IX) for Madagascar and noted with appreciation that Madagascar reported data for 2019 and 2020 under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol and country programme implementation reports to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Madagascar has taken steps to phase out its consumption of HCFCs, including the implementation of HCFC import controls through a licensing and quota system and the training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Madagascar to reduce its HCFC consumption and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, Madagascar will continue with the implementation of its HCFC phase-out management plan and IS project to achieve and sustain the compliance targets of the Montreal Protocol.

Mauritius

21. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase VII) for Mauritius and noted with appreciation that Mauritius reported 2020 data under the country programme implementation report and under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Multilateral Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Mauritius has implemented a licensing and quota system for HCFC import control, extended the licensing system to include HFCs and implemented stage I of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP), which included training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Mauritius for both HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down, and is, therefore, hopeful that, in the next two years, the Government will continue to implement its HPMP and the IS project to meet and sustain the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2025, and will further implement the requirements under the Kigali Amendment.

Mongolia

22. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional project (phase XII) for Mongolia and noted with appreciation that Mongolia submitted country programme implementation data and data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country has reached 35 per cent reduction target in 2020. The Executive Committee also noted that the country maintains an operational licensing and quota system for HCFCs and is enforcing the import licensing system for HFCs and equipment based on the controlled substances, and that HCFC phase-out management plan activities are being implemented as planned. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts taken by the Government of Mongolia to advance the ratification of the Kigali Amendment. The Executive Committee is, therefore, hopeful that Mongolia will continue implementing activities both at the policy and project levels to meet the future targets of the Montreal Protocol.

Niue

23. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase VIII) of Niue and noted with appreciation that Niue reported 2018 and 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol and country programme implementation reports to the Ozone and the Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol and that it maintains zero consumption of HCFCs since 2011. The Executive Committee acknowledged the

efforts of the Government of Niue to comply with the initial obligations of the Kigali Amendment by establishing its HFC licensing system, and continuing to promote gender equality in all Multilateral Fund-funded projects. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the Government of Niue will complete its stage I of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) and launch the implementation of stage II of the HPMP to continue project activities to sustain zero HCFC consumption and remain in compliance with the Montreal Protocol, including the Kigali Amendment obligations.

Pakistan

24. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase XI) for Pakistan and noted with appreciation the timely submission of the 2018 and 2019 consumption data to both the Ozone Secretariat under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol and the Fund Secretariat under the country programme implementation report confirming that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee also noted that the Government of Pakistan continued to work in close collaboration with stakeholders to manage and monitor the consumption of ODS, and to sustain the ODS phase-out achieved. The Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government and is, therefore, hopeful that Pakistan will continue the timely and successful implementation of Montreal Protocol activities, including completion of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan, initiation of stage III of the HPMP, continuation of enabling activities for the phase-down of HFCs and the institutional strengthening project activities.

Palau

25. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the institutional strengthening project (phase IX) for Palau and noted with appreciation that Palau reported 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol and the country programme implementation report to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country complies with the Montreal Protocol obligations. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Palau continued the enforcement of the ban on import of HCFC-based equipment and that the Steering Committee and the refrigeration association are engaged in the planning and implementation of all Multilateral Fund projects. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Palau in complying with the initial obligations of the Kigali Amendment by putting in place a licensing system for HFCs, and in continued promoting gender-equality in all Multilateral Funded projects. The Committee is, therefore, confident that the Government of Palau will continue implementing activities both at the policy and project levels to meet the future targets of the Montreal Protocol.

Philippines

26. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase XIII) for the Philippines and noted that the Philippines reported 2019 and 2020 country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat, and 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted with appreciation that the Government of the Philippines enforces an HCFC import/export licensing system and that the internal process for the ratification of the Kigali Amendment is in progress. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that the Government of the Philippines will continue implementing activities both at the policy and project levels to enable the country to meet the Montreal Protocol targets, and that the Philippines will soon ratify the Kigali Amendment.

Republic of Moldova

27. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase XI) for the Republic of Moldova and noted with appreciation that the Republic of Moldova submitted 2018 and 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and 2018, 2019 and 2020 country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance

with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also acknowledged the efforts of the Government of the Republic of Moldova in engaging all stakeholders in phase-out activities and implementing stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan in a coordinated manner despite the changes in the Montreal Protocol Unit staffing. The Committee is, therefore, confident that in the next two years, the Government of the Republic of Moldova will continue its activities both at the policy and project levels to enable the country to achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption by 1 January 2025 and to progress towards the ratification of the Kigali Amendment and the subsequent preparation of HFC phase-down projects.

Rwanda

28. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project (phase IX) for Rwanda and noted with appreciation that Rwanda reported country programme data to the Fund Secretariat and data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee further noted that Rwanda had taken further steps to phase out its consumption of HCFCs, including the enforcement of the quota and licensing system; trained customs and enforcement officers; included HFCs in the licensing system and completed the enabling activities project for HFC phase-down. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Rwanda and is therefore hopeful that, within the next two years, the country will continue the implementation of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan and the IS project to achieve and sustain the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2025.

Samoa

29. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase XI) for Samoa and noted with appreciation that Samoa reported HCFC consumption data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme implementation reports to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Samoa has an operational licensing and quota system, and coordinated with stakeholders in implementing stage I of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP). The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Samoa in taking the necessary steps to meet the initial obligations of the Kigali Amendment through putting in place controls of HFCs under the existing legislation, in drafting and revising the relevant bill and regulations to strengthen the import monitoring of controlled substances under the Montreal Protocol, and in raising awareness about HCFC phase-out and Kigali Amendment obligations. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, in the next two years, the Government of Samoa will implement activities both at the policy and project levels to enable the country to comply with the targets of the Montreal Protocol as well as those established in its HPMP Agreement with the Executive Committee.

Sao Tome and Principe

30. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase VII) for Sao Tome and Principe and noted with appreciation that Sao Tome and Principe reported 2019 and 2020 data under the Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol and the country programme implementation reports to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Sao Tome and Principe has taken steps to phase out its consumption of HCFCs, in particular, the enforcement of the HCFC licensing and quota system, training of customs officers on illegal trade and data monitoring and refrigeration technicians on good servicing practices and safe handling of flammable alternatives, and meetings with relevant stakeholders. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation that Sao Tome and Principe ratified the Kigali Amendment on 4 October 2019. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the Government of Sao Tome and Principe will continue implementing

activities at both policy and project levels to enable the country to achieve and sustain the compliance with the Montreal Protocol.

Somalia

31. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase V) for Somalia and noted with appreciation that Somalia reported 2019 and 2020 data under country programme implementation reports and 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Multilateral Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by Somalia on 27 November 2019. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that Somalia will continue its gradual reduction in HCFC consumption, achieving the 67.5 per cent reduction target of the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2025 and commence HFC phase-down in accordance with the Kigali Amendment.

Togo

32. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase XI) for Togo and noted with appreciation that Togo reported HCFC import data for 2019 and 2020 under country programme implementation reports and for 2019 under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that the Government of Togo has taken steps to phase out its consumption of HCFCs, in particular the implementation of ODS import controls through a licensing and quota system and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts made by the Government of Togo to reduce HCFC consumption and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the Government of Togo will continue implementing activities both at the policy and project levels to enable the country to achieve and sustain the compliance with the Montreal Protocol.

Tonga

33. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase IX) for Tonga and noted with appreciation that Tonga reported 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat, and under the country programme implementation report to the Multilateral Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee expressed sympathy for the demise of the Principal Ozone Officer and appreciated the efforts made by the Government of Tonga to restructure the national ozone unit in ensuring continuity in the implementation of the Montreal Protocol commitments. The Executive Committee further noted that the Government of Tonga has continued the enforcement of the licensing system for HCFCs and the ban on the import of HCFC-based equipment and the country has phased out its HCFC consumption ahead of its obligations. The Committee is, therefore, confident that the Government of Tonga will continue implementing activities both at the policy and project levels to ensure the long-term sustainability of the targets met under the Montreal Protocol.

Tuvalu

34. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase VIII) for Tuvalu and noted with appreciation that Tuvalu reported 2019 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and 2019 and 2020 data under the country programme implementation report to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee also noted that the Government of Tuvalu has taken steps to phase out its consumption of HCFCs and is amending the regulations to include mandatory controls for import and export of HFCs. The Committee acknowledged the efforts made by the Government of Tuvalu to continue promoting gender-equality and encouraging female participation in all Multilateral Fund-funded projects.

The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, in the next two years, the Government of Tuvalu will continue implementing activities both at the policy and project levels to enable the country to meet and sustain the next targets of the Montreal Protocol.

Zambia

35. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase VIII) for Zambia and noted with appreciation that Zambia reported 2019 and 2020 country programme data, and data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee acknowledged that Zambia continued to implement its HCFC import and export licensing and quota system; carried out training for refrigeration technicians and customs officers; developed and organized public awareness activities. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that the Government of Zambia will continue implementing activities to enable the country to comply with the obligations under the Montreal Protocol. The Committee also noted with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by Zambia on 15 March 2021 and the steps undertaken to meet the initial obligations under the Amendment.

Zimbabwe

36. The Executive Committee reviewed the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project (phase XI) for Zimbabwe and noted with appreciation that Zimbabwe reported 2020 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and under the country programme implementation report to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee also noted that projects continue to be implemented including enabling activities for HFC phase-down to facilitate ratification of the Kigali Amendment. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that Zimbabwe will continue its gradual reduction in HCFC consumption to achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction target required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2025.
