

Annex XVII

VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON RENEWAL OF THE INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING PROJECTS APPROVED AT THE 84th MEETING

Albania

1. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Albania (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that Albania has 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 Committee also noted that an operational licensing and quota system is in place and that Albania has gained stakeholder support for its phase-out activities through meetings, including with the Steering Committee, and raised public awareness of ozone-layer protection. The Executive Committee is, therefore, hopeful that Albania will continue implementing its HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) and institutional strengthening project in a timely and effective manner in order to prepare the country to meet and sustain the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020 and start reporting HFC consumption.

Angola

2. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Angola (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that Angola has 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 noted that Angola completed stage I of the HPMP and has started implementation of stage II and that several activities have been completed, including training for customs officers and refrigeration technicians, and establishment of, and support to, regional working groups to facilitate data collection and project implementation. The Executive Committee is hopeful that in the next two years, Angola will continue the implementation of HCFC phase-out activities to achieve and maintain the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Bahamas

3. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for the Bahamas (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that the Bahamas has reported country programme 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 Executive Committee further noted that the Bahamas has taken steps to phase out its consumption of HCFCs, including the improvement and enforcement of the licensing system, capacity building and certification of refrigeration technicians and customs officers. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Bahamas and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the Bahamas will continue the implementation of its HPMP and institutional strengthening project in order to meet and sustain the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Benin

4. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Benin (phase XI) and noted with appreciation that Benin reported 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 Executive Committee further noted that Benin has taken steps to phase out its ODS consumption by implementing a licensing and quota system for ODS import control and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Benin to reduce HCFC consumption and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, Benin will continue with the implementation of its HPMP and institutional strengthening project to achieve the compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Bolivia (Plurinational State of)

5. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project renewal request for the Plurinational State of Bolivia (phase XI) and noted with appreciation that the country reported 2017 and 2018 ODS data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Multilateral Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the HCFC phase-out schedule under the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that the Plurinational State of Bolivia has reached a significant reduction in HCFC consumption in 2018. The Executive Committee is hopeful that the country will continue implementing its HPMP and institutional strengthening project, enabling it to sustain the phase-out already achieved, and building national capacities to apply control of HFCs through enabling activities.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

6. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Bosnia and Herzegovina (phase VII), and noted with appreciation that Bosnia and Herzegovina reported 2017 and 2018 ODS consumption data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with its Montreal Protocol obligations. The Executive Committee further noted that Bosnia and Herzegovina has taken steps, in a coordinated manner, to achieve the HCFC consumption phase-out targets and has initiated steps towards the HFC phase-down. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Bosnia and Herzegovina and is, therefore, hopeful that it will continue the timely and successful implementation of Montreal Protocol activities, including the implementation of the HPMP and institutional strengthening project activities.

Cameroon

7. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Cameroon (phase XII) and noted with appreciation that Cameroon 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 Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee further noted that Cameroon has taken steps to phase out its ODS consumption by implementing a licensing and quota system for ODS import control and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Cameroon to reduce HCFC consumption and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, Cameroon will continue with the implementation of its HPMP and institutional strengthening project to achieve and sustain compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Chad

8. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Chad (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that Chad 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 Chad has taken steps to phase out its ODS consumption by implementing a licensing and quota system for ODS imports control and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Chad to reduce HCFC consumption and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, Chad will continue with the implementation of its HPMP and institutional strengthening project to achieve and sustain the compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Comoros

9. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Comoros (phase XI) and noted with appreciation that the Comoros 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 the Comoros has taken steps to phase out its ODS consumption by implementing a licensing and quota system for ODS imports controls and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Comoros to reduce HCFC consumption and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the Comoros will continue with the implementation of its HPMP and institutional strengthening project to achieve and sustain the compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Cook Islands

10. The Executive Committee has reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for the Cook Islands (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that the Cook Islands reported 2017 and 2018 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that Cook Islands has maintained zero ODS consumption. The Executive Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the Cook Islands will continue with the implementation of its HPMP and institutional strengthening project to sustain the zero ODS consumption, including HCFCs. The Executive Committee also noted with appreciation that the Cook Islands ratified the Kigali Amendment in August 2019 and has taken steps to comply with the initial obligations under the Amendment.

Costa Rica

11. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Costa Rica (phase XIII) and noted with appreciation that Costa Rica reported 2017 and 2018 ODS consumption data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with its obligations. The Executive Committee further noted that Costa Rica has taken steps to phase out ODS consumption, has continued with the training of refrigeration technicians and has participated in regional network and Montreal Protocol-related meetings. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Costa Rica and is therefore hopeful that Costa Rica will successfully continue the implementation of stage I of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP), enabling activities for HFC phase-down and

institutional strengthening project, in order to achieve the reduction targets for HCFC consumption that were established in the Agreement with the Executive Committee.

Eritrea

12. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Eritrea (phase IV) and noted with appreciation that Eritrea 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 noted that Eritrea has taken steps to phase out its ODS consumption, including implementation of a licensing and quota system for ODS import control. The Executive Committee is, therefore, hopeful that Eritrea will continue its reduction of HCFC consumption and prepare for stage II of the HPMP, and also continue its efforts towards the ratification of the Kigali Amendment through the implementation of enabling activities for HFC phase-down.

Guyana

13. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for the Guyana (phase VIII) and noted with appreciation that Guyana reported country programme data to the Fund Secretariat and data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee further noted that Guyana has taken steps to phase out its HCFC consumption, including the improvement and enforcement of the licensing system and capacity building of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Guyana and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the country will continue the implementation of stage II of the HPMP and institutional strengthening project to prepare the country to achieve and sustain the reduction targets for HCFC consumption, as specified in its Agreement with the Executive Committee.

India

14. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for India (phase XII) and noted with appreciation the submission of the 2017 and 2018 ODS consumption and production data to both the Ozone Secretariat (Article 7 of the Protocol) and the Fund Secretariat (country programme), confirming that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol obligations. The Executive Committee further noted that India has taken various actions, in a coordinated manner, to manage and monitor the ODS consumption and to sustain the ODS phase-out achieved in stage I of its HPMP, and established a HCFC control system, comprised of licensing and quota systems supported by a legal framework, allowing the enforcement of the accelerated HCFC phase-out schedule. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of India and is, therefore, hopeful that it will continue the timely and successful implementation of Montreal Protocol activities, including the implementation of stage II of the HPMP and institutional strengthening project activities.

Indonesia

15. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Indonesia (phase XII) and noted with appreciation the timely submission of the 2017 and 2018 ODS consumption data to both the Ozone Secretariat (Article 7 of the Protocol) and the Fund Secretariat (country programme), confirming that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol obligations. The Executive Committee further noted that Indonesia has taken steps, in a coordinated manner, to manage and monitor the ODS consumption, including the implementation of HCFC import control through the licensing and quota system, the establishment of the legal framework

ensuring sectoral bans of ODS in the refrigeration, air-conditioning and polyurethane foam sectors under stages I and II of its HPMP, alongside with awareness-raising, and addressing issues on the transition to low-global-warming-potential (GWP) alternatives. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Indonesia and is, therefore, hopeful that it will continue the timely and successful implementation of Montreal Protocol activities, including the implementation of stage II of the HPMP and institutional strengthening project activities.

Jamaica

16. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Jamaica (phase X) and noted with appreciation that the country reported 2017 and 2018 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 also noted the timely submission of country programme data to the Fund Secretariat and effective ODS licensing and quota system. The Executive Committee acknowledged that Jamaica has continued its commitment to strengthen and enforce its licensing system in cooperation with the national customs administration. The Executive Committee is, therefore, hopeful that Jamaica will achieve and sustain the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Malaysia

17. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Malaysia (phase XIII) and noted with appreciation the timely submission of the 2017 and 2018 ODS consumption data under Article 7 of the Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol obligations. The Executive Committee further noted that Malaysia has taken steps, in a coordinated manner, to phase out ODS consumption, including the implementation of HCFC import control through the licensing and quota system, phase-out in the foam sector, and awareness-raising and training of stakeholders in the refrigeration and air-conditioning servicing sector under its HPMP. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Malaysia in the successful completion of stage I of the HPMP, and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, Malaysia will successfully continue its Montreal Protocol-related activities, including the implementation of stage II, enabling activities for HFC phase-down and institutional strengthening project activities.

Marshall Islands

18. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for the Marshall Islands (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that the Marshall Islands reported data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol and country programme data for 2017 and 2018 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Marshall Islands in initiating the development of a software that will be used to track the imports of all ODS. The Executive Committee further noted that the country has maintained zero ODS consumption. The Executive Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the Marshall Islands will continue with the implementation of its HPMP and institutional strengthening project to meet and sustain the obligations under the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by the Marshall Islands in May 2017 and the steps taken to comply with the initial obligations under the Amendment.

Mauritius

19. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Mauritius (phase VI) and noted with appreciation that Mauritius reported 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 Executive Committee further noted that Mauritius has implemented a licensing and quota system for HCFC import control, and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Mauritius, including the ratification of the Kigali Amendment in October 2019, and commitment for early action on its implementation, and is hopeful that, in the next two years, Mauritius will continue to implement its HPMP and institutional strengthening project to meet and sustain the 50 per cent reduction target in HCFC consumption by 1 January 2020, as specified in its Agreement with the Executive Committee.

Micronesia (Federated States of)

20. The Executive Committee has reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for the Federated States of Micronesia (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that the country reported 2017 and 2018 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee noted the country's commitment in managing and implementing stage I of the HPMP, preparation of stage II, enabling activities for HFC phase-down and the institutional strengthening project, including the licensing and quota system and the coordination with relevant stakeholders. The Executive Committee noted with appreciation the enforcement of national regulation by prosecuting the violators of the licensing system for HCFC import. The Executive Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, the Federated States of Micronesia will continue with the implementation of its HPMP and institutional strengthening project activities to meet next obligations under the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment in May 2017 and the steps undertaken to meet the initial obligations under the Amendment.

Myanmar

21. The Executive Committee has reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Myanmar (phase V) and noted with appreciation that the country reported 2017 and 2018 data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that Myanmar has taken steps to ban import of HCFC-based equipment with cooling capacity less than 2.5 HP and address findings from the verification of HCFC consumption to strengthen the enforcement of licensing and quota system. The Executive Committee is hopeful that the country will continue the implementation of ongoing projects to achieve and maintain the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Namibia

22. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Namibia (phase X) and noted with appreciation that Namibia 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, and with the maximum allowable consumption set out in its Agreement with the Executive Committee. The Executive

Committee noted that Namibia has taken steps to address ODS phase-out, including the implementation of a licensing and quota system for HCFC import control, and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee further noted with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by the country in May 2019, with a commitment to early action on its implementation. The Executive Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, in the next two years, Namibia will continue the implementation of its HPMP and institutional strengthening project to achieve the reduction targets for HCFC consumption specified in its Agreement with the Executive Committee.

Niger

23. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Niger (phase XII) and noted with appreciation that Niger 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 Niger has taken steps to phase out its HCFC consumption through the implementation of a licensing and quota system for ODS import control and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Niger to reduce HCFC consumption and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, Niger will continue with the implementation of its HPMP and institutional strengthening project to achieve and sustain the compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Panama

24. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Panama (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that Panama reported 2017 and 2018 ODS consumption data under Article 7 of the Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol obligations. The Executive Committee further noted that Panama has taken steps to phase out ODS consumption through the implementation of HCFC import control under the licensing and quota system, and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee also noted with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by Panama in September 2018, the activities initiated to facilitate its implementation, and the country's participation in regional network and Montreal Protocol-related meetings. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Panama and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, it will continue the successful implementation of stage II of the HPMP and institutional strengthening project activities, in order to achieve and sustain the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required by 1 January 2020.

Rwanda

25. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Rwanda (phase VIII) 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 has taken steps to phase out its HCFC consumption, including the enforcement of the licensing system, targeted actions on prevention of illegal trade and training of enforcement officers and service technicians. 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 its HPMP and institutional strengthening project to achieve and maintain the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Senegal

26. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Senegal (phase XIII) and noted with appreciation that Senegal 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 Senegal has taken steps to phase out its HCFC consumption through the implementation of a licensing and quota system for ODS import control and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Senegal to reduce HCFC consumption and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next two years, Senegal will continue with the implementation of its HPMP and institutional strengthening project to achieve and sustain the compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Serbia

27. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Serbia (phase VII), and noted with appreciation that Serbia reported 2017 and 2018 ODS consumption data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with its Montreal Protocol obligations. The Committee further noted that Serbia has undertaken concerted efforts towards the achievement of the HCFC consumption phase-out targets, in line with its Agreement with the Executive Committee, including through the enforcement of the ban on import of HCFC-based equipment that started in March 2018, and activities in the technical information exchange in the region. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Serbia and is, therefore, hopeful that it will continue the timely and successful implementation of Montreal Protocol activities, including the implementation of the HPMP and institutional strengthening project activities.

Timor-Leste

28. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Timor-Leste (phase V) and noted with appreciation that the country reported 2017 and 2018 ODS consumption data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country has been in compliance with its reporting and HCFC phase-out obligations under the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that Timor-Leste has identified activities to strengthen the enforcement of its licensing and quota system through innovative measures such as post-clearance and risk profiling. The Executive Committee also appreciated that the implementation of stage I of the HPMP was completed by December 2018. The Executive Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, within next two years, Timor-Leste will continue implementing stage II of the HPMP, institutional strengthening project and enabling activities for HFC phase-down in a timely and effective manner to achieve and sustain the reduction in HCFC consumption specified in its Agreement with the Executive Committee.

Tunisia

29. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Tunisia (phase IX), and noted that Tunisia reported the data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with its Montreal Protocol obligations. The Executive Committee further noted that Tunisia has taken action to phase out HCFC consumption, including the implementation of a strict system of monitoring of trade in ODS through the national

regulatory framework, and training for customs authorities. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Tunisia to implement stage I of the HPMP and noted that Tunisia has submitted stage II of the HPMP for consideration by the Executive Committee, and is, therefore, hopeful that it will continue the timely and successful implementation of the HPMP and institutional strengthening project activities.

Turkey

30. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Turkey (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that Turkey is in compliance with the reporting obligations under Article 7 data of the Montreal Protocol and the country programme implementation, and with the accelerated HCFC phase-out targets set in its Agreement with the Executive Committee. The Committee further noted that Turkey plays an important role in promoting alternatives to HCFCs in the refrigeration and air-conditioning sector in the Europe and Central Asia region. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Turkey and is, therefore, hopeful that it will continue the timely and successful implementation of Montreal Protocol activities, including the implementation of the HPMP and institutional strengthening project activities.

Uruguay

31. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Uruguay (phase XIII) and noted with appreciation that Uruguay reported 2017 and 2018 ODS consumption data under Article 7 of the Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol obligations. Furthermore, the Executive Committee noted that stage II of the HPMP and other ongoing projects continue to be implemented in a coordinated manner. The Committee also noted with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment in September 2018 and the preparatory activities to facilitate its implementation. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Uruguay and is, therefore, confident that, within the next two years, Uruguay will successfully continue with the implementation of stage II of the HPMP, enabling activities for HFC phase-down and institutional strengthening project in order to achieve and sustain the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required by 1 January 2020.

Vanuatu

32. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Vanuatu (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that Vanuatu reported 2017 and 2018 ODS consumption data under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Fund Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee further noted that Vanuatu has taken steps to sustain phase-out of its HCFC consumption through strengthening the operation of its licensing and quota system and training and capacity building to key sectors, such as customs officers and refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) servicing technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Vanuatu to enforce the licensing system of HCFCs and HCFC-based equipment and establish the certification and licensing system for RAC technicians. The Executive Committee is hopeful that the country will meet the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020. The Executive Committee also noted with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment by Vanuatu in April 2018 and the steps undertaken to meet the initial obligations under the Amendment.