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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Ninety-eighth Meeting
Montreal, 22–26 June 2026
Item 8(c) of the provisional agenda¹

PROJECT PROPOSAL: GUYANA

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

Phase-out

- HCFC phase-out management plan (stage II, fourth tranche) UNEP and UNDP Blanket approval

¹ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/98/1

PROJECT EVALUATION SHEET – MULTI-YEAR PROJECTS**Guyana**

PROJECT TITLE	AGENCY	MEETING APPROVED	CONTROL MEASURE
HCFC phase-out plan (stage II)	UNEP (lead), UNDP	75 th	100% phase-out by 2030

ARTICLE 7 DATA (Annex C, Group I)	Year: 2025	0.03 ODP tonnes
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COUNTRY PROGRAMME SECTORAL DATA (ODP tonnes)							Year: 2025
Substance	Aerosol	Foam	Firefighting	Refrigeration		Solvent	Total sector consumption
				Manufacturing	Servicing		
HCFC-22					0.03		0.03
HCFC-141b					0.00		0.00

CONSUMPTION DATA (ODP tonnes)			
2009–2010 baseline:	1.80	Starting point for sustained aggregate reductions:	1.80
CONSUMPTION ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING			
Already approved:	1.80	Remaining:	0.00

ENDORSED BUSINESS PLAN		2026	2027	2028	Total
UNEP	ODS phase-out (ODP tonnes)	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.16
	Funding (US \$)	85,880	0	0	85,880
UNDP	ODS phase-out (ODP tonnes)	0.19	0.00	0.00	0.19
	Funding (US \$)	96,300	0	0	96,300

PROJECT DATA			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		2024	2025	#2026	2027	#2028	2029	2030	Total	
Consumption (ODP tonnes)	Montreal Protocol limits		1.62	1.62	1.62	1.62	1.62	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.17		1.17	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.05	n/a	
	Maximum allowable		1.62	1.52	1.42	1.32	1.22	1.12	0.91	0.69	0.48		0.26	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0	n/a	
Amounts approved in principle (US\$)	UNEP	Project costs	55,500	0	0	65,500	0	0	45,500	0	0	0	0	0	45,500	0	30,500	0	0	242,500	
		Support costs	7,215	0	0	8,515	0	0	5,915	0	0	0	0	0	5,915	0	3,965	0	0	31,525	
	UNDP	Project costs	159,750	0	0	66,750	0	0	125,000	0	0	0	100,000	0	0	35,000	0	55,000	0	0	541,500
		Support costs	11,183	0	0	4,673	0	0	8,750	0	0	0	7,000	0	0	2,450	0	3,850	0	0	37,906
Funds approved by ExCom (US\$)		Project costs	215,250	0	0	0	*132,250	0	0	0	**170,500	***100,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	618,000
		Support costs	18,398	0	0	0	13,188	0	0	0	0	14,665	7,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53,251
Total funds recommended for approval at this meeting (US\$)		Project costs													80,500						80,500
		Support costs														8,365					

*The second tranche scheduled for 2018 was approved in 2019.

**The third tranche scheduled for 2021 was approved at the 92nd meeting in 2023.

***A standalone project for additional activities to maintain energy efficiency (decision 89/6) was approved at the 93rd meeting in 2023.

The last two tranches originally scheduled for 2023 and 2026 have been moved to 2026 and 2028, respectively.

Secretariat's recommendation:	Blanket approval
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. On behalf of the Government of Guyana, UNEP as the lead implementing agency has submitted a request for funding for the fourth tranche of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP), at a total cost of US \$88,865, consisting of US \$45,500, plus agency support costs of US \$5,915, for UNEP and US \$35,000, plus agency support costs US \$2,450, for UNDP.² The submission includes a progress report on the implementation of the third tranche and of the additional activities to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) servicing sector (decision 89/6), the verification report on HCFC consumption for 2023 to 2025, and the tranche implementation plan for 2026 to 2028.

Report on HCFC consumption

2. The Government of Guyana reported a consumption of 0.03 ODP tonnes of HCFCs in 2025, which is 99 per cent below the country's HCFC baseline for compliance. The 2021–2025 HCFC consumption is shown in table 1.

Table 1. HCFC consumption in 2021–2025 in Guyana (Article 7 data)

HCFC	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Baseline
Metric tonnes (mt)						
HCFC-22	9.05	9.97	6.22	4.58	0.46	31.02
HCFC-141b	0.00	0.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Total (mt)	9.05	10.65	6.22	4.58	0.46	31.02
ODP tonnes						
HCFC-22	0.50	0.55	0.34	0.25	0.03	1.80
HCFC-141b	0	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Total (ODP tonnes)	0.50	0.62	0.34	0.25	0.03	1.80

3. Over the last five years, HCFC consumption in Guyana has been steadily declining, except for a slight increase in consumption in 2022, which was due to a shortage in local supply in 2021. In 2025, a sharp decrease in consumption is reported, which is attributed to reduced quotas (from 4.73 mt in 2024 to 0.78 mt in 2025), the strict implementation of the ban on imports of HCFC-based equipment since 2013, and the availability of alternative technologies. HCFCs are only used in the RAC servicing sector in Guyana. There have been no imports of HCFC-141b since 2022, and there is no consumption of HCFC-141b contained in imported pre-blended polyols. The reduction in HCFCs has been attributed to the implementation of the activities under the HPMP, including the intensive training and certification of technicians on the safe use of alternative refrigerants, and the education and awareness programme targeting key stakeholders and the general public. The consumption of HCFCs has largely been replaced with HFCs; however, some HPMP initiatives have introduced low-global-warming-potential (GWP) and energy-efficient alternatives to HCFCs in the commercial and domestic sectors.

Country programme implementation report

4. The HCFC consumption data provided by the Government of Guyana in its CP implementation report for 2025 is consistent with the data reported under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol.

Verification report

5. The verification report confirmed that the Government was implementing a licensing and quota system for HCFC imports and exports and that the total consumption of HCFCs reported under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol for 2023 to 2025 was correct (as shown in table 1 above). The verification concluded that Guyana has met the consumption reduction targets agreed between the Government of Guyana and the

² As per the letter of 17 March 2026 from the Ministry of Agriculture of Guyana to the Secretariat.

Executive Committee. The verification report included recommendations, which are discussed in paragraphs 15 and 16 below.

Progress report on the implementation of the third tranche of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan

Legal framework

6. HCFC licensing and quota systems have been implemented since 2007 under Trade Order No. 19 and were formally amended into legislation in 2010. The Government of Guyana has not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment, but under ministerial policy HFCs require a license, and the Government has been monitoring imports. Guyana has established standards for the labelling of ODS and for the safe use and handling of refrigerants. All importers of HCFCs are required to register annually with the national ozone unit (NOU) to obtain an import quota permit. The permit is issued to importers by the Ministry of Agriculture, as advised by the NOU. The quotas are enforced by the Guyana Revenue Authority (Customs and Trade Administration), which ensures that importers are in possession of the permit to import controlled ODS and that the substances are labelled in accordance with the Guyana Standard. A competency-based technician certification programme is in place in Guyana, implemented in cooperation with the Council for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (CTVET) and the technical and vocational schools.

7. Under the third tranche, a total of 78 customs and enforcement officers (including 44 women) were trained on strengthening the monitoring and detection of illegal trade, Harmonized System (HS) code classification and data collection, with the aim of strengthening regulatory compliance and enforcement related to the importation of controlled substances. A total of 57 importers and retailers (including 14 women) attended a training session that focused on the HCFC import process and the safe use and handling of refrigerants.

Refrigeration servicing sector

8. Under the third tranche, a total of 71 technicians (including 5 women) were trained via virtual and in-person workshops focused on good refrigeration and servicing practices and RAC equipment using alternative refrigerants. During the tranche implementation, 16 new technicians were certified and 11 were re-certified. The Guyana Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration and Ventilation Association (GARVA) was supported through a technical and financial workshop for RAC technicians on national standards and alternative technologies and the distribution of technical manuals and specialized tools to 13 technicians (including 2 women). Technical institutes were provided with four printed copies each of the national RAC standards.

9. Equipment and tools³ were procured and distributed to support HCFC recovery and recycling; however, UNDP indicated that the procurement of remaining equipment including the three sets of equipment for HCFC recovery and recycling that work with oil separation and filtration,⁴ was delayed but is currently underway and is expected to be completed by the end of 2026.

10. Awareness activities included the production of an educational flyer and a poster on alternative technologies and a guidance booklet for importers and retailers on best practices and regulatory requirements related to the importation of refrigerants and related equipment; regularly sharing information via social

³ Including 12 manifold gauges and hoses, one digital vacuum pump, one HVAC digital multimeter, one recovery bag for R-600, R-600a, and HFC-134a, 10 recovery machines, 20 spare parts, 20 recovery cylinders, and 20 recycling modules.

⁴ Also including one hermetic compressor, three cutaway scrolls, three automotive manual air conditioners, three educational equipment benches for ice machines, 12 adaptors (HC cylinders to manifold gauges), and two Amatrol refrigeration systems.

media to raise public awareness; and the production of a four-part radio interview series, focused on the RAC servicing sector, the transition to alternative technologies, and key updates under the HPMP.

11. Under the project on additional activities to maintain energy efficiency (decision 89/6), a national consultant is undertaking a detailed inventory and an action plan to enhance energy efficiency in alignment with the phase-out of HCFCs and the transition to low- and zero-GWP technologies. An international consultant was selected, who will provide technical support for energy-efficient and low-GWP technology selection in the commercial air-conditioning sector for the selected commercial site. Awareness-raising activities are under development.

Project implementation and monitoring

12. The NOU has coordinated, monitored, and implemented activities and ensured that reporting mechanisms were in place for the project components. Of the US \$12,000 allotted for project monitoring activities, US \$8,000 was disbursed for project staff and consultants and US \$4,000 for meetings and workshops.

Level of fund disbursement

13. As of April 2026, of the US \$618,000 approved so far, US \$440,258 had been disbursed (US \$166,500 for UNEP and US \$273,758 for UNDP), as shown in table 2. The balance of US \$177,752 will be disbursed in 2026 and 2027 during the fourth tranche implementation.

Table 2. Financial report of stage II of the HPMP for Guyana (US \$)

Tranche		UNEP	UNDP	Total	Disbursement rate (%)
First	Approved	55,500	159,750	215,250	85
	Disbursed	55,500	128,355	183,855	
Second	Approved	65,500	66,750	132,250	69
	Disbursed	65,500	25,403	90,903	
Third	Approved	45,500	125,000	170,500	62
	Disbursed	45,500	60,000	105,500	
Energy efficiency activities (decision 89/6)	Approved	0	100,000	100,000	60
	Disbursed	0	60,000	60,000	
Total	Approved	166,500	451,500	618,000	71
	Disbursed	166,500	273,758	440,258	
	Balance	0	177,742	177,742	

Implementation plan for the fourth tranche of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan

14. The following activities will be implemented between July 2026 and June 2028:

- (a) Three training workshops for a total of 80 customs and enforcement officers (including 24 women) on the 2022 HS code classification, prevention of illegal trade, and HCFC-related regulations; two workshops for a total of 20 importers and retailers (including 6 women) on updated HS codes, proper record-keeping, and regulations (UNEP) (US \$16,500);
- (b) Three training sessions for a total of 100 RAC technicians (including 10 women) on good servicing practices; safe handling of refrigerants and servicing equipment with alternative technologies, including flammable refrigerants, and certification and licensing of at least 10 technicians and the continued introduction of the OzonAction mobile training application; one technical seminar focused on alternative technologies and the update of technical

manuals for at least 15 members of GARVA (including at least one woman) (UNEP) (US \$19,000);

- (c) Procurement and distribution of equipment and tools,⁵ spare parts and consumables including those to be completed from the previous tranche (UNDP) (US \$35,000 and funds from the previous tranche);
- (d) Nationwide public awareness campaign on the HPMP, targeting the general public and end users to support the transition to low-GWP alternatives through various online and traditional media channels (UNEP) (US \$8,000); and
- (e) Project monitoring: (UNEP) (US \$2,000). Costs to be covered include travel (US \$1,000) and meetings and workshops (US \$1,000).

SECRETARIAT'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION

COMMENTS

Verification report

15. The third tranche was approved on the understanding that the recommendations of the 2019–2022 verification report would be addressed during the implementation of that tranche and that the actions implemented towards that end would be included in the progress report of the third tranche to be submitted with the country's fourth tranche request. UNEP indicated that the NOU has conducted capacity-building sessions and training programmes for customs officers, importers, and retailers on the topics of proper data capture, proper identification of imports, and the use of 2022 HS codes. These sessions included the provision of educational materials such as guides, booklets, and leaflets. Additional capacity-building is planned under the fourth tranche for these key stakeholders. A procedure has been implemented under which the NOU examines the declarations for controlled substance importations, including the supporting documents to verify compliance with the licensing and quota system, before clearing the shipment for further processing. This allows the NOU to directly extract and retain accurate import data.

16. The request for the fourth tranche of stage II of the HPMP for Guyana required the submission of a verification report of HCFC consumption in the country for the years 2023–2025. The verification report recommended continuing the customs enforcement training to strengthen the licensing and quota system, while emphasizing that refrigerant shipment declarations should include HS codes for each imported refrigerant rather than grouping them under one HS code; to urgently update the HS codes from the 2017 codes currently used to the 2022 HS codes; and to consider tax incentives to encourage the uptake of low-GWP alternatives in the country. UNEP informed the Secretariat that the NOU has already strengthened the internal process to verify permit applications, which must include the HS codes for each product to be imported, and ensure that invoices contain the correct ASHRAE⁶ designation or CAS/UN number for ozone-depleting substances. UNEP also indicated that the Government of Guyana had committed to repeal legacy clauses, as part of the planned regulatory updates upon ratification of the Kigali Amendment, which is scheduled for the latter part of 2026.⁷

⁵ Including 10 manifold gauges and hoses, six digital vacuum gauges, six black series vacuum pumps, 15 safety glasses, 15 Pro Gloves 15, 20 recovery bags, six HVAC digital multimeters, six digital 5-point measuring devices.

⁶ American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers

⁷ The "legacy clauses" allowed for retrofitting of equipment during the phase-out of CFCs (Order 19/2007). The NOU informed the verifier that this clause is no longer relevant, as CFC-based equipment no longer enters the country. Nevertheless, the verifier pointed out that this matter should be addressed during the next revision of the regulations.

Submission delays

17. The implementing agencies indicated that the delay in the submission of the fourth tranche request was due to in-country administrative challenges, which slowed implementation. Changes in the Ministry of Agriculture, which hosts the NOU, and of the Permanent Secretary, who is ultimately responsible for signing off on project activities and reports, occurred in 2023 and 2024. UNEP collaborated closely with the NOU to develop a responsive workplan to support project implementation, provided technical guidance, and conducted a successful mission in Guyana in February 2024. To allow time for implementation of the fourth tranche, it was also proposed that the fifth and final tranche be submitted in 2028.

Progress report on the implementation of the third tranche of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan*Legal framework*

18. The Government of Guyana has issued HCFC import quotas for 2026 and 2027 at 0.04 and 0.03 ODP tonnes, respectively, which are lower than the Montreal Protocol control targets and the maximum allowable consumption in the Country's Agreement with the Executive Committee.

19. Regarding the training of customs officers, UNEP indicated that the target of officers to be trained could not be achieved due to the significant increase in the cost of services in the country, including hosting. The NOU will employ lower-cost training alternatives, such as online training where possible, for the remote customs offices. Taking these factors into consideration, training of the remaining officers is planned under the fourth tranche.

Refrigeration servicing sector

20. With regard to the training of technicians, the target for technicians to be trained could not be achieved due to the significant increase in the cost of services, as indicated above. Additionally, as the NOU could not initially identify a national trainer to conduct training on good refrigeration servicing practices, it had to recruit a regional trainer, thus incurring higher costs. Subsequently, the NOU reached an agreement with the national vocational schools to provide cost-effective training at various locations across Guyana. The balance of technicians remaining to be trained is planned to be covered under the fourth tranche.

Gender policy implementation

21. Guyana continues its efforts to ensure that activities under the HPMP are in line with decisions 84/92 and 90/48 of the Executive Committee. During the implementation of the previous tranche, the NOU encouraged the participation of women in all opportunities, including planning, policy and decision-making, consultation and advisory activities, capacity-building and outreach, and monitoring and evaluation. The NOU reported that 56 per cent of the participants in the training for customs and enforcement officers, 7 per cent of participants in the technician training, and 25 per cent of participants in the importer and retailer training were women. Two women participated in the GARVA workshop, and one received specialized tools. The NOU will continue to increase the visibility of women in the sector through imagery and representation in all materials, including publications and outreach campaigns and to systematically collect and report on sex-disaggregated data.

Updated Agreement

22. In view of numerous changes to the planned implementation schedule of tranches, the Agreement between the Government of Guyana and the Executive Committee has been updated. Specifically, Appendix 2-A has been revised, and paragraph 16 has been updated to indicate that the updated Agreement

supersedes that reached at the 93rd meeting by decision 93/36, as contained in annex I to the present document. The full updated Agreement will be appended to the final report of the 98th meeting.

Sustainability of the HCFC phase-out and assessment of risks

23. The long-term sustainability of the HCFC phase-out activities is reinforced through the commitment of the Government of Guyana's Ministry of Agriculture, which hosts the NOU and is responsible for the HPMP, as the HPMP is part of the Department's cabinet-approved programme of work and it is therefore supported by national resources and legislative mechanisms. The capacity-building activities for key stakeholders are organized by the NOU and conducted in collaboration with GARVA and the CTVET, which continuously updates curricula and training materials. This contributes to the continuation of training outside of the core mandate of the NOU and the activities of the HPMP. Regarding the training of customs officers, to ensure sustainability post-HPMP, the NOU works with the Guyana Revenue Authority to incorporate Montreal Protocol modules and keep them up to date for use in the training of customs officers. This, complemented by the OzonAction training videos and online tools, provides the resources necessary to ensure the training of customs officers continues beyond the HPMP.

24. Changes in national priorities and changes within the Government may result in implementation delays due to delays in agreements and approvals, reporting, and endorsement of project funding requests. UNEP indicated that, to mitigate this risk, it maintains continuing contact with the NOU and keeps itself aware of the developments in the country through project monitoring calls and planned meetings, and it is ready to offer support and possible solutions when necessary.

Conclusion

25. The fourth tranche of stage II is planned to maintain the achievements of the previous tranches towards a sustained HCFC phase-out in Guyana. It aims to keep the momentum with continued capacity development for key stakeholders, in addition to a robust public engagement campaign to continue to support the market transition away from ODS and towards low-GWP, high-efficiency alternative technologies. The verification report for the years 2023–2025 confirmed that the Government is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol limits and that HCFC consumption was below the maximum allowable consumption under the Agreement with the Executive Committee for those years. Recommendations from the previous verification report have been or are being implemented. The enforceable national system of licensing and quotas for HCFC imports is capable of ensuring compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The country has successfully phased out HCFC consumption and will maintain the servicing tail until 2030. The quota for 2026 is below the control targets under the Montreal Protocol and the Agreement with the Executive Committee. Delays in implementation have been addressed, and it is expected that targets from the previous tranche will be achieved by the end of 2026. Training for technicians is being provided and will continue to enable them to conduct better equipment servicing, and capacity-building is being offered to customs and enforcement officers to ensure proper control of imports of HCFCs and avoidance of illegal trade. Disbursement rate of the third tranche has reached 62 per cent.

RECOMMENDATION

26. The Fund Secretariat recommends that the Executive Committee note:

- (a) The progress report on the implementation of the third tranche of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) for Guyana; and
- (b) That the Fund Secretariat has updated the Agreement between the Government of Guyana and the Executive Committee, as contained in annex I to the present document, specifically: Appendix 2-A, based on numerous changes to the tranche implementation schedule; and

paragraph 16, updated to indicate that the updated Agreement supersedes that reached at the 93rd meeting by decision 93/36; and

27. The Fund Secretariat further recommends blanket approval of the fourth tranche of stage II of the HPMP for Guyana, and the corresponding 2026–2028 tranche implementation plan, at the funding levels shown in the table below.

	Project title	Project funding (US \$)	Support costs (US \$)	Implementing agency
(a)	HCFC phase-out management plan (stage II, fourth tranche)	45,500	5,915	UNEP
(b)	HCFC phase-out management plan (stage II, fourth tranche)	35,000	2,450	UNDP

Annex I

TEXT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE REVISED UPDATED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE REDUCTION IN CONSUMPTION OF HYDROCHLOROFLUOROCARBONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STAGE II OF THE HCFC PHASE-OUT MANAGEMENT PLAN

(Relevant changes are in bold font for ease of reference)

16. This updated Agreement supersedes the Agreement reached between the Government of the Republic of Guyana and the Executive Committee at the 93rd meeting of the Executive Committee.

APPENDIX 2-A: THE TARGETS, AND FUNDING

Row	Particulars	2015	2016-2017	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total	
1.1	Montreal Protocol reduction schedule of Annex C, Group I substances (ODP tonnes)	1.62	1.62	1.62	1.62	1.62	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.17		1.17	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.05	n/a	
1.2	Maximum allowable total consumption of Annex C, Group I substances (ODP tonnes)	1.62	1.52	1.42	1.32	1.22	1.12	0.91	0.69	0.48		0.26	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0	n/a	
2.1	Lead IA (UNEP) agreed funding (US \$)	55,500	0	0	0	65,500	0	0	0	45,500	0	0	0	45,500	0	30,500	0	0	242,500	
2.2	Support costs for Lead IA (US \$)	7,215	0	0	0	8,515	0	0	0	5,915	0	0	0	5,915	0	3,965	0	0	31,525	
2.3	Cooperating IA (UNDP) agreed funding (US \$)	159,750	0	0	0	66,750	0	0	0	125,000	100,000	0	0	35,000	0	55,000	0	0	541,500	
2.4	Support costs for Cooperating IA (US \$)	11,183	0	0	0	4,673	0	0	0	8,750	7,000	0	0	2,450	0	3,850	0	0	37,906	
3.1	Total agreed funding (US \$)	215,250	0	0	0	132,250	0	0	0	170,500	100,000	0	0	80,500	0	85,500	0	0	784,000	
3.2	Total support costs (US \$)	18,398	0	0	0	13,188	0	0	0	14,665	7,000	0	0	8,365	0	7,815	0	0	69,431	
3.3	Total agreed costs (US \$)	233,648	0	0	0	145,438	0	0	0	185,165	107,000	0	0	88,865	0	93,315	0	0	853,431	
4.1.1	Total phase-out of HCFC-22 agreed to be achieved under this Agreement (ODP tonnes)																			1.62
4.1.2	Phase-out of HCFC-22 to be achieved in previously approved projects (ODP tonnes)																			0.18
4.1.3	Remaining eligible consumption for HCFC-22 (ODP tonnes)																			0