

Annex IX

UPDATED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF) 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

1. This Agreement represents the understanding of the Government of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (the “Country”) and the Executive Committee with respect to the reduction of controlled use of the ozone-depleting substances (ODS) set out in Appendix 1-A (“The Substances”) to a sustained level of 120.03 ODP tonnes by 1 January 2020 in compliance with Montreal Protocol schedule.
2. The Country agrees to meet the annual consumption limits of the Substances as set out in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A (“The Targets, and Funding”) in this Agreement as well as in the Montreal Protocol reduction schedule for all Substances mentioned in Appendix 1-A. The Country accepts that, by its acceptance of this Agreement and performance by the Executive Committee of its funding obligations described in paragraph 3, it is precluded from applying for or receiving further funding from the Multilateral Fund in respect to any consumption of the Substances that exceeds the level defined in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A as the final reduction step under this Agreement for all of the Substances specified in Appendix 1-A, and in respect to any consumption of each of the Substances that exceeds the level defined in rows 4.1.3, 4.2.3, 4.3.3, 4.4.3, 4.5.3 and 4.6.3 (remaining consumption eligible for funding).
3. Subject to compliance by the Country with its obligations set out in this Agreement, the Executive Committee agrees, in principle, to provide the funding set out in row 3.1 of Appendix 2-A to the Country. The Executive Committee will, in principle, provide this funding at the Executive Committee meetings specified in Appendix 3-A (“Funding Approval Schedule”).
4. The Country agrees to implement this Agreement in accordance with the stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) approved (“the Plan”). In accordance with sub-paragraph 5(b) of this Agreement, the Country will accept independent verification of the achievement of the annual consumption limits of the Substances as set out in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A of this Agreement. The aforementioned verification will be commissioned by the relevant bilateral or implementing agency.
5. The Executive Committee will not provide the Funding in accordance with the Funding Approval Schedule unless the Country satisfies the following conditions at least eight weeks in advance of the applicable Executive Committee meeting set out in the Funding Approval Schedule:
 - (a) That the Country has met the Targets set out in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A for all relevant years. Relevant years are all years since the year in which this Agreement was approved. Years for which there are no due country programme implementation reports at the date of the Executive Committee meeting at which the funding request is being presented are exempted;
 - (b) That the meeting of these Targets has been independently verified, unless the Executive Committee decided that such verification would not be required;
 - (c) That the Country had submitted a Tranche Implementation Report in the form of Appendix 4-A (“Format of Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans”) covering each previous calendar year; that it had achieved a significant level of implementation of activities initiated with previously approved tranches; and that the rate of disbursement of funding available from the previously approved tranche was more than 20 per cent; and

- (d) That the Country has submitted a Tranche Implementation Plan in the form of Appendix 4-A covering each calendar year until and including the year for which the funding schedule foresees the submission of the next tranche or, in case of the final tranche, until completion of all activities foreseen.

6. The Country will ensure that it conducts accurate monitoring of its activities under this Agreement. The institutions set out in Appendix 5-A (“Monitoring Institutions and Roles”) will monitor and report on implementation of the activities in the previous Tranche Implementation Plans in accordance with their roles and responsibilities set out in the same appendix. This monitoring will also be subject to independent verification as described in paragraph 4 above.

7. The Executive Committee agrees that the Country may have the flexibility to reallocate part or all of the approved funds, according to the evolving circumstances to achieve the smoothest reduction of consumption and phase-out of the Substances specified in Appendix 1-A:

- (a) Reallocations categorized as major changes must be documented in advance either in a Tranche Implementation Plan as foreseen in sub-paragraph 5(d) above, or as a revision to an existing Tranche Implementation Plan to be submitted eight weeks prior to any meeting of the Executive Committee, for its approval. Major changes would relate to:
 - (i) Issues potentially concerning the rules and policies of the Multilateral Fund;
 - (ii) Changes which would modify any clause of this Agreement;
 - (iii) Changes in the annual levels of funding allocated to individual bilateral or implementing agencies for the different tranches; and
 - (iv) Provision of funding for programmes or activities not included in the current endorsed Tranche Implementation Plan, or removal of an activity in the Tranche Implementation Plan, with a cost greater than 30 per cent of the total cost of the last approved tranche;
- (b) Reallocations not categorized as major changes may be incorporated in the approved Tranche Implementation Plan, under implementation at the time, and reported to the Executive Committee in the subsequent Tranche Implementation Report;
- (c) Should the Country decide during implementation of the Agreement to introduce an alternative technology other than that proposed in the Plan, this would require approval by the Executive Committee as part of a Tranche Implementation Plan or the revision of the approved plan. Any submission of such a request for change in technology would identify the associated incremental costs, the potential impact to the climate, and any differences in ODP tonnes to be phased out if applicable. The Country agrees that potential savings in incremental costs related to the change of technology would decrease the overall funding level under this Agreement accordingly;
- (d) Any enterprise to be converted to non-HCFC technology included in the Plan and that would be found to be ineligible under the guidelines of the Multilateral Fund (i.e., due to foreign ownership or establishment post the 21 September 2007 cut-off date), will not receive assistance. This information would be reported to the Executive Committee as part of the Tranche Implementation Plan; and

- (e) Any remaining funds held by the bilateral or implementing agencies or the country under the Plan will be returned to the Multilateral Fund upon completion of the last tranche foreseen under this Agreement.

8. Specific attention will be paid to the execution of the activities in the refrigeration servicing sub-sector included in the Plan, in particular:

- (a) The Country would use the flexibility available under this Agreement to address specific needs that might arise during project implementation; and
- (b) The Country and the relevant bilateral and/or implementing agencies will take into consideration decision 72/41 during the implementation of the Plan.

9. The Country agrees to assume overall responsibility for the management and implementation of this Agreement and of all activities undertaken by it or on its behalf to fulfil the obligations under this Agreement. UNIDO has agreed to be the lead implementing agency (the “Lead IA”) and UNDP has agreed to be the cooperating implementing agency (the “Cooperating IA”) under the lead of the Lead IA in respect of the Country’s activities under this Agreement. The Country agrees to evaluations, which might be carried out under the monitoring and evaluation work programmes of the Multilateral Fund or under the evaluation programme of the Lead IA and/or Cooperating IA taking part in this Agreement.

10. The Lead IA will be responsible for ensuring co-ordinated planning, implementation and reporting of all activities under this Agreement, including but not limited to independent verification as per sub-paragraph 5(b). This responsibility includes the necessity to co-ordinate with the Cooperating IA to ensure appropriate timing and sequence of activities in the implementation. The Cooperating IA will support the Lead IA by implementing the activities listed in Appendix 6-B under the overall coordination of the Lead IA. The Lead IA and Cooperating IA will reach consensus on the arrangements regarding inter-agency planning including regular coordination meetings, reporting and responsibilities under this Agreement in order to facilitate a co-ordinated implementation of the Plan. The Executive Committee agrees, in principle, to provide the Lead IA and the Cooperating IAs with the fees set out in rows 2.2 and 2.4 of Appendix 2-A.

11. Should the Country, for any reason, not meet the Targets for the elimination of the Substances set out in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A or otherwise does not comply with this Agreement, then the Country agrees that it will not be entitled to the Funding in accordance with the Funding Approval Schedule. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, funding will be reinstated according to a revised Funding Approval Schedule determined by the Executive Committee after the Country has demonstrated that it has satisfied all of its obligations that were due to be met prior to receipt of the next tranche of funding under the Funding Approval Schedule. The Country acknowledges that the Executive Committee may reduce the amount of the Funding by the amount set out in Appendix 7-A (“Reductions in Funding for Failure to Comply”) in respect of each ODP kilogram of reductions in consumption not achieved in any one year. The Executive Committee will discuss each specific case in which the Country did not comply with this Agreement, and take related decisions. Once decisions are taken, the specific case of not compliance with this Agreement, will not be an impediment for the provision of funding for future tranches as per paragraph 5 above.

12. The Funding of this Agreement will not be modified on the basis of any future Executive Committee decision that may affect the funding of any other consumption sector projects or any other related activities in the Country.

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

14. The completion of the Plan and the associated Agreement will take place at the end of the year following the last year for which a maximum allowable total consumption level has been specified in Appendix 2-A. Should at that time there still be activities that are outstanding, and which were foreseen in the last Tranche Implementation Plan and its subsequent revisions as per sub-paragraph 5(d) and paragraph 7, the completion of the Plan will be delayed until the end of the year following the implementation of the remaining activities. The reporting requirements as per sub-paragraphs 1(a), 1(b), 1(d), and 1(e) of Appendix 4-A will continue until the time of the completion of the Plan unless otherwise specified by the Executive Committee.

15. All of the conditions set out in this Agreement are undertaken solely within the context of the Montreal Protocol and as specified in this Agreement. All terms used in this Agreement have the meaning ascribed to them in the Montreal Protocol unless otherwise defined herein.

16. This updated Agreement supersedes the Agreement reached between the Government of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and the Executive Committee at the 76th meeting of the Executive Committee.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1-A: THE SUBSTANCES

Substance	Annex	Group	Starting point for aggregate reductions in consumption (ODP tonnes)
HCFC-22	C	I	161.63
HCFC-123	C	I	0.07
HCFC-124	C	I	0.00
HCFC-141b	C	I	39.56
HCFC-142b	C	I	5.68
Sub-total			206.94
HCFC-141b contained in imported pre-blended polyols	C	I	1.91
Total	C	I	208.86

APPENDIX 2-A: THE TARGETS, AND FUNDING

Row	Particulars	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
1.1	Montreal Protocol reduction schedule of Annex C, Group I substances (ODP tonnes)	186.25	186.25	186.25	186.25	134.55	n/a
1.2	Maximum allowable total consumption of Annex C, Group I substances (ODP tonnes)	186.25	186.25	186.25	186.25	120.03	n/a
2.1	Lead IA (UNIDO) agreed funding (US \$)	600,000	0	0	575,000	792,144	1,967,144
2.2	Support costs for Lead IA (US \$)	42,000	0	0	40,250	55,450	137,700
2.3	Cooperating IA (UNDP) agreed funding (US \$)	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.4	Support costs for Cooperating IA (US \$)	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.1	Total agreed funding (US \$)	600,000	0	0	575,000	792,144	1,967,144
3.2	Total support costs (US \$)	42,000	0	0	40,250	55,450	137,700
3.3	Total agreed costs (US \$)	642,000	0	0	615,250	847,594	2,104,844
4.1.1	Total phase-out of HCFC-22 agreed to be achieved under this Agreement (ODP tonnes)						22.94
4.1.2	Phase-out of HCFC-22 to be achieved in previously approved projects (ODP tonnes)						23.16
4.1.3	Remaining eligible consumption for HCFC-22 (ODP tonnes)						115.53
4.2.1	Total phase-out of HCFC-123 agreed to be achieved under this Agreement (ODP tonnes)						0.00
4.2.2	Phase-out of HCFC-123 to be achieved in previously approved projects (ODP tonnes)						0.00
4.2.3	Remaining eligible consumption for HCFC-123 (ODP tonnes)						0.07
4.3.1	Total phase-out of HCFC-124 agreed to be achieved under this Agreement (ODP tonnes)						0.00
4.3.2	Phase-out of HCFC-124 to be achieved in previously approved projects (ODP tonnes)						0.00
4.3.3	Remaining eligible consumption for HCFC-124 (ODP tonnes)						0.00
4.4.1	Total phase-out of HCFC-141b agreed to be achieved under this Agreement (ODP tonnes)						0.00
4.4.2	Phase-out of HCFC-141b to be achieved in previously approved projects (ODP tonnes)						0.00
4.4.3	Remaining eligible consumption for HCFC-141b (ODP tonnes)						39.56
4.5.1	Total phase-out of HCFC-142b agreed to be achieved under this Agreement (ODP tonnes)						0.00
4.5.2	Phase-out of HCFC-142b to be achieved in previously approved projects (ODP tonnes)						0.00
4.5.3	Remaining eligible consumption for HCFC-142b (ODP tonnes)						5.68
4.6.1	Total phase-out of HCFC-141b contained in imported pre-blended polyols agreed to be achieved under this Agreement (ODP tonnes)						0.00
4.6.2	Phase-out of HCFC-141b contained in imported pre-blended polyols to be achieved in previously approved projects (ODP tonnes)						0.00
4.6.3	Remaining eligible consumption for HCFC-141b contained in imported pre-blended polyols (ODP tonnes)						1.91

APPENDIX 3-A: FUNDING APPROVAL SCHEDULE

1. Funding for the future tranches will be considered for approval at the last meeting of the year specified in Appendix 2-A.

APPENDIX 4-A: FORMAT OF TRANCHE IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS AND PLANS

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

- (a) A narrative report, with data provided by calendar year, regarding the progress since the year prior to the previous report, reflecting the situation of the Country in regard to phase out of the Substances, how the different activities contribute to it, and how they relate to each other. The report should include ODS phase-out as a direct result from the implementation of activities, by substance, and the alternative technology used and the related phase-in of alternatives, to allow the Secretariat to provide to the Executive Committee information about the resulting change in climate relevant emissions. The report should further highlight successes, experiences, and challenges related to the different activities included in the Plan, reflecting any changes in the circumstances in the

Country, and providing other relevant information. The report should also include information on and justification for any changes vis-à-vis the previously submitted Tranche Implementation Plan(s), such as delays, uses of the flexibility for reallocation of funds during implementation of a tranche, as provided for in paragraph 7 of this Agreement, or other changes. The narrative report will cover all relevant years specified in sub-paragraph 5(a) of the Agreement and can in addition also include information on activities in the current year;

- (b) An independent verification report of the Plan results and the consumption of the Substances, as per sub-paragraph 5(b) of the Agreement. If not decided otherwise by the Executive Committee, such a verification has to be provided together with each tranche request and will have to provide verification of the consumption for all relevant years as specified in sub-paragraph 5(a) of the Agreement for which a verification report has not yet been acknowledged by the Committee;
- (c) A written description of the activities to be undertaken until and including the year of the planned submission of the next tranche request, highlighting the interdependence of the activities, and taking into account experiences made and progress achieved in the implementation of earlier tranches; the data in the plan will be provided by calendar year. The description should also include a reference to the overall plan and progress achieved, as well as any possible changes to the overall plan that are foreseen. The description should cover the years specified in sub-paragraph 5(d) of the Agreement. The description should also specify and explain in detail such changes to the overall plan. This description of future activities can be submitted as a part of the same document as the narrative report under sub-paragraph (b) above;
- (d) A set of quantitative information for all Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans, submitted through an online database. This quantitative information, to be submitted by calendar year with each tranche request, will be amending the narratives and description for the report (see sub-paragraph 1(a) above) and the plan (see sub-paragraph 1(c) above), the Tranche Implementation Plan and any changes to the overall plan, and will cover the same time periods and activities; and
- (e) An Executive Summary of about five paragraphs, summarizing the information of the above sub-paragraphs 1(a) to 1(d).

2. In the event that in a particular year more than one stage of the HPMP are being implemented in parallel, the following considerations should be taken in preparing the Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans:

- (a) The Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans referred to as part of this Agreement, will exclusively refer to activities and funds covered by this Agreement; and
- (b) If the stages under implementation have different HCFC consumption targets in a particular year, the lower HCFC consumption target will be used as reference for compliance with the HPMP Agreements and for the independent verification.

APPENDIX 5-A: MONITORING INSTITUTIONS AND ROLES

1. The monitoring activities will be carried out within the HPMP Implementation, Monitoring and Control project, and will include the implementation of all the projects within the HPMP; regular monitoring of the project implementation and results; production of periodic reports on project results in order to facilitate corrective actions; production of timely project progress reports to the Executive Committee; and regular monitoring of market developments and trends at the national and international levels.

2. Specific responsibilities of different stakeholders are detailed below:

(a) National Ozone Office:

- (i) General and day-to-day coordination of the project;
- (ii) Establishment of strategic lines;
- (iii) Implementation of the technical, institutional, social and legal components of the HPMP;
- (iv) Close follow up of implementation of all the components of the HPMP; and
- (v) Main channel of communication with key stakeholders and implementing agencies.

(b) Strategic partners:

- (i) The Ministry of Popular Power for Industry and Commerce (MPPIC), as the mother organization where Fondoin is located, but also as the main official source of information for the private industry sector, as well as possible channel for some actions;
- (ii) The Ministry of Popular Power for Eco-socialism and Waters (MPPEW), which manages the direct liaison with the Montreal Protocol regime, the reporting obligations under the Montreal Protocol, the ODS import licensing system, monitoring and enforcement of compliance with Montreal Protocol related obligations at the national level through the 23 state representations of MPPEW (one in each state);
- (iii) The Ministry of Popular Power for Productive Economy (MPPEP), through Customs (SENIAT), for the verification of the ODS Import Quota System;
- (iv) The Ministry of Popular Power for Foreign Affairs (MPPRE), and the Ministry of Popular Power for Education (MPPE) for coordination of activities related to their areas of responsibility, through periodic and regular meetings;
- (v) The academic sector through the different organizations involved in the training programmes, in particular the National Institution of Socialist Education (INCES);
- (vi) The Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Industry, the ODS producer, the main ODS importers, and a representative from the refrigeration servicing workshops for coordination of related activities;

- (vii) UNIDO as lead implementing agency and UNDP as cooperating agency; and
- (viii) The mass communication media as the main channel for general information programmes.
- (c) Implementation and monitoring unit:
 - (i) Day-to-day implementation of all project activities within the HPMP, including detailed design of the activities, engagement of stakeholders, local contracting of goods and services;
 - (ii) Design, organization and implementation (on a quarterly basis) of project monitoring activities, including design of data collection and analysis instruments;
 - (iii) Analysis and report of monitoring results on a quarterly basis, including design and implementation of corrective measures and / or technical assistance activities, and organization of the corresponding monitoring review meetings with the National Ozone Office; and
 - (iv) Preparation of annual progress reports for internal use, HPMP Annual Implementation Report and HPMP Annual Implementation Plan for the Executive Committee, as per the formats indicated in Appendix 4-A. It will also include the preparation of any other reports that may prove necessary for the proper functioning of the HPMP project.

APPENDIX 6-A: ROLE OF THE LEAD IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

1. The Lead IA will be responsible for a range of activities, including at least the following:
 - (a) Ensuring performance and financial verification in accordance with this Agreement and with its specific internal procedures and requirements as set out in the Country's HPMP;
 - (b) Assisting the Country in preparation of the Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans as per Appendix 4-A;
 - (c) Providing independent verification to the Executive Committee that the Targets have been met and associated tranche activities have been completed as indicated in the Tranche Implementation Plan consistent with Appendix 4-A;
 - (d) Ensuring that the experiences and progress is reflected in updates of the overall plan and in future Tranche Implementation Plans consistent with sub-paragraphs 1(c) and 1(d) of Appendix 4-A;
 - (e) Fulfilling the reporting requirements for the Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans and the overall plan as specified in Appendix 4-A for submission to the Executive Committee. The reporting requirements include the reporting about activities undertaken by the Cooperating IAs;
 - (f) Ensuring that appropriate independent technical experts carry out the technical reviews;
 - (g) Carrying out required supervision missions;

- (h) Ensuring the presence of an operating mechanism to allow effective, transparent implementation of the Tranche Implementation Plan and accurate data reporting;
- (i) In case of reductions in funding for failure to comply in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Agreement, to determine, in consultation with the Country, the allocation of the reductions to the different budget items and to the funding of the Lead IA and each Cooperating IA;
- (j) Ensuring that disbursements made to the Country are based on the use of the indicators;
- (k) Providing assistance with policy, management and technical support when required; and
- (l) Reaching consensus with the Cooperating IA on the any planning, coordination and reporting arrangements required to facilitate the implementation of the Plan.

2. After consultation with the Country and taking into account any views expressed, the Lead IA will select and mandate an independent entity to carry out the verification of the HPMP results and the consumption of the Substances mentioned in Appendix 1-A, as per sub-paragraph 5(b) of the Agreement and sub-paragraph 1(b) of Appendix 4-A.

APPENDIX 6-B: ROLE OF THE COOPERATING IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

1. The Cooperating IA will be responsible for a range of activities. These activities are specified in the Plan, including at least the following:

- (a) Providing assistance for policy development when required;
- (b) Assisting the Country in the implementation and assessment of the activities funded by the Cooperating IA, and refer to the Lead IA to ensure a co-ordinated sequence in the activities;
- (c) Providing reports to the Lead IA on these activities, for inclusion in the consolidated reports as per Appendix 4-A; and
- (d) Reaching consensus with the Lead IA on the any planning, coordination and reporting arrangements required to facilitate the implementation of the Plan.

APPENDIX 7-A: REDUCTIONS IN FUNDING FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY

1. In accordance with paragraph 11 of the Agreement, the amount of funding provided may be reduced by US \$102 per ODP kg of consumption beyond the level defined in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A for each year in which the target specified in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A has not been met. In the event that the penalty needs to be applied for a year in which there are two Agreements in force (two stages of the HPMP being implemented in parallel) with different penalty levels, the application of the penalty will be determined on a case-by-case basis taking into consideration the specific sectors related to the non-compliance. If it is not possible to determine a sector, or both stages are addressing the same sector, the penalty level to be applied would be the largest.