

**United Nations
Environment
Programme**

1 May 2025



ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

HALF-DAY SESSION ON STRATEGIC APPROACHES TO KIGALI AMENDMENT
IMPLEMENTATION FOR SUSTAINABLE HFC PHASE-DOWN AND CONTRIBUTION OF
MULTILATERAL FUND ACTIVITIES TO SUSTAINABLE COOLING
Montreal, 25 May 2025

PROVISIONAL AGENDA**Introduction**

1. Two informal half-day sessions on the strategic approaches to Kigali Amendment implementation for sustainable HFC phase-down by Article 5 parties were organized back-to-back with the 94th and the 95th meetings of the Executive Committee during 2024 pursuant to decisions 93/103 and 94/62, respectively. The scope of the second half-day session was broadened to include the contribution of Multilateral Fund activities to sustainable cooling.
2. The first session offered a brainstorming platform for the members of the Executive Committee based on their inputs, which were shared before the half-day session which included several topics such as supporting action beyond Kigali Amendment compliance, supporting national and/or sectoral approaches, targeting investments to Kigali Amendment implementation issues, and strengthening the capacity of the Multilateral Fund institutions to support implementation. The second half-day session aimed at narrowing down the issues discussed at the first half-day session while taking into account the contribution of Multilateral Fund activities to sustainable cooling. Members and agencies had the opportunity to make brief presentations on two broad themes, the first on emerging sectors that could be considered by the Fund and the second one on interventions beyond standard business of the Fund.
3. Decision 95/96 requested the Secretariat to hold a third half-day session on 25 May 2025, immediately prior to the 96th meeting, on the strategic approaches to the Kigali Amendment implementation as a continuation of the previous discussions. The same decision also added an item to the agenda of the 96th meeting on the summary and outcomes of the discussion in the half-day sessions held to date on strategic approaches to implementation of the Kigali Amendment and the contribution to sustainable cooling of activities supported by the Multilateral Fund.
4. The report of the informal half-day session (held immediately following the 95th meeting) on strategic approaches to Kigali Amendment implementation for sustainable HFC phase-down and the contribution of Multilateral Fund activities to sustainable cooling (document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/96/Inf.2) and the key takeaways from the informal half-day session on strategic approaches to Kigali Amendment implementation from the 94th meeting (document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/94/Inf.3) are available in the meeting portal of the third half-day session.

Objective and structure of the third half-day session

5. At the closing of the previous session,¹ there was reference that the third half-day session might usefully focus on a set of actions to strengthen the capacity of the key institutional actors in the Multilateral Fund to support Kigali Amendment implementation and sustainable cooling, and on actions that might motivate toward early action to phase down HFCs, as these were two of the key outcomes of the first half-day session that were not discussed further. The objective of the third half-day session therefore is to shed light on these two issues that have not been further discussed and had been provided as the inputs of the members for the preparation of the first half-day session.

6. The agenda is designed into two main parts: part A on enabling comprehensive and forward-thinking Kigali HFC implementation plans (KIPs) while promoting sustainable cooling, and part B on institutional drivers to support KIPs implementation along with sustainable cooling and energy efficiency. In order to stimulate discussion, experts will share their thoughts on specific questions in pre-recorded videos that will be projected for each part of the agenda. A few members will be invited to kick off the discussion with two to three minute-thoughts.

7. The discussion will be moderated by Natarajan Rajendran, a senior cooling and sustainability expert with more than thirty years of experience in refrigeration and air-conditioning technologies and member of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) as well as co-chair of the Refrigeration Technical Option Committee (RTOC) of the Montreal Protocol.

8. At the closing of the previous session,² one member also noted that members should be invited to provide written inputs that could inform further discussions. Subsequently, two members shared their thoughts with the Secretariat. Noting that the second half-day session took place after the 95th meeting, and there was no formal invitation to solicit inputs, a synopsis of these thoughts is provided in the annex to the present document for information of the participants in the half-day session.

¹ Paragraph 43 of document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/96/Inf.2

² Ibid.

AGENDA

9:00 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.	Opening of the meeting and key takeaways from the previous two sessions – presentation by the Multilateral Fund Secretariat
9:10 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.	Introduction to the half-day session – Natarajan Rajendran (moderator) <i>Part A: Enabling comprehensive and forward-thinking Kigali HFC implementation plans (KIPs) while promoting sustainable cooling</i>
9:20 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	How to bridge KIPs with national priorities on economic sectors and emerging sectors with HFC consumption growth? Brief reflections (recorded video) • Peter Brodribb - <i>Managing Director, Expert Group</i> • Xianting Li - <i>Head of Building Science and Technology Department, Tsinghua University</i> Discussion kick-off (2-3 minute-thoughts) • Laura Estela Berón – <i>Argentina</i> • Philippe Chemouny – <i>Canada</i> • Azra Rogović-Grubić - <i>Bosnia and Herzegovina</i> Discussion (45 minutes)
10:20 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	How to best engage end-users and inspire innovation in the servicing sector Brief reflections (recorded video) • Blanca Gomez – <i>Director, National Confederation of Installers and Maintenance Workers (CNI) of Spain</i> Discussion kick-off (2-3 minute-thoughts) • Aditya Narayan Singh on end users' engagement - <i>India</i> • Irene Papst on innovation in the servicing sector - <i>Germany</i> Discussion (25 minutes)
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Coffee break
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Continuation of discussion (30 minutes)
12:00 p.m. – 01:00 p.m.	<i>Part B: Institutional drivers to support KIPs along with sustainable cooling and energy efficiency</i> Brief reflections (recorded video) • Yosr Allouche - <i>Director General, International Institute of Refrigeration</i> Discussion kick-off (2-3 minute-thoughts) • Hassan Ali Mubarak - <i>Bahrain</i> • Sandrine Benard - <i>Norway</i> Discussion (50 minutes)
01:00 p.m. – 01:10 p.m.	<i>Wrap-up: Summary of key takeaway messages</i>
01:10 p.m. – 01:15 p.m.	Vote of thanks and closing

Annex

SYNOPSIS OF THOUGHTS PROVIDED BY TWO MEMBERS

1. Suggestions for discussion topics ranged from long term institutional planning to country/regional specific activities. These topics aimed to explore turning discussion outcomes into Executive Committee follow up discussions and actions.
 2. With regard to long-term planning and Kigali Amendment implementation for institutions, suggestions were made to discuss a roadmap for the Multilateral Fund covering a period of 10-15 years to ensure sustaining compliance by Article 5 Parties, beyond the achievement of control targets; to reorient activities of UNEP's Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) to address global high-ambient temperature outreach programmes and virtual technology roadshows for highlighting technologies and pathways for adoption, use of HFCs in emerging areas, and adoption of low-global-warming potential (GWP) and energy-efficient technologies in key sectors; and to support strengthening in-house expertise of national ozone units (NOUs) and implementing/bilateral agencies to address activities relating to energy efficiency, cold chain, management of end-of-life refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) equipment including disposal of unwanted refrigerants.
 3. With regard to strengthening infrastructure and technical capacity in Article 5 countries with a focus on small to medium size enterprises to handle low-GWP refrigerants and blends, suggestions were made to discuss establishing facilitation centres to support Article 5 countries with proof of technology; component ecosystem enhancement – focusing on energy efficiency; failure analysis and preventative maintenance; training packages including equipment and related components; and low-cost innovative IT-based solutions for smart cooling (e.g., promoting adoption of passive cooling technologies and product customization for local adoption of technologies/solutions).
 4. With regard to innovative new areas and funding windows/demonstration projects, suggestions were made to discuss innovation areas such as optimizing smartphone use for digital data collection and monitoring (e.g., emission control, refill, lifecycle refrigerant management); projects that can develop scalable and transferable tools which can be used as building blocks for further life-cycle refrigerant management activities; priority sector plans for transitioning to energy efficient low-GWP alternatives (e.g., fisheries, tourism, etc.); end-user conversion incentive programmes; R-290 production in Africa to reduce the dependency on supply from other countries; and inviting other institutions who could expand the scope of activities to support the transformation of the RAC sector.
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