



**United Nations
Environment
Programme**

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/98/48
28 May 2026

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH



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: SURINAME

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

Energy efficiency

- | | | |
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| • Additional activities to maintain energy efficiency for the servicing sector under decision 89/6(b) | UNEP | Blanket approval |
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¹ UNDP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/98/1

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Background

1. Stage II of Suriname's HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) was approved at the 93rd meeting,² to completely phase out HCFC consumption by 2030, at a total cost of US \$540,000, plus agency support costs. As per the Agreement between the Government of Suriname and the Executive Committee, the second tranche of the HPMP is scheduled to be submitted to the first meeting in 2027.

2. On behalf of the Government of Suriname, UNEP, as the lead implementing agency, has submitted a request for funding additional activities to strengthen energy efficiency in the refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) servicing sector and to promote the use of energy-efficient, low-global-warming-potential (GWP) refrigerants in line with decisions 89/6(b) and 92/22,³ in the amount of US \$100,000, plus agency support costs of US \$13,000.⁴ The submission includes a description of specific activities, targets, and an implementation plan from July 2026 to June 2028.

Report on HCFC consumption

3. The Government of Suriname reported a consumption of 0.00 ODP tonnes of HCFCs in 2024, which is 100 per cent below the HCFC baseline for compliance. The Article 7 data and country programme implementation data for 2025 have not been reported yet. The 2020–2024 HCFC consumption is shown in table 1.

Table 1. HCFC consumption in Suriname (2020–2024 Article 7 data)

HCFC	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Baseline
Metric tonnes (mt)						
HCFC-22	6.20	0.00	1.77	0.00	0.00	35.30
HCFC-142b	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60
Total (mt)	6.20	0.00	1.77	0.00	0.00	35.90
ODP tonnes						
HCFC-22	0.34	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	2.00
HCFC-142b	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total (ODP tonnes)	0.34	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	2.00

4. As reported at the 93rd meeting, there has been a significant decrease in the consumption of HCFCs in Suriname, which is attributed to the implementation of the licensing and quota system, the adoption of good servicing practices for HCFC-based RAC equipment, and the fast adoption of HCFC-free alternatives in applications such as residential air-conditioning and chillers. Suriname has reported zero consumption of HCFCs for 2023 and 2024. At the same time, there was a spike in HFC consumption in 2024, which was reported at 260,022 CO₂-equivalent tonnes. The country has not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment; however, it is endeavouring to transition away from high-GWP gases and, given Suriname's high electricity access rates, to also incorporate efficiency gains while transitioning towards more environmentally sound refrigerants.

² Decision 93/46

³ Decision 92/22 allows for the submission of requests for activities referred to in decision 89/6(b) separately from HCFC phase-out management plan tranche requests, including a revised Agreement between the Government of the Article 5 country concerned and the Executive Committee, on the understanding that those activities were integrated into the ongoing tranche implementation plans.

⁴ As per the letter of 13 April 2026 from the National Environmental Authority of Suriname to the Secretariat.

Country programme implementation report

5. The Government of the Suriname reported HCFC sector consumption data under the 2024 country programme (CP) implementation report that is consistent with the data reported under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol.

Project description

Policy, regulatory and institutional framework

6. Suriname is a member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Regional Organization for Standards and Quality (CROSQ). CROSQ promotes the harmonization and dissemination of regional standards, supports competitiveness and trade, and enables sustainable production within the CARICOM Single Market and Economy. In March 2019, CROSQ published building energy efficiency standards to support member states in improving energy performance and conservation. Three energy efficiency standards were subsequently approved by CARICOM member states in May 2019.

7. The CARICOM Regional Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme established minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) and labelling requirements for lightbulbs, refrigerators, and air conditioners. Suriname has also developed national labelling standards in collaboration with its national ozone unit (NOU), the Suriname Standards Bureau, and the National Environmental Authority, with the regulation currently in preparation for implementation.

8. In approving stage II of the HPMP, the Executive Committee noted the commitment of the Government of Suriname to prohibit the import and sale of HCFC-based RAC equipment from 1 January 2025.⁵ UNEP reported that the Government of Suriname has confirmed that a ban on the import and sale of HCFC-based RAC equipment came into effect on 18 April 2026.

Project objectives and proposed activities

9. The project aims to improve institutional coordination and cooperation and build capacity to ensure that all stakeholders have the necessary knowledge to support the development, implementation and enforcement of energy efficiency standards and the labelling system. Additionally, the project aims to update technician training and certification to include energy efficiency and low-GWP refrigerant safety in the relevant curricula and certification competencies.

10. The description and proposed cost breakdown of activities to maintain energy efficiency in the servicing sector, and their expected outputs are presented in table 2.

Table 2. Activities, expected outputs, and requested funding for the project proposed to maintain energy efficiency for the servicing sector in Suriname

Activity	Expected outputs/performance indicators	Cost as submitted (US \$)
1. Institutional coordination and cooperation to support the establishment of MEPS and implementation of the energy efficiency labelling system		
1.1 Awareness-raising workshops for key stakeholders on the benefits of MEPS and labelling programmes, best international practices, the operationalization of MEPS adoption, the labelling programme implementation, and CARICOM regional MEPS covering expected rollout, impacts and opportunities for Suriname (US \$10,000);	A dedicated energy efficiency awareness campaign within the Government of Suriname, which will include taking stock of the existing labels and assessing their potential benefits for the country's	50,000

⁵ Decision 93/46

Activity	Expected outputs/performance indicators	Cost as submitted (US \$)
1.2 Establish a coordination group led by the NOU, comprising relevant government agencies and stakeholders, to meet regularly to exchange knowledge, build consensus, assess the potential for energy-efficient, low-GWP refrigerant-based cooling in Suriname, and identify the necessary tools and resources required for the effective introduction of MEPS and energy efficiency labelling systems, as well as sectors where energy-efficient cooling applications can be prioritized (US \$10,000); 1.3 Develop and publish a roadmap of regulatory measures that will be required to support the establishment and the full-scale implementation of MEPS and the labelling programme, including roles and responsibilities across various government ministries and agencies, and a timeline for implementation (US \$10,000); and 1.4 Develop and publish a country assessment of potential energy savings through the use of energy-efficient cooling appliances in households and in priority sectors, including determining the baseline and demand assessment of the RAC sector in Suriname (US \$20,000).	energy and emissions profile if implemented successfully. • Three awareness-raising workshops with 20 participants each, targeting up to 30 per cent participation by women. • A national coordination mechanism on energy efficiency in refrigerant-based appliances to coordinate key stakeholders, including customs and border control, importers and wholesalers, ministries of energy, agriculture, and industry, statistics and standards agencies, and other stakeholders as relevant. • A collaboratively developed policy and regulatory roadmap to support the establishment and implementation of MEPS and labelling, including the drafting of the required provisions in the Environmental Framework Act and the Energy Act and derived regulations. • Country assessments of energy-efficient, low-GWP refrigerant-based cooling to establish the baseline demand and assess the benefits of using energy-efficient cooling applications.	
2. Update technician training and certification to include energy efficiency and refrigerant safety		
2.1 Support the addition of energy efficiency modules to the existing HPMP technician training programme, including familiarization with labels and the benefits of energy efficiency gains, and incorporating sectoral applications such as installation and servicing in mining/petroleum facilities, fishing and agriculture cold storage/cold chain, commercial buildings and tourism facilities; and translate existing relevant training materials into Dutch (US \$20,000); 2.2 Support the integration of energy efficiency and GWP competencies into the upcoming national certification scheme, including coordination on training and certification for RAC systems among the NOU, the energy efficiency authority, the national Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) authority, and training institutions to plan the integration; draft the certification competency standards for RAC incorporating the energy efficiency and low-GWP modules (US \$15,000); and 2.3 Train trainers to deliver the updated curriculum effectively; train RAC technicians focusing on the	• Energy efficiency, low-GWP, and energy labelling modules in Dutch, incorporated into existing HPMP training, with emphasis on Suriname's diverse sectoral applications. • A national certification competency framework that integrates energy efficiency and low-GWP competency standards. • A training session for a total of 25 trainers (targeting 30 per cent participation by women), and two training workshops for a total of 35 RAC technicians on energy efficiency installation and servicing practices.	50,000

Activity	Expected outputs/performance indicators	Cost as submitted (US \$)
energy efficiency and low-GWP modules and support the national certification centres to conduct examinations and certify the first batch of technicians (US \$15,000).		
Total		100,000

SECRETARIAT'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION

COMMENTS

11. The Secretariat reviewed the project proposal in line with decisions 89/6(b) and 92/22 and sought additional information from UNEP on various activities, including relevant activities under the HPMP. The Secretariat enquired how the activities under this project will be implemented in alignment with those of the HPMP to ensure synergies and the effective use of resources and avoid duplication. UNEP indicated that the second component of this project, on the updating of technician training and certification to include energy efficiency and refrigerant safety, complements the HPMP training efforts through targeted activities. These include the integration of energy efficiency and low-GWP safety modules into technician trainings, the integration of energy efficiency and GWP competencies into the upcoming national certification scheme, the organization of training for RAC technicians and trainers to ensure that they are equipped with comprehensive competencies and can deliver the relevant updated curricula effectively.

12. The Secretariat noted that the proposed activities fall within the scope referred to in subparagraphs (b)(ii), (iii), and (iv) of decision 89/6. Through the activities to be undertaken, the project will support the country in the introduction and implementation of MEPS and energy labelling for RAC equipment to improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions. Through awareness-raising on the benefits of MEPS and labelling programmes, best international practices, the operationalization of MEPS adoption and the labelling programme implementation, and CARICOM regional MEPS; coordination among policymakers and stakeholders involved in energy efficiency in the country; targeted training and updated training curricula; and a national certification competency framework that integrates energy efficiency and low-GWP competency standards, the project will help the RAC sector transition to low-GWP alternatives and achieve the phase-out of HCFCs by 2030.

Gender policy implementation

13. The energy efficiency activities will be integrated into the implementation of stage II of the HPMP. During the implementation of stage II of the HPMP, the NOU will work closely with TVET and training institutions and the RAC association to implement measures and follow up regularly to maximize the participation of women in all HPMP activities. The Government will also continue to collect and provide sex-disaggregated data as part of future HPMP tranche implementation reports.

Updated Agreement

14. In view of the inclusion of funding for additional activities to maintain energy efficiency in the RAC servicing sector and the accordingly revised funding schedule, the Agreement between the Government of Suriname and the Executive Committee has been updated. Specifically, Appendix 2-A has been revised, and paragraph 17 has been added to indicate that the updated Agreement supersedes that reached at the 93rd meeting by decision 93/46, as contained in annex I to the present document. The updated Agreement will be appended to the final report of the 98th meeting.

Conclusion

15. This project will promote the introduction of alternatives to HCFCs with low- or zero-GWP and the enhancement/maintenance of energy efficiency in the RAC servicing sector. The project includes the development of energy efficiency and low-GWP modules that will be added to technician training curricula, and the drafting of certification competency standards for RAC that will integrate these matters into the upcoming national certification scheme. The activities to be implemented foresee the enhancement of coordination among energy efficiency policymakers and other relevant stakeholders, to ensure appropriate consideration of low-GWP refrigerants during the introduction of MEPS, labelling systems, and related energy efficiency legislation/regulation and policies that will be supportive of enforcement mechanisms that address the singularities of Suriname with respect to other Caribbean countries, i.e., its mainland-specific challenges such as land borders with various countries, informal trade, and its geographic characteristics, as almost 90 per cent of the country's territory is Amazon tropical rainforest. The project will contribute to the overall objectives of the HPMP and support the country in sustaining the reductions achieved in HCFCs while adopting more energy-efficient, low-GWP RAC technologies.

RECOMMENDATION

16. The Fund Secretariat recommends blanket approval of the project for additional activities for the introduction of alternatives to HCFCs with low-global-warming-potential for maintaining energy efficiency in the refrigeration and air-conditioning servicing sector in Suriname, and the corresponding 2026–2028 implementation plan, at the funding level shown in the table below, on the understanding that the Fund Secretariat has updated the Agreement between the Government of Suriname and the Executive Committee, as contained in annex I to the present document, specifically Appendix 2-A, to reflect the revised funding level owing to the inclusion of funding for additional activities to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector; and paragraph 17, which has been added to indicate that the updated Agreement supersedes that reached at the 93rd meeting by decision 93/46.

Project title		Project funding (US \$)	Support costs (US \$)	Implementing agency
(a)	Additional activities for the introduction of low-GWP alternatives to HCFCs and for enhancing energy efficiency in the RAC servicing sector	100,000	13,000	UNEP

Annex I

TEXT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE UPDATED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME 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)

17. This updated Agreement supersedes the Agreement reached between the Government of Suriname and the Executive Committee at the 93rd meeting of the Executive Committee.

APPENDIX 2-A: THE TARGETS, AND FUNDING

Row	Particulars	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028-2029	2030	Total
1.1	Montreal Protocol reduction schedule of Annex C, Group I substances (ODP tonnes)	1.29	1.29	0.64	0.64	0.64	0.64	0.00	n/a
1.2	Maximum allowable total consumption of Annex C, Group I substances (ODP tonnes)	1.29	1.29	0.64	0.64	0.64	0.64	0.00	n/a
2.1	Lead IA (UNEP) agreed funding (US \$)	166,100	0	0	100,000	158,400	0	36,400	460,900
2.2	Support costs for Lead IA (US \$)	21,593	0	0	13,000	20,592	0	4,732	59,917
2.3	Cooperating IA (UNIDO) agreed funding (US \$)	61,000	0	0	0	99,600	0	18,500	179,100
2.4	Support costs for Cooperating IA (US \$)	5,490	0	0	0	8,964	0	1,665	16,119
3.1	Total agreed funding (US \$)	227,100	0	0	100,000	258,000	0	54,900	640,000
3.2	Total support costs (US \$)	27,083	0	0	13,000	29,556	0	6,397	76,036
3.3	Total agreed costs (US \$)	254,183	0	0	113,000	287,556	0	61,297	716,036
4.1.1	Total phase-out of HCFC-22 agreed to be achieved under this Agreement (ODP tonnes)								1.29
4.1.2	Phase-out of HCFC-22 to be achieved in the previous stage (ODP tonnes)								0.69
4.1.3	Remaining eligible consumption for HCFC-22 (ODP tonnes)								0.00
4.2.1	Total phase-out of HCFC-142b agreed to be achieved under this Agreement (ODP tonnes)								0.00
4.2.2	Phase-out of HCFC-142b to be achieved in the previous stage (ODP tonnes)								0.04
4.2.3	Remaining eligible consumption for HCFC-142b (ODP tonnes)								0.00

*Date of completion of stage I as per decision 92/32(b): 30 June 2024