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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Ninety-sixth Meeting
Montreal, 26-30 May 2025
Item 3 of the provisional agenda¹

SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES**Introduction**

1. This document presents the activities of the Secretariat since the issuance of the Secretariat activities document for the 95th meeting.²

I. Issues relating to meetings**I.1 95th meeting**

2. The report of the 95th meeting³ was conveyed to all Executive Committee members, implementing and bilateral agencies and the Ozone Secretariat, and was placed on the Multilateral Fund's website. Results of the meeting related to project approvals and tranche submission delays were communicated to 90 and 16 Article 5 countries, respectively, and the relevant agencies. A post-meeting summary of the 95th meeting and decisions taken at that meeting was prepared and shared on the Fund's website.

I.2 96th meeting

3. The Secretariat prepared 64 meeting documents for the 96th meeting,⁴ updated databases and prepared summary documents, where applicable.

I.3 Inter-agency coordination meeting (IACM)

4. The Secretariat arranged an IACM, held in Montreal, Canada, from 3 to 4 March 2025. Participants included the representatives of the bilateral agencies of Canada, Germany and Italy, representatives of the

¹ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/96/1

² UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/95/2

³ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/95/94

⁴ Letters of invitation were sent to members of the Executive Committee, the President of the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties, the President and Vice President of the Implementation Committee under the Non-Compliance Procedure of the Montreal Protocol, the Executive Director of UNEP, the Executive Secretary of the Ozone Secretariat, the implementing agencies, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and non-governmental organizations.

implementing agencies and Secretariat staff. The meeting report⁵ is posted on the IACM meeting section of the Fund's website. Highlights of the meeting are provided in the following paragraphs.

5. The importance of quality data and analysis was emphasized as part of the discussions under the agenda item on project submissions. On country programme (CP) data, the Secretariat highlighted that the online system for CP data submission had been officially launched on 1 January 2025 and access credentials were sent to all Article 5 countries (see also paragraph 20).

6. The Secretariat presented the status of implementation of the 2025-2027 business plan. Agencies provided an update on the expected submissions for each country to the 96th meeting and those expected to be submitted to the 97th meeting. The Secretariat encouraged the agencies to consider submitting projects upon their finalization soon after the 96th meeting, even in advance of the first submission deadline for the 97th meeting, which would help distribute the project review workload for both the agencies and the Secretariat, considering the number of projects anticipated for the 97th meeting. The Secretariat also confirmed the possibility for countries that had submitted their Kigali HFC implementation plans (KIPs) requests before the adoption of decisions 91/65 and 94/60 to submit preparatory funding requests for such activities where needed and urged prompt submission of preparatory funding requests for projects under decision 94/60.

7. The Secretariat provided an overview of KIP approvals and presented several areas for discussion, based on the review experience so far. The Secretariat also provided an update on the finalization of the Agreements for stage I of the KIPs which were approved before the template of the Agreement was agreed, and communicated that they would send the draft Agreements prepared by the Secretariat to the lead bilateral and implementing agencies of each KIP for inclusion of Appendix 5-A, review and agreement with the relevant countries.

8. Regarding challenges experienced in relation to the implementation of approved KIPs and extracting lessons, the Secretariat introduced this discussion and focused on the two issues raised at the 95th meeting.⁶ On the supply-chain for alternatives and the equipment components needed for conversion projects for phasing down HFCs, the Secretariat noted that the issue was more relevant to the refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) sector and to certain product categories, such as the availability of R-290-based compressors for larger capacity equipment, both in commercial refrigeration and air-conditioning (AC) equipment, as well as the availability of HFC-32 based compressors for larger capacity AC equipment, i.e., over 3-5 tons of refrigeration (TR).

9. One agency shared their experience of a project in the foam sector and conversion to cyclopentane noting the three times higher cost of the alternative blowing agent than in other countries/regions and that they were not sure about the reasons for such high costs in the absence of a market assessment. With regard to RAC sector projects, agencies did not experience or foresee any supply chain issue on the conversion to HFC-32-based technology. Agencies pointed out that safety measures for R-290 should be considered for the whole life cycle including servicing, due to the flammability of the refrigerant. They also explained that R-290 AC pilot projects faced challenges in implementation because only limited number of manufacturers would supply R-290-based AC equipment due to the small quantities needed for such pilot projects, the lack of financial motivation in terms of achieving higher market uptake and high shipping costs. In contrast, it was noted that the supply chain situation, including for compressors, had improved from three years ago, but small and medium-sized manufacturers still had challenges relating to technology adoption and design aspects of the different appliances using alternative technologies to remain competitive in the market. One agency noted that as an agency, they were still requested by Article 5 countries to procure identifiers for

⁵ IACM/2025/1/2

⁶ Paragraphs 12 and 449, and paragraph 19 of document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/95/94

new projects as well, but that the production of refrigerant identifiers by the sole manufacturer globally had been paused and then slowly resumed.

10. On the second issue, related to the technical and financial challenges in implementing previously approved KIPs due to higher-than-expected cost of conversion in the manufacturing sector and cost of equipment support to the servicing sector in different countries, agencies noted that the implementation of KIPs had only just begun and they were still gathering information on their experiences and challenges, so information was still being analyzed in local markets. However, it was noted that the changing economic situation and inflation in countries had increased costs for equipment and experts. Procurement had not yet started for many projects and there was still a need to test the market to know potential pricing issues. One agency raised the issue of the way a quota was applied by Article 5 countries without fully taking into consideration the continued import of high-global warming potential (GWP)-based equipment into their countries which would require servicing. A bilateral agency noted that many of the lower-GWP blends used for transitional retrofits are not available in many Article 5 countries, so there were not a lot of options to reduce their use of higher-GWP blends, an issue that should be looked into.

11. The Secretariat introduced the item relating to energy efficiency by providing an update on the energy efficiency project submissions to date. Agencies provided updates on the status of project preparation in those countries that had received preparation funding and noted plans to submit projects to the 97th and 98th meetings. The Chief Officer referred to the example of the Malaysia project, where decisions 91/65 and 94/60 were submitted in a complementary manner and suggested that this approach be considered for other submissions. The Secretariat also clarified that under decision 94/60, compressor manufacturing was included as an eligible component for funding. It fell within the framework of decision 95/87, as explained in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/95/87.

12. The Secretariat also provided an update on the preparation of a summary document relating to the revolving fund, noting that initial discussions had taken place, and the document requested by the Executive Committee in decision 95/87 was being developed with inputs from similar energy efficiency related revolving funds. Agencies described their experiences with revolving funds and blended financing and noted that there was need for further building their capacity about these types of financing in the context of the Multilateral Fund (MLF).

13. Changes to the reporting format for both the database and the narrative sections of the current progress and financial report were described. They are part of the streamlining of the reporting process in line with decision 95/91(d).

14. The Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer presented an update on the status of implementation of the monitoring and evaluation work programme for 2025. She provided updates on the potential management response to the external assessment of the MLF evaluation function, including an evaluation policy; the terms of reference for a desk study for the evaluation of the contribution of HCFC phase-out management plans (HPMPs) to the development of policies, regulations and national strategies to ensure compliance with the Montreal Protocol and the sustainability of achievements; and the terms of reference for a desk study for the evaluation of training, capacity building and certification schemes in the refrigeration servicing sector under the HPMPs.

15. A comprehensive update was provided by the Secretariat on the progress modules and products in the Knowledge Management System (KMS), and on those planned for deployment in 2025. To minimize the administrative burden on agencies, the Secretariat adopted an agile approach to the system's development, actively involving all Secretariat staff and select colleagues from various implementing agencies. This collaborative process ensured the seamless integration of offline processes where necessary, allowing existing tools to remain in use, maximizing benefits for both the agencies and the Fund, ensuring an efficient, practical, and user-centric approach to implementation. An "Implementing/Bilateral Agency Portal," envisioned as a centralized hub for accessing all project cycle modules was introduced, followed

by a presentation of the business plan module, the projected workflow for project submission and the annual progress reporting module. The hybrid offline/online functionality and dynamic workflow, which offered greater flexibility in progress tracking, was highlighted. Finally, the Secretariat presented the project completion report (PCR) and evaluation module, detailing its associated workflow and expected impact.

16. The meeting concluded with three final areas for discussion. The first, related to life-cycle refrigerant management and a brief discussion of lessons learned so far. The second item, that was for information, was the half-day session on strategic approaches to the Kigali Amendment implementation to be held prior to the 96th meeting. The Secretariat recalled the previous sessions held at the 94th and 95th meetings and informed the agencies that it was in the process of compiling the agenda of this session. The third item was a brainstorming session on refrigeration servicing sector activities, which focused on how things could be done differently in the sector to ensure better and measurable impacts; sustainability beyond the project lifetime; agility to cater for market dynamics; and new activities beyond the traditional ones included in HPMPs or KIPs. Discussions centered on experiences from the training and certification of servicing technicians and on the recovery, recycling and reclamation schemes. Some ideas arose including digitalization of services through mobile applications, and other digital tools; preventive maintenance as a tool to reduce emissions; business models for technicians like the Cooling as a Service (CaaS) model; targeting building operators and designers; entrepreneurship programmes; strengthening the formalization of training; better mapping of the sector; linkages with education authorities, and other ideas along with examples from successful projects implemented by agencies.

II. Meetings attended and missions undertaken

17. During the reporting period, representatives of the Secretariat participated in the following events:

- (a) A Senior Programme Management Officer participated online on 12 December 2024 in the Network Meeting for Europe and Central Asia (ECA) on KIP Implementation / Ozone2Climate, held in Belgrade, Serbia.
- (b) The Deputy Chief Officer participated online in the Gender-Responsive Projects in Cooling webinar, held on 12 December 2024, organized by the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) and Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL).
- (c) The Chief Officer, a Senior Programme Management Officer and the Chief of Administration met with colleagues from the World Bank in Washington D.C. from 4 to 5 February 2025, to discuss issues relating to the operationalization of a potential revolving fund for energy efficiency in the context of HFC phase-down. During the discussions, the experts provided information on key steps needed for operationalising the revolving fund at the national level including involvement of national financial institutions and other entities. They also shared case studies of different countries.
- (d) The Chief Officer and a Senior Programme Management Officer participated in the Regional Workshop on Availability of Air-Conditioning Technologies in High-Ambient-Temperature countries, held in Manama, Bahrain from 16 to 17 February 2025. The Chief Officer also met with high-level officials from the Government of Bahrain to discuss the implementation of KIPs in the region. Additionally, bilateral consultations were held with implementing agencies regarding KIP submissions and the submission of energy-efficiency projects.
- (e) A Senior Programme Management Officer participated online on 21 April 2025 in the Network Meeting for Southeast Asia National Ozone Officers – Options for Technically and Commercially Viable Low-GWP and Energy-Efficient Alternatives to HCFCs/HFCs, held in Penang, Malaysia; and

- (f) The Chief Officer and a Senior Programme Management Officer participated online in the Network Meeting for the Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers, held in Nukualofa, Tonga, on 5 May 2025.

III. Knowledge management system

18. The development of the KMS is advancing, with the project management team closely collaborating with developer and design teams to ensure adherence to the project's delivery schedule. In parallel, the Secretariat is actively working towards initiating the development of phase 3 products, namely Business Plan, Project Submission, Progress Reporting and Project Completion Reporting modules. User requirements have been developed for all modules and development for the business plan and the project submission modules have already begun. Phase 3 will focus on expanding online reporting system functionalities and the Application Programming Interface (API). A detailed progress report on the development of the KMS can be found in annex I to the present document.

19. Following the Executive Committee's decision 95/5(b)(i) to allocate additional resources to the KMS, the Secretariat initiated a procurement solicitation process for the implementation of phase 3 and maintenance of the system for 2026 and 2027. Finalizing the contractual agreement promptly was crucial to mitigate risks associated with halting development or disrupting any existing or planned modules. Collaborating with the UNON Procurement Section, the Secretariat successfully finalized a contract with the current developers, extending through November 26, 2027. This ensures the continued implementation of the KMS without any procurement-related interruptions since its inception.

20. The Secretariat, with support from the UNEP Compliance Assistance Programme, held six webinars for Ozone Officers on the submission of CP data under the new CP data online reporting system rolled out in January 2025. The webinars were held between 5 February and 20 March 2025 for Europe and West Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific, English-speaking African Countries, Latin America and the Caribbean, Central America, and French-speaking African Countries. Participants were introduced to the system and guidance was provided for them to familiarise themselves with the features of the reporting system and data submission. More sessions will be organised throughout 2025.

III.1 Communication and website

21. Stories on the successes of HPMPs in Article 5 countries in different regions have been posted monthly since February 2025.⁷ A document referring to the accountability and integrity framework of the United Nations/UNEP has been included in the resources section of the website.

IV. Administrative matters

IV.1 Staffing and recruitment

22. The process of selection for the position of Programme Management Assistant (G-6), was finalized with the selection of Ms. Kaleen McNamara, effective 4 February 2025.

23. The reclassification process for the position of Associate Administrative Officer (P-2) has been initiated through UNON and the position will be advertised as soon as the process is completed.

24. The recruitment process and contractual arrangements for one consultant supporting energy efficiency; one consultant reviewing the climate benefits of HFC phase-down projects; one consultant for the half-day session prior to the Executive Committee meeting; one individual contractor supporting the project review team at a general assistant level; one individual contractor supporting monitoring and

⁷ Brazil, Kyrgyzstan, the Maldives and Namibia

evaluation; one individual contractor supporting document editing and proof reading; and two individual contractors supporting translation coordination were completed.

IV.2 Staff development and training

25. Secretariat staff undertook the online mandatory United Nations training courses. One staff member completed the online programme on Leadership, Women and the UN, facilitated by the United Nations System Staff College. Two staff members completed an Umoja Analytics training course.

V. Cooperation with the Multilateral Fund implementing agencies and other organizations

26. Pursuant to decision 79/1(b), the Secretariat has included a full overview of the status of all discussions with multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other relevant organizations in annex II to the present document.

United Nations Environment Programme

27. One Senior Programme Management Officer participated and provided inputs in an online brainstorming meeting, held on 27 February 2025, on possible UNEP actions to assist countries to address dumping of refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment, including support by the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC) to conduct a RAC market study to gather evidence on environmental dumping, and spur national action to increase availability of RAC technologies and stop the dumping of inefficient, high-GWP refrigerant cooling technologies.

Ozone Secretariat

28. The Secretariat is collaborating with the Ozone Secretariat, in response to decision XXXVI/9, on further strengthening Montreal Protocol institutions. Following the receipt by the Ozone Secretariat of permission to extract information on the licensing systems of Article 5 parties, the Secretariat is sharing with the Ozone Secretariat the relevant portions of the verification reports/project proposals for analysis.

29. At the request of the Ozone Secretariat, in March 2025, the Secretariat commented on a draft analysis on how free trade zones, transit and trans-shipment operations relate to MEAs, which the Ozone Secretariat plans to publish as part of its collaboration with other MEA Secretariats on customs engagement, illegal trade, and enforcement under the Green Customs Initiative.

Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands

30. The Secretariat provided inputs to a query from the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands, in March 2025, to gather information relating to governance on ways that decision-making procedures could be enhanced during exceptional circumstances such as a pandemic that makes meeting face-to-face difficult or not possible.

Schmidt Center for Data Science and Environment, University of California, Berkeley

31. The Secretariat continued to work with the Schmidt Center for Data Science and Environment and further develop the tool relating to HFC consumption assessment, trend analysis and impact of different policy interventions on HFC consumption projections. Two countries were identified for further discussions on their using the tool for the HFC consumption related assessment. In February 2025, the technical experts from the Schmidt Center for Data Science and Environment provided guidance to these countries representatives through an online meeting and made available the tool through a weblink for them to use the tool and provide feedback. Initial feedback was provided by one of the countries and this was used by

the technical experts for appropriately incorporating those inputs in the tool. A side event is being planned on the margins of the 47th meeting of the Open-ended Working Group where the HFC consumption assessment tool will be demonstrated and feedback on which will be collected. The final product, once completed, will be presented to the Executive Committee.

Annex I

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CREATION OF A KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (decision 91/69)

Introduction

1. The Executive Committee approved the creation of a new Knowledge Management System (KMS) (decision 91/69) and requested (paragraph (c)) that the Secretariat reports on the progress of its implementation until the completion of phases 1 and 2, as outlined in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/70. At its 95th meeting, the Executive Committee noted the progress made and approved the funding for phase 3 of the KMS on the “Agencies’ portal and other enhancements”. This progress report provides updates on the status of all products that were to be delivered as part of phase 1: “master database and the revamped website”; phase 2: “core products”; and progress already made as part of phase 3.

2. At the 95th meeting, one core product from phase 2, the “online Country Programme (CP) data reporting system”, was launched and is being officially used for reporting 2024 data since 1 January 2025. Building on the success of the CP data training organized by the Secretariat at the combined thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties, six sessions were held at the regional level with Article 5 countries from all the regions, resulting in 38 countries successfully submitting data as of 25 April 2025. The training sessions were seen positively and there was an appreciation for the user friendliness of the system. At the same meeting, a preview of the dashboards’ concept was presented to the Committee, with some of the actual dashboards being showcased at the 96th meeting and going live the following weeks.

Status of implementation of phase 1 and 2

3. Tables 1 and 2 summarize the status of implementation for every task of phase 1, that was described in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/70. Most of the tasks are completed with the major one being that of migrating all data sets from 1991 to one single master database. For all tasks with percentages shown below 100 per cent, it is due to the ongoing small customizations, refinement of data sets, data validation, correction of bugs and other fixes that are ongoing. For table 2, a detailed explanation of the status of tasks that are still ongoing is presented in paragraph 4.

Table 1: Status of implementation of phase 1

Tasks		Priority change	Completion rate (%) – 95th meeting	Completion rate (%) – 96th meeting	Comments
1.1	Define and prioritise more detailed user requirements (functional and non-functional)	Yes	70	95	Back-end business processes and workflows have been mapped and documented. Stakeholders have been engaged as we are finalizing the requirements of all key modules of the online project submission and project reporting portal.
1.2	User processes (and advice on governance and administering and managing data)	Yes	30	50	Due to the complications in migration of the data, this activity was shifted to phase 3.
1.3	Identify the technology and any customisations needed for the Multilateral Fund	No	90	90	This item has a dependency on 1.1 and 1.2 and might bring a few additional customization requirements.
1.4	Mapping of the old to the new data structures	Yes	100	100	Completed.
1.5	Unify databases into a new master database (migration)	No	95	95	The completion of this deliverable has a dependency on 1.1 and 1.2 and might bring minor changes on the database structure.
1.6	Implementation of a new technology - configuration (proxies, security assessment, new coding)	No	90	90	This item has a dependency on 1.3 and might bring minor changes to cross reference queries, analysis and filters which impact configuration.
1.7	Revamped website (including user interface design)	No	98	99	The website has been finalized and launched. The “greening our operations” page is still under development. Completion of this item will be reached upon successful conclusion of 1.8. As per standard software development practice it is normal that additional small fixes/improvements continue to happen in 2025. The tab on the website “PROJECTS AND DATA”, due to its complexity and interdependence with the data migration, it has become a core product on its own and moved to phases 2 and 3.
1.8	Testing and acceptance	Yes	100	100	Testing is finalized. Content management training sessions for the Secretariat took place in September.

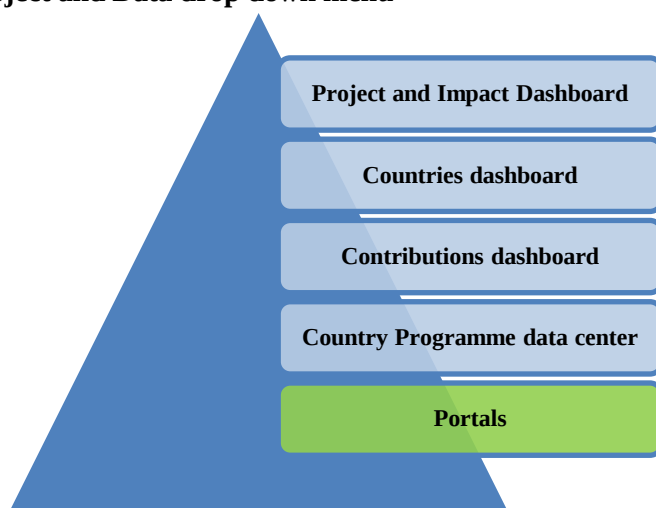
Table 2: Status of implementation of phase 2

Tasks		Priority change	Completion rate (%) – 95 th meeting	Completion rate (%) – 96 th meeting	Comments
2.1	Online CP data reporting (located under the “PROJECTS AND DATA” tab of the website)	Yes	100	100	The online CP data reporting system was launched at the 95 th meeting. Countries began reporting on the new system on 1 st January 2025. The Secretariat will continue supporting countries with its use.
2.2	Online reporting of project completion reports	No	10	25	New forms have been approved at the 94 th meeting. User requirements finalized and development has begun.
2.3	Meeting portal	Yes	100	100	Completed. Testing and verification on all migrated meeting documents are ongoing.
2.4	Country profiles / dashboard (located under the “PROJECTS AND DATA” tab of the website)	No	30	30	The specification of the country profile/dashboard is complete. Implementation has not yet started.
2.5	“Handbook” / Electronic document management system - QuiriO ₃	Yes	100	100	Completed. Tagging review and enhancement continues to improve the search engine functionality.
2.6 & 2.6a	2.6 has been revised and renamed to “MLF data Hub”. All dashboards will fall under the “PROJECTS AND DATA” tab of the website	No	30	50	For a detailed description of what will be the MLF data hub, see paragraphs 4 and 5. The specifications for all dashboards have been completed. The “contributions” dashboard is implemented. The “contributions” dashboard and the CP data center will be presented at the 96 th meeting and launched shortly after.
2.7	Pilot project for project review on IS projects renamed to “Project submission” and covers all types of projects	Yes	10	30	This core product has been combined with the “Agency portal” in phase 3 to avoid duplication in terms of design and overall workflows and has become part of the online project submission. The Agency’s portal is designed to include the whole workflow from the submission of a project proposal in the Business Plan, to the project submission, online review and online progress reporting. Project online submission specifications are defined, and development begun in the second quarter of 2025.
2.8	Testing and acceptance	No	100	100	Testing for country programme data, meeting portal and handbook has been finalized.

4. The “PROJECTS AND DATA” tab of the website will include the following products/dashboards, as shown in figure 1:

- (a) Projects and impact dashboard – implementation has not started yet
- (b) Countries dashboard - implementation has not started yet
- (c) Contributions dashboard – completed but not launched
- (d) Country Programme data center – completed but not launched
- (e) Portals – it includes:
 - (i) Implementing/Bilateral Agency (IA/BA) portal – under development
 - (ii) Country Programme reporting system – completed and launched
 - (iii) Treasurer portal – completed (see also table 3).

Figure 1: Project and Data drop down menu



Additional development and phase 3 activities

5. The closely interconnected nature of phases 1, 2, and 3, along with unforeseen activities, have led to the initiation of some tasks originally scheduled for phase 3 during phases 1 and 2. This overlap is typical in software development, where evolving priorities often require adjustments as the project progresses. The ongoing phase 3 will serve as the final phase, ensuring the completion of all outstanding tasks from both phases 1 and 2. This phase will also address any residual issues, resolving them to ensure that nothing is left unfinished from the previous stages. Additionally, it will encompass the completion of all unplanned activities that emerged during the project, ensuring that all elements are successfully closed. Table 3 summarizes progress under phase 3 activities.

Table 3: Progress of phase 3 activities

Tasks		Completion rate (%) – 95th meeting	Completion rate (%) – 96th meeting	Comments
3.1	Treasurer module as part of the contributions dashboard	80	95	The Secretariat took the opportunity to streamline the treasurer functions through the development of a contributions dashboard. It includes modules for the scale of assessment, status of contributions, fund status and other attributes and tools such as the FERM gain or loss data and a repository for invoices and payments.
3.2	Progress report module	10	25	Annual progress report module requirements are complete with development planned for Q3 2025.
3.3	Business plan module	50	90	Business Plan module development is in testing phase and plan to be finalized in Q3 2025.
3.4	Implementing and bilateral agencies portal	N/A	25	Combined and reported on 2.2, 2.7, 3.2, 3.3. Progress reporting will continue in the items above.
3.5	API	20	30	APIs are now being used for dashboards; all modules continue to have dedicated API development for enhancement and analysis of the data.
3.6	Documentation, training, tutorials and bug fixes	15	25	Supporting the software development cycle. Hosting and infrastructure management are covered in this point.

Concluding remarks

7. The KMS is progressing steadily, with many core products advancing as planned. The project remains on schedule, and significant milestones have been achieved. The efforts in the past months after the 95th meeting have concentrated on finalizing the CP data center and the contributions dashboard, which will be presented at the 96th meeting and launched soon after.

8. User requirements for the business plan (BP) module, the project submission module, the annual progress report module, and project completion report module, which are part of the IA/BA portal have been finalized. Development has already begun, with the BP module expected to be finalized early in the third quarter of 2025.

9. As reported previously, the phases have aligned seamlessly to form the full development cycle of the KMS. The Secretariat remains committed to advancing and releasing further enhancements at the 97th meeting. This will include the finalization of the activities covered in the IA/BA portal, and the integration of all APIs required to automate data transfer between the portal and the dashboards which will transform from mockups to functional products. By the end of phase 3, the KMS will fully support online reporting and cross-functional data access, enhancing transparency and accountability.

Annex II

ADVICE AND/OR INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SECRETARIAT OF THE MULTILATERAL FUND TO NON-MONTREAL PROTOCOL BODIES

*Note: New information is in **bold** fonts*

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
Adaption Fund	
Explanation of Multilateral Fund policies on interest earned. The information provided by the Secretariat can be found in document AFB/EFC.18/10 of the 18 th meeting of the Ethics and Finance Committee at https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/AFB-EFC-18.10-Investment-income-doc.pdf .	76
Arab Forum for Environment and Development	
An article on the Multilateral Fund's experience in the Arab region for the 2018 Report of the Arab Forum for Environment and Development.	81
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)	
The General Counsel and the Director General of the Operational Partnership Department visited the Secretariat to discuss about opportunities for collaboration. AIIB is a multilateral development bank established after the UNFCCC Paris Agreement and UN SDGs, whose core mission is to finance sustainable infrastructure.	92
Birmingham Energy Institute, University of Birmingham	
At the invitation of the "informal advisory group for the virtual model", the Secretariat participated as an observer in a webinar on the virtual model for cold chain that is under development by the University of Birmingham, where discussions were held by technical and policy experts.	95
Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (formerly, Pew Center on Climate Change)	
Documents UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/37/59, UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/38/54 & Add.1; text of decisions 37/62 and 38/63; Guidelines on funding of technology not in the public domain (Annex XIV of UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/38/70/rev.1); Observations on technology transfer license fees and royalties for different types of projects (liquid carbon dioxide, metered-dose inhalers, tobacco fluffing, HFC-32 for the refrigeration sector, supercritical CO ₂ , the HCFC production sector).	75
Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC)	
The Secretariat provided relevant information of the Multilateral Fund relating to cooling initiatives and programmes.	88
Presentation on the Overview of Multilateral Fund support for implementation of the Kigali Amendment in the context of the Kigali Workstream Discussion.	86
Informal consultations with the CCAC Secretariat on a new initiative on efficient cooling that had been provisionally approved by the CCAC working group to help build high-level leadership and facilitate collaboration among stakeholders with a view to fostering enhanced energy efficiency in the cooling sector while countries implement the phase-down of HFC refrigerants under the Montreal Protocol.	83

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
Overview of approved HCFC demonstration projects and options for additional projects to demonstrate climate-friendly and energy-efficient alternative technologies to HCFCs (UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/72/40). Briefing on Multilateral Fund-financed surveys of ODS alternatives; possible opportunities for CCAC in Countries with Economies in Transition (CEIT); lessons learned from the Multilateral Fund that might be applicable to the technical review process and funding cycle of CCAC projects.	75
Document 72/40, Overview of approved HCFC demonstration projects and options for additional projects to demonstrate climate-friendly and energy-efficient alternative technologies to HCFCs (decision 71/51(a)), which summarizes the results of Multilateral Fund HCFC demonstration projects approved so far.	74
Climate Technology Centre and Network	
Presentation on capacity building under the Multilateral Fund as resource material for the Sixth meeting of the Advisory Board. General information on the Multilateral Fund and background documents.	75
Cool Coalition Working Group	
The Secretariat participated in the consultations relating to the report on a Global Cooling Stocktake, prepared by the Cool Coalition. The Secretariat also provided comments on the draft report that covered different aspects relating to the adoption of HFC-free technologies, Montreal Protocol related activities and financing of sustainable cooling.	93
The Secretariat was invited by the Cool Coalition to join its National Cooling Action Plan (NCAP) working group that would support countries in developing NCAPs through capacity building of relevant partners and exchanging information by creating a knowledge repository of completed NCAPs. The Secretariat would participate in on-line meetings and consultations of the working group and provide inputs relating to NCAP development.	92
European Union / European Parliament	
During the 25 th MOP, the Chief Officer received a request from the European Parliament to have a bilateral discussion on issues related to the Multilateral Fund including the resources needed for the replenishment of the Multilateral Fund and proposals for additional contributions to fund climate benefits. Accordingly, the Chief Officer provided the two representatives of the European Parliament with a short briefing explaining the operation of the Multilateral Fund.	71
German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development	
Information on the achievements of the Multilateral Fund and a summary of approved projects implemented by Germany as a bilateral agency.	77
Global Environment Facility (GEF), Green Climate Fund (GCF), Regional Development Banks	
The Secretariat shared information on the discussions held during the 92 nd Executive Committee meeting on energy efficiency with the GEF, the GCF, the Asian Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the African Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank in June 2023.	93
The Secretariat shared information with the GCF, the GEF, the Asian Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the African Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank on the discussions held during the 93 rd Executive Committee meeting on energy efficiency, and relating to the Executive Committee decision on the operational framework on energy efficiency, and projects approved in the 93 rd meeting under the pilot project funding window for energy efficiency.	94

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
In July 2024 the Secretariat shared information with the GCF, the GEF, the Asian Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the African Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank on the discussions held during the 94 th Executive Committee meeting on energy efficiency, relating to decision 94/60 adopted by the Executive Committee on a funding window for projects developed and implemented under the operational framework on energy efficiency, and on projects approved in the 94 th meeting under the pilot project funding window for energy efficiency.	95
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	
Review of one project: HFC project in Tajikistan	93
Consultations were held with GEF senior environmental specialists on issues relating to energy efficiency in the context of HFC phase-down.	92
On-line discussions dealing with issues relating to energy efficiency in the context of HFC phase-down and climate change / energy efficiency	91
The Secretariat participated in the workshop on “Delivering Multiple Global Environmental Benefits through the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste”, organized by the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel and was called on during discussion on identified linkages, especially regarding ozone depletion.	86
Comments on interventions relating to enabling activities, institutional strengthening and support for ratification of the Kigali Amendment in the countries with economies in transition and review of one plan for Tajikistan.	86
Informal on-line discussions between the Secretariat and staff of GEF on possibilities for further collaboration on energy-efficiency matters.	85
Review of one project: Energy efficiency (EE) for air-conditioners in buildings for India.	84
Review of one project: Accelerating Adoption of Sustainable Thermal Comfort: Transition towards Energy Efficient and Climate Resilient Cities in India.	82
Review of four projects: Completion of the phase-out of HCFC consumption with the support of low-GWP technologies in Belarus, GEF project ID 6046; Kazakhstan, HCFC Phase-out in Kazakhstan through the promotion of zero-ODS low-GWP energy-efficient technologies, GEF project ID 6090; Complete HCFC phase-out in Tajikistan through the promotion of zero-ODS low-GWP energy-efficient technologies, GEF ID 6030; Complete HCFC Phase-out in Uzbekistan through the promotion of zero-ODS low-GWP energy-efficient technologies, GEF ID 6003.	80
Review of the project on the introduction of ODS alternatives in agriculture and in the post-harvest sector in Kazakhstan (GEF project ID 9184).	76
Comments on the proposal for a methyl bromide project for Kazakhstan (GEF funding); Provided ideas on the use of funds under GEF 6 for ODS phase-out in non-Article 5 CEIT countries. Information on the discussions at recent Montreal Protocol meetings regarding proposals for an amendment to the Protocol.	75
Review of a project (Introduction of ODS alternatives in agriculture and in the post-harvest sector in Kazakhstan) against the Multilateral Fund’s policies and guidelines.	72
The Secretariat received an invitation to attend the 45 th GEF Council Meeting that would be held from 5 to 7 November 2013. In a further invitation letter to the new Chief Officer, the CEO and Chairperson of the GEF welcomed a renewal of the past cooperation in providing assistance to parties to meet their obligations under the Montreal Protocol and a renewal of historic ties. In response, the Chief Officer informed the CEO that the Fund Secretariat would not be able to attend the Council Meeting due to preparations for the 71 st meeting; however, he advised the CEO that he looked forward to meeting her with a view to strengthening the relationship with the GEF Secretariat.	71

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
The Secretariat participated in a meeting of the GEF Chemicals and Waste Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to provide feedback on the draft focal area strategy for chemicals and wastes to guide the sixth replenishment of the GEF (GEF-6). The draft strategy included the Montreal-Protocol-related activities of the GEF.	69
Since the 67 th meeting there has been an interchange of correspondence with the Chief Executive Officer of the GEF on issues related to cooperation between the two funding mechanisms. Consideration has been given to the possibility of issuing a joint Multilateral Fund/GEF publication on the implementation of the Montreal Protocol over the last 25 years.	68
Government of France	
The Chief Officer and the Senior Fund Management and Administrative Officer participated in the semi-public presentation on recommendations related to the retrospective evaluation on the French contribution to the Multilateral Fund.	88
The Chief Officer participated in an interview on retrospective evaluation proposal on the French contribution to the Fund Secretariat and provided additional information as requested	86/87
Courtesy visit to the Ministry for the Economy and Finances of France. Issues discussed included <i>inter alia</i> bilateral co-operation by the Government of France, and the replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the 2021-2023 triennium.	83
Information on the modalities for additional contributions to the Multilateral Fund.	77
Green Climate Fund (GCF)	
Discussions with Mr. Yannick Glemarec, Executive Director and the GCF team on issues relating to energy efficiency in the context of HFC phase down, in December 2022.	92
On-line discussions dealing with issues relating to energy efficiency in the context of HFC phase-down and climate change / energy efficiency	91
Informal on-line discussions between the Secretariat and staff of the GCF on possibilities for further collaboration, as the consultative meeting on development of GCF energy efficiency sectoral guidance scheduled for 27-28 February 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19.	85
A representative of the GCF visited the Secretariat and held a number of meetings with the Secretariat staff that provided an opportunity for an exchange of information on how both funds operate and possibilities for further collaboration.	84
Informal discussions between the Chief Officer and the Deputy Executive Secretary of the GCF on matters of interests to both Funds, in the margins of the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.	83
Meeting documents related the modalities for reporting the administrative costs of implementing agencies including the following documents: UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/26/67, UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/34/52 and, UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/38/59, UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/55/48, and UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/80/43	81
Conference call to provide information on the Multilateral Fund practices regarding concessional lending and incremental costs.	80
Provided link to documents relevant to the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel, Scientific Assessment Panel, and the Environmental Effects Assessment Panel on the Ozone Secretariat's website, and also an introduction to the Ozone Secretariat's Communications Officer. Documents were provided, including: the Executive Committee Primer; Multilateral Fund policy, procedures, guidelines and criteria; the presentation entitled "The Multilateral Fund: Governance, Business Model, Accomplishments, Challenges"; examples of pre-session documents for business planning, project proposals; monitoring and evaluation work programme and project completion reports; business plan templates; progress reporting guidelines; reports of the two evaluations on institutional strengthening; and the monitoring and evaluation work programme.	77

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
The Fund Secretariat's experience in establishing legal arrangements with implementing entities and establishing a progress reporting system for the Multilateral Fund.	76
Information on performance indicators developed for the Multilateral Fund; Information on the discussions at recent Montreal Protocol meetings regarding proposals for an amendment to the Protocol; Information on the Multilateral Fund's monitoring and accounting framework including Chapter XI of the Multilateral Fund policies, procedures, guidelines and criteria (monitoring and evaluation); Presentation on capacity building under the Multilateral Fund.	75
Presentation on the Multilateral Fund and a sample of key documents including Secretariat activities, status of the Fund, consolidated business plans and progress reports, a sample of project proposals and policy papers. Further details and discussions on the Multilateral Fund.	74
Overview of the objectives and operation of the Multilateral Fund, including its project review process, policy development, meeting process, and implementation of Executive Committee decisions.	72
The Interim Secretariat of the GCF wrote to the Multilateral Fund on 24 September 2013 with an invitation to attend the 5 th meeting of the Board of the GCF as an observer, although the letter noted that observer status for the Multilateral Fund had not yet been approved. The Fund Secretariat could not attend the Board meeting, which took place from 8 to 10 October, due to preparations for the 71 st meeting. A further letter of 21 October 2013 informed the Fund Secretariat that the next Board meeting would take place in Indonesia from 19 to 21 February 2014, indicated that observer status for the Multilateral Fund had been approved by an amendment to decision B.04/15, and also requested the Fund Secretariat to nominate a contact person.	71
Grenoble School of Management	
Information on the policies and procedures of the Multilateral Fund and the process of project approval for a study on technology learning curves.	80
Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)	
Information on practices regarding financial support to meeting participants/delegates.	75
International Energy Agency (IEA)	
The Secretariat and the Executive Secretary of the Ozone Secretariat met with a representative of the IEA. The Secretariat explained the work on energy efficiency in the context of the Kigali Amendment. The representative of the IEA indicated that his organization had undertaken a compilation of policies and standards on energy efficiency in different countries and made it available to the Secretariat. The representative also shared a report on cooling prepared by the IEA.	83
Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations	
The Secretariat completed a questionnaire with regard to the review of environmentally sustainable policies and practices across organizations of the United Nations system.	86
An updated summary of the information on technical assistance and funding provided to Small Island Developing States (SIDS) under the Multilateral Fund, which had previously been provided in February 2015. Further clarifications were provided on 20 October and 7 November 2016.	77
Comments on the draft document "Review of Activities and Resources Devoted to Address Climate Change in the United Nations System Organizations"; Substantive information including a summary of technical assistance and funding provided to Small Island Developing States (SIDS) under the Multilateral Fund and comprehensive information on Multilateral Fund projects approved for each country.	74
The Secretariat completed a questionnaire with regard to the review of activities and resources devoted to address climate change.	73

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
Comments and factual corrections to information on the Multilateral Fund in the report “Post-Rio+20 review of environmental governance within the United Nations system”.	72
With regard to the 2013 evaluation/review entitled “Post-Rio+20 review of environmental governance within the United Nations system, the Secretariat provided the Joint Inspection Unit with information about the Fund’s structure, funding levels, number and characteristics of meetings, meeting participants, project approval process, support costs, Secretariat personnel levels, history of approvals from 2006-2013, implementation modalities, compliance, governance framework, strategic planning, synergies and coordination with other MEAs, scientific assessments, advocacy and outreach, administration, gender distribution and geographical balance of the Executive Committee and Secretariat.	70
Kigali Cooling Efficiency Program (K-CEP)	
Participation in the webinar on 28 January 2020 on the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Support Facility for Efficient, Climate-Friendly Cooling (NDC Support Facility) – a new initiative that provides funding and guidance to entities that support countries in integrating cooling solutions into the next round of their NDCs. Upon a request by the Secretariat for clarification on whether the project proposals submitted would include safeguards to avoid uptake of energy-efficient cooling applications based on high-GWP refrigerants; K-CEP assured that low-GWP technologies would be promoted through the NDC Support Facility.	85
Upon a request to provide feedback to ITAD Ltd., an organisation that has been commissioned to help develop a better understanding of K-CEP role in promoting energy efficiency in the cooling sector, the Secretariat had a conference call with an ITAD staff member informing on the input provided by the Secretariat to K-CEP in the initial phase of its establishment and its understanding of the linkage of K-CEP’s activities with the Montreal Protocol project activities, particularly relating to HFC phase-down projects.	84
Continued informal sharing of experience of the Multilateral Fund.	80
The Director and one other representative of K-CEP, responsible for coordinating the work of 19 philanthropic foundations on matters related to energy-efficiency and cooling with regard to implementation of the Kigali Amendment, visited the Secretariat on 26 January 2017 to learn more about the Multilateral Fund. K-CEP aims to allocate approximately US \$53 million from philanthropic foundations by the end of 2017 for targeted support through country programmes in a small number of countries and more general support to over 100 countries to improve energy efficiency. Information provided included the Executive Committee Primer; a presentation that summarizes how the Multilateral Fund operates; Guidelines for submitting progress and financial reporting; Guide for preparation of project proposals; the templates for project completion reports; and document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/74/51 on the Review of institutional strengthening and the associated decision 74/51.	78
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL)	
The Secretariat provided comments on a draft report on opportunities and risks of efficiency improvement and refrigerant transition in room air-conditioning.	80
The Secretariat held a three-day consultative meeting with personnel at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in San Francisco, United States, to discuss issues relating to energy efficiency in the context of HFC phase-down. The meeting included representatives of the Secretariat, LBNL staff handling refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat pump equipment technologies, testing standards and practice, along with the Clean Cooling Collaborative personnel.	95
Natural Resources Defense Council	
Multilateral Fund Climate Impact Indicator (MCII) including the tool (Excel file), the manual (PDF) and an explanation of the tool (Word file).	81

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
Minamata Convention on Mercury	
In July 2013, the Secretariat received an invitation from the Government of Japan to attend the Conference of Plenipotentiaries for the adoption and signature of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, held from 9 to 11 October 2013 in Kumamoto and Minamata, Japan. However, the Secretariat was unable to attend.	71
Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN)	
In accordance with decision 91/1, the Secretariat sent a letter from the Chair of the Executive Committee, on behalf of the Committee, to the MOPAN Secretariat, enclosing the management response of the Executive Committee on the 2019 MOPAN Assessment of the Multilateral Fund, contained in Annex I to the report of the 91 st meeting.	92
The Secretariat prepared document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/88/2/Add.2 on the recommendations of the assessment report.	88
Following receipt of the assessment report of the Multilateral Fund, a virtual meeting is being organized for the MOPAN Secretariat to present the report to the Executive Committee and a bilateral discussion is scheduled between the two Secretariats on the assessment of the Multilateral Fund, the methodology used and potential flexibility of adapting it to the type of organization to be assessed in future.	86
The Secretariat reviewed the draft assessment report and made factual corrections and provided comments on it. Follow-up communication took place between the two Secretariats with regard to the timeline for the final report and possible ways of sharing key findings with the Executive Committee.	86
The Secretariat provided additional information and clarifications on matters related to the Multilateral Fund to the consultant responsible for the assessment of the Multilateral Fund by MOPAN. The Secretariat had further discussions with MOPAN Secretariat, which indicated that the draft assessment report was in its last stage of preparation and would be submitted to the Secretariat to review it before it is submitted to Member Governments.	85
The representatives of the Secretariat of MOAP and of the service provider that carries out the assessment, visited the Secretariat. The Chief Officer made a presentation on the Multilateral Fund, including its governance, business model and accomplishments. The representatives of MOPAN had a number of meetings with the Secretariat staff. The Secretariat was also informed about the meetings that the evaluators organized with all four implementing agencies of the Fund. The Secretariat provided the contact data of members of the Executive Committee, some of whom would be contacted to provide input to the assessment exercise.	84
The Secretariat attended a meeting at the Secretariat of MOPAN, where an introduction of the Fund was made. Discussions were held on <i>inter alia</i> the scope of the assessment to the stakeholders involved; major differences between the Multilateral Fund and other organizations being assessed, which would lead to a tailored assessment to ensure fairness; the schedule for an inception visit to the Fund Secretariat, and the possible need for the assessment team to attend an Executive Committee.	83
Letter received from MOPAN Secretariat informing that MOPAN's Steering Committee took the decision to assess the Multilateral Fund in its next assessment cycle.	82
Schmidt Center for Data Science and Environment, University of California, Berkeley	
Two countries were identified for further discussions on their using the tool for the HFC consumption related assessment. In February 2025, the technical experts from the Schmidt Center for Data Science and Environment provided guidance to the country representatives through an online meeting and made available the tool through a weblink for them to use the tool and provide feedback. Initial feedback was provided one of the countries and this was used by the technical experts for appropriately incorporating those inputs in the tool	96

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
A workshop was held in October 2024 between the Schmidt Center for Data Science and Environment and the Secretariat, to discuss on the features of an interactive user-friendly model for HFC consumption assessment, trend analysis and impact of different policy interventions on HFC consumption projections. During the workshop, the different aspects related to HFC consumption projections for the modeling process were discussed. The model, to be developed by the Schmidt Center, is expected to be used by countries to make assessments of HFC consumption trends and understand the need for different policy interventions.	95
Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands	
The Secretariat provided inputs to a query to gather information for governance on ways that decision making procedures could be enhanced during exceptional circumstances such as a global pandemic that makes meeting face-to-face difficult or not possible.	96
Stimson Centre	
The Chief Officer spoke to researchers regarding the evolution and work of the Montreal Protocol and its funding mechanism.	93
The Chief Officer provided inputs and reviewed a case study examining aspects that make the Montreal Protocol successful and relevant lessons for accountability in the cyber domain. The case study was included as chapter “The Remarkable Story of the Montreal Protocol with Lessons for Cyberspace” included in the Stimson Center report “Advancing Accountability in Cyberspace: Models, Mechanisms, and Multistakeholder Approaches”, prepared by the Stimson Center, and after a soft launch in July 2024 published on the Stimson Center’s website to commemorate the 2024 International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer (https://www.stimson.org/2024/the-remarkable-story-of-the-montreal-protocol-with-lessons-for-cyberspace/).	95
Sustainable Energy for all (SE4All)	
The Secretariat prepared an article on the Multilateral Fund for the Chilling Prospects 2022 report.	90
Sustainable United Nations (SUN)	
The Secretariat made a presentation at the 31 st meeting of the United Nations Issues Management Group (IMG) on Environmental Sustainability Management, held at ICAO, Montreal on 11 October 2019. The Secretariat presented how the UN offices can collaborate with activities undertaken by the agencies on implementation of projects at national, regional and global levels that promote adoption of ozone friendly and HFC-free technologies. A representative of the Sustainable United Nations (SUN), an office that manages and supports the IMG on Environmental Sustainability Management, visited the Secretariat office and presented the work of this office to the staff.	84
Transparency International-Australia (TI-A)	
The Multilateral Fund Secretariat and the Ozone Secretariat, in response to equal letters received from TI-A, shared a note on a compilation of publicly available information relating to transparency, accountability and integrity in the UN/UNEP, applicable to the Montreal Protocol processes, further to the request for assistance to identify these documents, which are part of the general policies, rules and procedures of the UN Secretariat, that equally apply to the treaty and its financial mechanism.	94
United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS)	
The Secretariat discussed relevant recommendations with implementing and bilateral agencies.	90
The Secretariat prepared document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/88/2/Add.1 on the recommendations of the OIOS audit report.	88
The Secretariat provided information and documentation, responses to questions and clarification to facilitate an audit by the Office of Internal Oversight Services which aims to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the provision of services at the Secretariat to the Multilateral Fund covering the period from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2020.	86/87

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
Background information on the Multilateral Fund and other information including, <i>inter alia</i> , UNEP interim financial statements on the Multilateral Fund; report on contributions and disbursements; progress report; 2015 Monitoring and evaluation work programme; and the link to policy and procedures manual.	75
United Nations Environment Programme	
The Secretariat participated and provided inputs in an online brainstorming meeting on possible UNEP actions to assist countries to address dumping of refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment, including support by the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) to conduct a region-wide refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) market study to gather evidence on environmental dumping, and spur national action to increase availability of RAC technologies and stop the dumping of inefficient, high-GWP refrigerant cooling technologies.	96
The Secretariat collaborated with the Ozone Secretariat, in response to decision XXXVI/9 on further strengthening Montreal Protocol institutions. Following the receipt of permission to extract information on the licensing systems of Article 5 parties, the Secretariat shared with the Ozone Secretariat the relevant portions of the verification reports for analysis.	96
At the request of the Ozone Secretariat, in March 2025, the Secretariat commented on a draft analysis on how free trade zones, transit and trans-shipment operations relate to multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), which the Ozone Secretariat plans to publish as part of its collaboration with other MEA Secretariats on customs engagement, illegal trade, and enforcement under the Green Customs Initiative.	96
The Secretariat collaborated with UNEP in the development of the Medium-term Strategy 2025-2029 and Programme of Work 2026-2029, mandated by the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) decision 6/7. The Chief Officer participated in the technical-level sessions in preparation for the strategy, which is expected to be approved at the 7 th session of UNEA in December 2025.	95
The Secretariat participated, in coordination with the Ozone Secretariat and together with Secretariats of Multilateral Environmental Agreements administered by UNEP, in consultations called for by the Director of the UNEP Law Division, on how the supplementary agenda item entitled "Cooperation with Multilateral Environment Agreements" could be best considered at UNEA-6.	92
Together with the Ozone Secretariat, the Multilateral Fund Secretariat provided the Chemicals and Health Branch, Economy Division of UNEP with comments on GCO-II report to the Chemicals and Health Branch including information related to: the accelerated phase-out of HCFCs, the Kigali Amendment regarding HFCs, the increased emissions of CFC-11 according to the publication by Montzka et al. in 2018; compliance with the Montreal Protocol's control measures and data reporting.	82
UNEP Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment	
At the request of the South African Government, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, the Secretariat presented information on the operational arrangements, governance structure, project planning and implementation processes of the Multilateral Fund at an information session of the INC Intersessional Work with Civil Society Organisations, organised by the Government of South Africa, on 12 August 2024. Responses to questions included clarifications on how the Multilateral Fund provides support for the adoption of innovative technologies.	95
The Chief Officer participated in the webinar, held online on 11 May 2023, organized by the INC, and presented the experience of the Multilateral Fund and lessons learnt since its inception.	92

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	
The Secretariat continued online its collaboration with the technical support unit (TSU) of the Secretariat of the United Nations Climate Change Convention, further to the invitation of the Executive Secretary of the Convention, in support of the work of the Transitional Committee (TC) on the operationalization of the new funding arrangements and a fund for loss and damage, established by the COP to the UNFCCC at its 27th meeting.	93
The Secretariat was invited by the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, together with other UNs agencies, international financial institutions and multilateral development banks, as well as the operating entities of the financial mechanism of the Convention and the Paris Agreement, to collaborate with the technical support unit (TSU) of the Secretariat in supporting the work of the Transitional Committee (TC) on the operationalization of the new funding arrangements and a fund for loss and damage, established by UNFCCC COP 27. Upon invitation by the UNFCCC Secretariat, the Secretariat participated in the first meeting of the TC (Luxor, Egypt, 27-29 March 2023). All travel-related expenses were covered by the UNFCCC Secretariat.	92
Comments on the draft technical summary of the mitigation benefits of actions, initiatives and options to address non-carbon dioxide greenhouse gas emissions	74
The Secretariat received an invitation in early October 2013 to attend the 19th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC and the 9th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol that would take place in Warsaw, Poland, from 11 to 22 November 2013. The Chief Officer informed the UNFCCC Secretariat that he was unable to attend due to preparations for the 71st meeting. Noting that the UNFCCC Secretariat was invited to attend the 25th MOP, he suggested an informal meeting to exploit potential opportunities for collaboration between the two Secretariats. The Executive Secretary of UNFCCC Secretariat responded that the Coordinator of the Mitigation, Data and Analysis Programme, who would be attending the MOP, would arrange to meet bilaterally with him. The representatives of both Secretariats met and discussed informally ways in which the two Secretariats could collaborate in the future as the need arose.	71
University of Bristol	
Provided a summary of the data contained in documents on HFC-23 prepared by the Secretariat, aggregated consumption of HFC-23 reported in surveys of ODS alternatives conducted in 119 Article 5 countries, and data it had derived from publicly available resources during the preparation of document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/79/48.	83
University of Cape Town	
In July 2024, the University of Cape Town (UCT), South Africa, contacted the Secretariat in the framework of its research for the preparation of a guidance document for governments and other stakeholders to support the implementation of sustainable domestic financing mechanisms for the sound management of chemicals and waste with particular focus on UNEP's Special Programme-financed projects. They requested a viewpoint on the barriers, challenges, and opportunities for implementing sustainable domestic financing mechanisms based on country-level experiences in implementation of MLF projects. The Secretariat, through an on-line interview, shared experiences in the implementation of different ODS phase-out and HFC consumption reduction projects.	95
World Trade Organization, Trade and Environment Division	
Update of the MEA Matrix for the WTO's Committee on Trade and Environment (https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/envir_e/envir_matrix_e.htm)	75