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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Ninety-ninth Meeting
Montreal, 7–11 December 2026
Item 9(c) of the provisional agenda¹

PROJECT PROPOSAL: DOMINICA

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 UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/99/1

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Background

1. Stage I of Dominica's HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) was approved at the 62nd meeting,² to phase out 35 per cent of HCFC consumption by 2020,³ at a total cost of US \$164,500, plus agency support costs. Implementation had been delayed owing to several changes of the National Ozone Officer (NOO) and the impact of a hurricane in September 2017. As a result, the third and final tranche was approved at the 95th meeting.

2. In approving the third and final tranche of stage I of the HPMP, the Executive Committee noted the commitment of the Government to ban the import of HCFC-based equipment by 1 January 2026 and extended the completion date of stage I of the HPMP to 31 December 2026.

3. On behalf of the Government of Dominica, UNEP, as the designated 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 92/22,⁴ in the amount of US \$100,000, plus agency support costs of US \$13,000.⁵ The submission includes a description of specific activities, targets, and an implementation plan from December 2026 to December 2028.

Report on HCFC consumption

4. The Government of Dominica reported under both the Article 7 data and the country programme (CP) implementation report a consumption of 0.03 ODP tonnes of HCFCs in 2025, which is 92.5 per cent below the HCFC baseline for compliance. The 2021–2025 HCFC consumption is shown in table 1.

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

HCFC	2021	2022	2023	2024*	2025	Baseline
Metric tonnes (mt)						
HCFC-124	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/a
HCFC-22	0.27	0.52	0.14	0.34	0.48	7.27
Total (mt)	0.27	0.52	0.14	0.34	0.48	7.27
ODP tonnes						
HCFC-124	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	n/a
HCFC-22	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.4
Total (ODP tonnes)	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.4

*The data for 2024 was resubmitted to the Ozone Secretariat showing consumption of 0.34 mt of HCFC-22 (0.02 ODP tonnes). At the time of issuance this change was not yet reflected on the Ozone Secretariat's website.

5. The Article 7 data initially submitted showed a spike in HCFC consumption in 2024 (a 96 per cent increase), reaching 2.0 ODP tonnes and including HCFC-124 for the first time, while the 2024 consumption reported under the CP report was 0.34 mt (0.02 ODP tonnes) of HCFC-22. Further, the Secretariat noted that the CP data reported for 2022, of 0.61 ODP tonnes, was misaligned with the Article 7 reported HCFC

² Decision 62/42

³ The established baseline was subsequently updated at the 84th meeting from an estimated 0.23 to 0.4 ODP tonnes. The target for 2020 in the HPMP Agreement was maintained, which resulted in a 62.5 per cent reduction target from the establish baseline (Annex XIV of document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/84/75).

⁴ 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.

⁵ As per the letter of 24 September 2026 from the Ministry of Environmental, Rural Modernization, Kalinago Upliftment and Constituency Empowerment of Dominica to the Secretariat.

consumption for that year. The Secretariat requested clarification on the 2022 and 2024 HCFC consumption, noting that each case might have placed the country in violation of its HPMP Agreement depending on which data was correct. UNEP consulted with the Government and the National Ozone Unit (NOU) and relayed that there were input errors for the respective years and data sets.

6. The NOU confirmed that there had been no imports of HCFC-124 in 2024, and that the consumption was 0.34 mt of HCFC-22 (0.02 ODP tonnes) as reported in CP data and that the 2022 consumption was 0.52 mt of HCFC-22 (0.03 ODP tonnes) as reported under Article 7. The Government subsequently resubmitted the 2022 CP and 2024 Article 7 data to accurately reflect its consumption and reconcile data across platforms. Therefore, the corrected data shows that the country did not exceed the maximum allowable consumption under its Agreement with the Executive Committee for either year.

7. The corrected data illustrates an increase in consumption in 2022 (from 0.01 to 0.03 ODP tonnes), a decrease in 2023 (back to 0.01 ODP tonnes) and subsequent increases in 2024 and 2025 (0.02 and 0.03 ODP tonnes respectively). This pattern is attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in restricted economic activities, followed by the reopening of activities and stockpiling, and a return to normal HCFC consumption levels in 2024 and 2025.

Project description

Policy, regulatory and institutional framework

8. Dominica is highly dependent on the importation of refrigerants and related equipment. After the catastrophic hurricane in 2017, Dominica committed to becoming the world's first climate-resilient nation through its National Resilience Development Strategy 2030. The country has not yet ratified the Kigali Amendment but has reported HFC consumption to the Ozone Secretariat since 2023. The last reported consumption in 2024 was 51,654 CO₂-equivalent tonnes.

9. Dominica is a member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the CARICOM Regional Organization for Standards and Quality (CROSQ), and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). The OECS Sustainable Energy Unit supports regional energy initiatives covering OECS member states, including the Eastern Caribbean Energy Labelling Project (ECELPL).

10. Dominica currently has the highest energy prices of the CARICOM members, providing a strong economic incentive for energy efficiency investments. Under the framework of the National Energy Policy of the Commonwealth of Dominica (2021), the country aims to pursue reliable and sustainable energy at the lowest possible cost. The country does not currently have mandatory minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) in place. However, for air conditioners, Dominica has adopted a voluntary energy-efficiency standard aligned with the CARICOM regional scheme for labelling and minimum energy performance.⁶ While the CARICOM standard establishing MEPS and energy labelling for refrigerators has not yet been adopted on a voluntary or mandatory basis, the country nevertheless applies voluntary IEC testing standards⁷ for refrigerator energy performance. The Dominica Bureau of Standards (DBOS) is the national standards body responsible for the adoption and maintenance of national standards.

Project objectives and proposed activities

11. The project's three main objectives are to:

- (a) Provide institutional support to advance energy efficiency in the RAC sector by conducting a national market assessment, establishing a coordination mechanism between the NOU and

⁶ Dominica National Standard (DNS) adopting CARICOM Regional Standard (CRS) 59:2019

⁷ International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) standard 62552

the national energy authority, and developing customs capacity on energy performance standards and labelling of RAC appliances;

- (b) Deliver an energy efficiency module for RAC technicians, integrated into the existing training programme, enabling technicians to effectively identify, install, and service energy-efficient and low-GWP RAC systems; and
- (c) Raise consumer, business, and trade awareness of the economic and environmental benefits of energy-efficient and low-GWP RAC equipment and practices.

12. 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 Dominica

Energy efficiency in the servicing sector in Dominica		
Activity	Expected outputs/performance indicators	Cost as submitted (US \$)
1. Facilitate coordination and support MEPS and labelling, including GWP limits for RAC equipment		
1.1 Facilitate the establishment of a formal coordination mechanism between the NOU and the responsible energy authority and hold an initial technical meeting, to introduce the differentiated standards and regional developments, OECS Sustainable Energy Unit activities, and CARICOM/CROSQ processes; hold dedicated sessions on best practices for implementing MEPS and labelling programmes in small Caribbean islands; and on consideration of standards that exceed the CARICOM baseline, including international benchmarks (US \$15,000);	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establishment of a multi-stakeholder coordination group coordinated by the NOU that includes the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business, Trade and Energy as the responsible energy authority, fostering a shared understanding among participants and supporting ongoing dialogue.Development of a RAC market baseline and demand assessment covering equipment stock, import volumes, refrigerant use, and energy-efficiency profiles. This assessment should inform both the regulatory roadmap and the prioritization of sectors for targeted interventions.Development of a policy and regulatory roadmap towards the establishment of MEPS and labelling programmes, including a differentiated regulatory gap analysis for air conditioners and refrigerators.	45,000
1.2 Gather data from existing sources and technical visits to importers and retailers to assess the energy efficiency and refrigerant-use characteristics of RAC equipment in the country; develop an energy-efficiency baseline for the RAC sector focusing on domestic refrigerators and room air conditioners; and develop a demand assessment to estimate energy savings potential and emissions avoided with the introduction of high-efficiency and low-GWP RAC equipment (US \$20,000); and		
1.3 Map the regulatory, procedural and institutional steps required to support the adoption of regional MEPS and labelling programmes for both product categories, including measures required to transition DNS CRS 59:2019 from voluntary to mandatory standards for air conditioners and assess the steps required for formal adoption and enforcement of CRS 57:2018 for refrigerators; and develop and publish the relevant roadmap (US \$10,000);		
2. Energy efficiency training module and programme for RAC technicians		
2.1 RAC servicing sector mapping covering: the number of technicians and workshops in the formal and informal sectors, current training pathways and qualifications; a breakdown of the workforce characteristics and the baseline level of energy efficiency understanding and good servicing practices, to be carried out in coordination with	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mapping of the formal and informal RAC sector and active technicians in Dominica including an assessment of technician skills related to energy efficiency and low-GWP refrigerants;	27,000

Activity	Expected outputs/performance indicators	Cost as submitted (US \$)
<p>HPMP stage II preparation to avoid duplication; conduct a needs assessment to identify gaps in the existing RAC curricula related to energy efficiency and low-GWP refrigerants, and skill gaps among national technicians (US \$7,000);</p> <p>2.2 Review and update the RAC training curriculum in coordination with Dominica State College (DSC); develop an energy-efficiency training module for technician training and to inform the national certification scheme; organize a coordination meeting with DBOS and relevant authorities to plan the integration of energy efficiency and low-GWP refrigerant competencies into national training; produce a train-the-trainer package for DSC instructors (US \$10,000); and</p> <p>2.3 Organize two training workshops, including training service instruments and training materials, for a total of 20 RAC technicians on the energy efficiency and low-GWP refrigerant modules; the training should reach both formal and informal sector technicians and encourage the participation of women (30 per cent target). Conduct pre- and post-training assessments to measure knowledge and competency gains (US \$10,000).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy efficiency training modules integrated into DSC curriculum; • Two energy efficiency training workshops delivered to RAC technicians, covering energy-efficient and low-GWP systems sizing and selection, installation and commissioning, and maintenance including servicing of variable speed compressors. • A train-the-trainer package for DSC instructors so that the new training module can be delivered independently after project completion. 	
3. Awareness campaign and knowledge platform on energy efficiency and low-GWP RAC systems		
<p>3.1 Develop awareness materials for consumers and RAC industry stakeholders on the economic and climate benefits of energy-efficient and low-GWP RAC equipment; conduct awareness-raising initiatives highlighting the cost savings associated with efficient equipment, and guidance on efficiency ratings and refrigerant transition and the benefits (US \$10,000); and</p> <p>3.2 Engage national media (including TV, radio and newspapers) to raise-awareness and identify opportunities to communicate on the benefits of energy-efficient equipment and good operation practices for consumers (US \$18,000).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness materials on the economic and climate benefits of energy-efficient and low-GWP RAC equipment, and guidance on efficiency ratings and the refrigerant transition. • Media engagement plan and campaign, including TV, radio and print coverage. 	28,000
Total		100,000

SECRETARIAT'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION

COMMENTS

13. The Secretariat reviewed the project proposal in line with decisions 89/6(b) and 92/22 and sought necessary additional information and clarifications from UNEP. UNEP clarified that this project, planned to be implemented over 24 months, will be integrated into stage II of the HPMP, as UNEP confirmed that completion of stage I is expected by 31 December 2026.⁸

14. The Secretariat enquired how the activities under this project will be implemented in synergy with those of the HPMP to ensure the effective use of resources and avoid duplication. UNEP indicated that the

⁸ In annex XVII of document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/95/94 (decision 95/34), the Executive Committee approved an extension of the completion date of stage I of the HPMP to 31 December 2026.

second component of this project, on the updating of technician training to include energy efficiency, complements the HPMP training efforts through targeted activities and informs the future certification scheme. These include the integration of energy efficiency and low-GWP safety modules into technician training, the organization of training for RAC technicians and the production of a train-the-trainer package for DSC instructors to ensure that they are equipped with comprehensive competencies and can deliver the relevant updated curricula effectively.

15. The Secretariat, mindful of decision 95/34 approving the third tranche of stage I of the HPMP, where the Executive Committee noted the commitment of the Government to ban the import of HCFC-based equipment by 1 January 2026, enquired with UNEP on the implementation of this commitment. UNEP indicated that the process was ongoing. The NOU has sought approval from the Minister of Environment to draft the appropriate regulatory measures, and to direct the Ministry of Environment, in collaboration with Trade and Customs, to develop and submit the selected regulatory option for Cabinet's consideration. The required changes to the Ozone Regulations have already gained endorsement from key stakeholders. While it is difficult to predict the length of this process, UNEP indicated that the NOU has revised its target to June 2027, and that UNEP is in discussions with the NOU about actions that can be taken to help expedite the matter.

16. The Secretariat noted that the proposed activities fall within the scope referred to in subparagraphs (b)(ii), (iii), and (v) 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, coordination among policymakers and stakeholders involved in energy efficiency in the country, and targeted updates in the training curricula, the project will help the RAC sector transition to low-GWP alternatives and achieve the phase-out of HCFCs by 2030.

Gender policy implementation

17. The energy efficiency activities will be integrated into the implementation of stage II of the HPMP once it is approved. During the implementation of stage I of the HPMP, the NOU has promoted the participation of women in the RAC sector, collected and reported on participation data, and set targets for the number of women participants in activities. The Government will also continue these initiatives during the implementation of stage II and the additional activities to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector. The participation of men and women in the RAC sector workforce will be part of the servicing sector mapping activity.

Conclusion

18. 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 awareness raising activities, considered critical to complement policy and technical measures to foster informed consumers and engaged businesses. The activities to be implemented will also promote 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 regulation and policies that will support enforcement mechanisms. The project will build the framework for considering energy-efficiency-related actions in stage II of the HPMP currently under preparation. 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

19. The Fund Secretariat recommends blanket approval of the project for additional activities for the introduction of alternatives to HCFCs with low or zero global warming potential and for enhancing energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector in Dominica, and the corresponding 2026-2028 implementation plan, at the funding level shown in the table below, on the understanding that:

- (a) The present project would be integrated into stage II of the HCFC implementation plan (HPMP) for Dominica, once the plan had been fully formulated for submission for consideration by the Executive Committee;
- (b) The Government of Dominica has committed to ban the import of HCFC-based equipment by 30 June 2027; and
- (c) UNEP, on behalf of the Government of Dominica, would submit a final report on the implementation of the project as part of the first tranche implementation report of stage II of the HPMP.

	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