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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Ninety-seventh Meeting
Montreal, 1-5 December 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 96th meeting.²

I. Issues relating to meetings

I.1 96th meeting

2. The report of the 96th 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 82 and 25 Article 5 countries, respectively, and the relevant agencies. A post-meeting summary of the 96th meeting and decisions taken at that meeting was prepared and shared on the Fund's website.

I.2 97th meeting

3. The Secretariat prepared 92 meeting documents for the 97th meeting, sent letters of invitation to the meeting,⁴ updated databases and other resources, and prepared summary documents, where applicable.

¹ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/97/1

² UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/96/2

³ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/96/66

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.

I.3 Inter-agency coordination meeting (IACM)

4. The Secretariat arranged an IACM, held in Montreal, Canada, from 9 to 11 September 2025. Participants included the representatives of the bilateral agencies of Canada, Germany and Italy, representatives of the 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 Secretariat reported an 81 per cent submission rate for 2024 country programme (CP) data from 117 countries and 99 of the submissions had utilized the new CP data portal. Agencies were requested to work with countries to use the online CP data portal to facilitate review and analysis. Revised reporting forms relating to HFC-23 will be integrated into the knowledge management system (KMS) for 2025 data to be reported in 2026. Agencies provided positive feedback on the portal's user-friendliness.

6. The Secretariat presented the status of implementation of the 2025-2027 business plan. Agencies outlined their planned submissions for the 97th meeting, including multi-year agreement tranches. Regarding the inclusion of project preparation activities for stage II of Kigali HFC implementation plans (KIPs), the Secretariat indicated that based on the experience of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP), project preparation for a new stage could be requested two years before the end of the current stage.

7. Agencies provided positive feedback on a June 2025 webinar organized by the Secretariat and a side event at the 47th meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the parties to the Montreal Protocol (OEWG-47), both of which focused on the decisions taken by the Executive Committee regarding maintaining and enhancing energy efficiency in replacement technologies while phasing down HFCs and on the funding windows established for energy-efficiency-related activities, and noted enhanced understanding of the relevant issues. Challenges identified concerning the preparation of energy-efficiency related projects included data confidentiality, budgeting complexities, testing capacity limits, and supply chain constraints. Cooperation with national energy-efficiency standards organizations was deemed critical, and the need for better integration of energy-efficiency considerations in manufacturing conversions to achieve Montreal Protocol compliance and improve energy performance was highlighted. The Secretariat provided clarifications on the preparation of energy-efficiency end-user projects using a revolving fund mechanism and indicated that a template for submission of such projects had been shared with agencies.

8. The Secretariat shared lessons from its review of the 74 approved KIPs, highlighting complexities in compliance, data integrity, and market dynamics. About 38 per cent of the approved KIPs proposed reduction targets beyond 10 per cent of their established HFC baselines, and three of these were LVC countries that opted for a 10 per cent reduction target of their average HFC consumption during baseline years. Erratic consumption trends and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic were discussed as complicating factors in projecting future HFC consumption. The Secretariat stressed that accurate data reporting must reflect real-world conditions and serve as a basis for complex analysis.

9. A discussion was held on the operational and financial challenges experienced in relation to the implementation of approved KIPS. Challenges included inflation and increased costs for equipment and shipping that had stretched approved budgets, leading some small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to import equipment rather than manufacture locally. Implementation delays arose from legal, procurement, and administrative complexities. Consolidating procurement to achieve economies of scale was identified as a common but challenging mitigation strategy. Agencies also highlighted technical challenges, such as the lack of clear alternative technologies for certain sectors, such as the mobile air-conditioning sector, and difficulties in selecting beneficiary enterprises for demonstration projects due to administrative delays and

⁵ IACM/2025/2/2

approvals. Supply chain issues affected the availability of refrigerant identifiers, critical for customs enforcement and compliance monitoring.

10. On life-cycle refrigerant management, the Secretariat noted that, of 103 approved projects, 64 countries had requested extensions, citing challenges such as the availability of international consultants and complex project requirements as the basis for their requests. Discussions touched upon refrigerant recovery, recycling, and reclamation efforts, highlighting the importance of developing viable business models and regulatory frameworks. Challenges identified included managing existing stockpiles, contamination, and establishing cradle-to-grave life-cycle approaches. Regional approaches were suggested for handling refrigerant destruction and recycling, considering cost-effectiveness and regulatory complexities.

11. During discussions on the Executive Committee's request to the Secretariat and the Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer (SMEO) to explore the possibility of integrating the reporting for project completion reports (PCRs) and final project reports, taking into account the universal PCR format approved at the 94th meeting, agencies highlighted the potential overlap and redundancy between PCRs and final reports. It was noted that final reports tended to have more detailed technical and budget information and presented the final achievements of the projects, including sustainability while PCRs provided a more overall and integrated assessment, and that having one unified report would help ease workload. The Secretariat reiterated that the goal of the exercise was to reduce reporting burden and that the agencies' feedback would be taken into consideration in the preparation of the requested document for the Executive Committee.

12. Regarding the Executive Committee's request to prepare a policy paper for the 98th meeting following up on the previous half-day sessions on strategic approaches to Kigali Amendment implementation, two issues were highlighted by the Secretariat: transitioning to low-global-warming-potential (GWP) refrigerants and blends with a holistic approach for HFC phase-down, energy efficiency and sustainable cooling; and the capacity of end users to adopt sustainable cooling technologies. Agencies discussed challenges including technician capacity to work with low-GWP refrigerants, limited testing centre availability, the lack of safety infrastructure, high costs of tools, and policy challenges such as lack of integrated policies linking refrigerant transition, energy efficiency, and climate goals, as well as fragmented responsibilities within national authorities. Regarding regional cooperation challenges, illegal trade of controlled substances, dumping of low-efficiency equipment in developing countries, and limited knowledge transfer and purchasing capacities were noted. Opportunities included strengthening training and certification, promoting knowledge transfer, aligning Kigali Amendment implementation efforts with national energy-efficiency and climate policies, and enhancing customs training and digital monitoring tools, including artificial intelligence (AI)-assisted technologies.

13. Relating to supply chain challenges, agencies highlighted availability and price issues for alternatives, especially for SMEs; limited availability and higher costs for compressors suitable for hydrocarbons at higher capacities; issues with technical specifications, conformity assessments, and explosion-proof equipment for manufacturing lines; and challenges with freight costs, insurance, and complex cargo routes impacting equipment imports. Regional differences influenced refrigerant choices and technology adoption, with concerns about safety, technician certification, and market penetration of emerging technologies.

14. The Secretariat provided an update on the four core modules of the KMS, including business plans, project submissions, progress reports, and PCRs accessible via the agency portal with hybrid online/offline functionality. A further update was provided on the development of the central dashboard including landing pages and dashboard interfaces. Agencies provided positive feedback and requested hands-on simulations for testing, particularly of the project submission module. The Secretariat expressed its commitment to user involvement in development to ensure usability and highlighted the importance of maintaining communication with the Secretariat for clarifications.

II. Meetings attended and missions undertaken

15. During the reporting period, representatives of the Secretariat participated in the following events:
 - (a) Thematic meeting of the ozone officers' network for English-speaking Caribbean and Haiti, 16 to 18 June 2025, St. George's Grenada.
 - (b) World Refrigeration Day Event, organized by the International Institute of Refrigeration, 17 to 19 June 2025, Paris, France. On this occasion several consultation meetings were also held with various stakeholders on matters covered in policy papers that were being prepared by the Secretariat.
 - (c) Joint Europe and Central Asia (ECA), and West Asia Networks Meeting with Montreal Protocol Officers and Environmental Inspectors, 17 to 19 June 2025; joint Climate and Clean Air Coalition - ECA and West Asia workshop on life-cycle refrigerant management, 20 June 2025, Batumi, Georgia.
 - (d) Regional Network Meeting for National Ozone Officers from Latin America, 17 to 20 June 2025, San José, Costa Rica.
 - (e) Network meeting of the South Asia National Ozone Officers, 3 to 5 July 2025; 2025 Workshop on Lifecycle Refrigerant Management: Progress on Fluorocarbon Banks Inventories and National Action Plans, 6 July 2025; OEWG-47, 7 to 11 July 2025, Bangkok, Thailand. The Secretariat organized two side events, one held on 7 July, on enhancing energy efficiency while phasing down HFCs: decisions by the Executive Committee; and on 8 July, on a HFC consumption modelling tool: consumption assessment and projections.
 - (f) Ozone Layer Protection Towards Green Transition: Promoting Intergovernmental and Public-Private Cooperation, 15 September 2025, Hanoi, Viet Nam; World Ozone Day commemorations, 16 September 2025, Beijing, China; Coordination meeting for the implementation of HPMPs and the Kigali Amendment in China, 17 September 2025, Beijing, China; International Workshop on HFC-23 emissions control at the scientific level, 18 to 20 September 2025, Shanghai and Quzhou, China.
 - (g) Meeting with the Ministry of Environment (Ozone Cell and Joint Secretary) of India, 20 September 2025, Delhi, India. On this occasion, the Secretariat visited two air-conditioning and compressor manufacturing enterprises and two foam manufacturers in Punjab, on 21 and 22 September.
 - (h) United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (InforMEA) 15th Steering Committee meeting, 16 to 18 September 2025, Geneva, Switzerland.
 - (i) Joint network meeting for national ozone officers of anglophone and francophone African Countries, and UNEP-Climate and Clean Air Coalition Regional Workshop on life-cycle refrigerant management, 23 to 26 September 2025, Dakar, Senegal.
 - (j) Network Meeting of Pacific Island Countries National Ozone Officers, 29 to 30 September 2025; Thematic Workshop on Follow-up Actions on HFC Licensing and Quota System and Data Collection under National Inventory, 1 to 2 October 2025, Nadi, Fiji.
 - (k) Online meeting on Enhancing Energy Efficiency and Climate Action in the Cooling Sector, organised by UNIDO, 7 October 2025.

- (l) ECA Network Meeting for Montreal Protocol Officers, 7 to 9 October 2025, Yerevan, Armenia.
- (m) 75th Meeting of the Implementation Committee of the Montreal Protocol, 31 October to 1 November 2025; informal meeting on facilitating implementation of the Montreal Protocol, 2 November 2025; and 37th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, 3 to 7 November 2025, Nairobi, Kenya. On this occasion, Secretariat staff participated as panelists and speakers in a number of side events, and in the OzonAction “Ask an Expert” session on gender.
- (n) Online meeting participation for the Thematic meeting of the ozone officers’ network for Latin America, 18 to 20 November, Quito, Ecuador.

III. Knowledge management system

16. Annex I provides a progress report with updates on the status of all products to be delivered as part of phase 3 in the development of the KMS and on the completion of all tasks that were part of phases 1 and 2. The Secretariat is actively working on the development and testing of phase 3 products, with the project management team closely collaborating with developer and design teams to ensure adherence to the project’s delivery schedule. Phase 3 focuses on expanding online reporting system functionalities, the Application Programming Interface (API), and associated dashboards. Periodic maintenance activities have been initiated for the applications previously launched, along with the supporting infrastructure.

17. The website continues to be populated and updated. An updated version of the document on Policies, Procedures, Guidelines and Criteria of the Multilateral Fund has been uploaded. The Evaluation section has been updated to include the evaluation policy for the Multilateral Fund, the executive summary of the final report on the external assessment of the evaluation function, and the management response to the external assessment of the evaluation function of the Multilateral Fund. Guides and submission forms have been prepared or updated and posted, i.e., the guide for presentation of stage I of KIPs, and the guides for the presentation of new stages and new tranches of HPMPs have been updated; a submission form for tranches of stage I of KIPs has been prepared and shared with agencies. News items (i.e., on World Ozone Day, the Executive Committee meeting, newly approved initiatives, etc.) and success stories in a number of Article 5 countries highlighting successful HPMP implementation, accelerated HCFC phase-out, manufacturing conversion projects and energy efficiency initiatives have been published on the website.

IV. Administrative matters

IV.1 Staffing and recruitment

18. The selection process for the position of Administrative Assistant (G-5) was completed. Mr. Owen Timothy Miller was selected for the position, effective August 2025.

19. The process of selection for the position of Programme Management Assistant (G-5), was finalized with the selection of Ms. Rhona Maire Conway-Kenny, effective 1 October 2025.

20. The recruitment process for the Administrative Officer (P-3) position is in its final stages.

21. The reclassification exercise for the Senior Evaluation Officer (P-5) position was finalized and a job opening posted with a closing date of 19 September 2025. The recruitment process is underway.

22. The recruitment process and contractual arrangements for two consultants, four individual contractors and two interns were completed.

IV.2 Staff development and training

23. The Secretariat convened its annual team retreat in Montebello, Quebec, from 12 to 13 June 2025, with the participation of 28 staff members.

24. Staff undertook several online mandatory United Nations training courses; and the annual Leadership Dialogue, a training programme organized by the United Nations Ethics Office.

IV.3 Offsetting the Secretariat's 2024 emissions

25. On 3 October 2025, the UNFCCC presented a certificate of voluntary cancellation to the Multilateral Fund Secretariat, offsetting the Secretariat's 2024 emissions. The project selected for the cancellation of 259 certified emission reduction units (CER), equivalent to 259 tonnes of CO₂, was the Project Clean Cook Stoves in Sub-Saharan Africa by ClimateCare Limited. The certificate was issued in accordance with the procedure for voluntary cancellation within the Clean Development Mechanism Registry.

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.

V.1 United Nations Environment Programme

27. The Secretariat participated as speaker in the webinar to commemorate World Ozone Day on 16 September 2025, organized by the Children and Youth Major Group to UNEP - Ozone and Climate Protection Working Group. The presentation covered aspects relating to energy efficiency initiatives, financing, and collaboration on ozone and climate protection.

28. At the request of OzonAction, the Secretariat provided comments on two draft fact sheets relating to the application of the Multilateral Fund's gender policy throughout the lifecycle of Multilateral Fund-funded projects, and to the gender assessment for such projects.

29. The Secretariat participated in two initiatives presented by different divisions of UNEP, one on the formation of a cluster on "cooling" and the other one on dumping of cooling equipment.

VI. Exploring Artificial Intelligence (AI) for the work of the Secretariat and the members of the Executive Committee

VI.1 AI for cost-effective translation services

30. As part of its broader efforts to enhance operational and financial efficiency, the Secretariat is assessing the potential of AI to support the translation of project documents. This approach would apply specifically to translations into languages other than the official language of the beneficiary country, which will continue to be handled by professional translators. Several AI tools have been tested, with preliminary results from DeepL—a neural machine translation service – indicating high quality outputs. While the initiative shows promise for optimizing resources and reducing costs, it is currently early to provide definitive financial projections due to the range of influencing variables.

VI.2 AI for retrieving decisions from QuiriO₃ – Collaboration with GIZ

31. As part of facilitating the query of decisions from QuiriO₃, GIZ offered to develop a chatbot at the demonstration level for all decisions of the Executive Committee. In response to freely framed questions, as with the use with any other chatbots, the chatbot will use QuiriO₃ as its sole source and will complement searches across the more than 10,000 Executive Committee decisions. The Secretariat wishes to express its gratitude to GIZ for the development of this initiative which is currently under review.

VI.3 Open-source online tool with an AI assistant – Collaboration with the Eric and Wendy Schmidt Center for Data Science and Environment (DSE), University of California, Berkeley

32. The Secretariat continued to work with the DSE to further develop the HFC consumption assessment tool, Kigali sim, an open-source modeling tool with analytical and computing power and an AI assistant to simulate the impact of different policy measures in achieving compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The tool was designed by the University of California, Berkeley in partnership with the Multilateral Fund Secretariat. A side event was held at OEWG-47 where the Kigali Sim was demonstrated and feedback collected. A presentation was also made at the September 2025 IACM to bilateral and implementing agencies in attendance. The final product is now completed, posted on the Multilateral Fund website for free use by those interested and will be launched after its brief presentation 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.” The Secretariat continues to advance on phase 3 while fully aligning its development with the planned implementation of phases 1 and 2 presented in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/70.
2. As presented in paragraph 5 of annex I of document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/96/2, “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.”
3. This progress report provides updates on the status of all products that were to be delivered as part of phase 3 and of all unfinished tasks that were part of phases 1 and 2.

Status of implementation

4. The development of phase 3 components is progressing in parallel with efforts to expand the online reporting system’s functionalities, including the API (Application Programming Interface), associated dashboards and all unfinished activities from phases 1 and 2. Periodic maintenance activities have been initiated for the applications previously launched, along with the supporting infrastructure.
5. Table 1 presents the status of implementation of the KMS from all phases as well as key updates since the 96th meeting of the Executive Committee. This table will be used as the basis for future updates to the members. Each task in table 1 also includes typical application development components such as user requirements, design, backend and frontend adjustments, data migration, testing, and deployment.

Table 1: Status of implementation and key updates since the 96th meeting of the Executive Committee

Group of tasks / tasks		Completion rate (%) – 96 th meeting	Completion rate (%) – 97 th meeting	Comments
GROUP 1: OVERALL WEBSITE				
1	Website, QuiriO3, meeting portal	99	100	These items have been grouped together for the Secretariat to report back at future meetings in case of any changes or updates. Regular maintenance activities have been taking place
GROUP 2: “PROJECTS AND DATA” PAGE OF THE WEBSITE RENAMED TO “OUR WORK”				
2	Projects and impact	20	20	Requirements completed, pending development
3	Countries	20	20	Requirements completed, pending development
4	CP data centre	20	100	CP data centre includes full data sets of country CP reports and comparisons of substance data among countries and regions. The dashboard includes additional details on substance sectors and prices. Reduced public version is deployed and live. This version allows in-depth analysis of the CP reports maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the data through common aggregation formulas.
5	Contributions	20	100	Full contribution dashboard includes sections on: -Scale of assessments -Status of the Fund -Status of contributions -Bilateral assistance -Fixed exchange rate mechanism -Interest earned -Disputed contributions -Invoice/payment logs All the above pages are accessible to the Secretariat and the Treasurer while a reduced public version is deployed and live
6	Portals	20	50	This page provides access to the various portals available to stakeholders. The Treasurer Portal and the CP Online Reporting Portal are fully operational. Work is ongoing on the IA/BA Portal, which serves as the main entry point for project workflows. This portal enables users to easily view and access the complete project database and manage all project related modules.

GROUP 3: KMS AS A SOLUTION FOR THE PROJECT CYCLE				
7	Define clear user requirements of all core modules and applications	90	100	
8	Business plan module	50	100	Development is complete, and multiple testing sessions have been conducted. The module was presented during the inter-agency coordination meeting in September 2025, with a detailed walkthrough of its functionalities. It is now deployed in production and has been piloted internally by the Secretariat for the 97 th meeting of the Executive Committee. The full deployment will be together with the other related modules. The deployment plan will consider the needs of agencies and other stakeholders.
9	Project submission module	20	85	The Secretariat is intensively testing and validating this module in an agile manner. Once the initial technical testing is concluded, the Secretariat intends to perform a new round of testing with agencies in Q1 2026 to finalize development and release of the application.
10	Annual progress report module	20	30	Initial backend development with migrated data and template/forms began in parallel with the Project Submission module to ensure interoperability of shared data elements. The frontend interface will be developed after the finalization of the Project Submission module, as the module heavily relies on derivatives from the Project module. Development is expected to be completed in Q1 2026, followed by testing and deployment in Q2 2026.
11	Project completion report module	20	20	Requirements completed, development to begin in Q1 2026
12	APIs	90	90	In continuous update as new modules/data sets are finalized.
GROUP 4: INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNICAL ISSUES				
	User processes (and advice on governance and administering and managing data)	50	80	This process remains open and continues until the finalization of phase 3 as data management and governance is constantly monitored and improved.
	Unify databases into a new master database (migration)	95	99	This process will continue until the finalization of core modules as minor adjustments to the master data might be required.
	Implementation and identification of a new technology needs for the Multilateral Fund KMS - configuration (proxies, security assessment, new coding)	90	90	This is a continuous task as we work on the various elements in phase 3. As new technologies and techniques are available, we implement them to make sure systems are modern and offer the best user experience.
	Move infrastructure to UN cloud environment	70	90	All security assessments have been finalized we are preparing the last items to finalize the move.

Concluding remarks

6. Following the 96th meeting of the Executive Committee, the Secretariat has been extensively working on implementing the complex workflow for project submissions and finalizing the first two data dashboards, the country programme data centre and the contributions dashboard. This work has been carried out alongside the regular maintenance and updates of existing applications, including the implementation of new online country programme data forms aligned with the newly approved reporting format.

7. The main challenge in deploying the modules is the time required for thorough testing and implementing fixes, especially as module complexity increases. Additionally, peak workload periods within the Secretariat limit the availability of staff to test and simulate various scenarios.

8. The KMS continues to offer significant value aligned with the project's original objectives. The availability of real-time data and reports will streamline Secretariat processes, while APIs ensure interoperability across modules and facilitate reporting via dashboards and country profiles.

9. In conclusion, the development of the KMS is progressing steadily, with most modules nearing completion and deployment in 2026. While some delays have occurred due to the complexity of requirements and the depth of testing needed, these are being actively managed through "Agile development", which consists of phased rollouts and iterative improvements.

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
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

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
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	
In October 2025, 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 discussions held at the 96 th Executive Committee meeting relating to the update on the operationalization of the energy efficiency revolving fund for end users according to decision 95/87(h), and shared decision 96/51 adopting the framework and modalities for operationalizing the revolving fund window. The Secretariat also shared information on projects approved at the 96 th meeting under the pilot project funding window for energy efficiency, and the documents prepared by the Secretariat and submitted to the 96 th meeting on this matter.	97
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 at the 94 th meeting under the pilot project funding window for energy efficiency.	95
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
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
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
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

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
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
The Fund Secretariat's experience in establishing legal arrangements with implementing entities and establishing a progress reporting system for the Multilateral Fund.	76

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
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
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

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
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
Eric and Wendy Schmidt Center for Data Science and Environment (DSE), University of California, Berkeley	
A side event was held by the Secretariat and the DSE at the 47 th meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group of the Montreal Protocol, allowing for a demonstration of the tool relating to HFC consumption assessment, trend analysis and impact of different policy interventions on HFC consumption projections, and collection of feedback from attendees.	97

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
Two countries were identified for further discussions on using the tool for the HFC consumption related assessment. In February 2025, the technical experts from the DSE 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 by one of the countries and this was used by the technical experts for appropriately incorporating those inputs in the tool.	96
A workshop was held in October 2024 between the DSE and the Secretariat to discuss the features of an interactive user-friendly model for HFC consumption assessment, trend analysis, and impact assessment 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 DSE is expected to be used by countries to make assessments of HFC consumption trends and to understand the impact of 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 centre 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

Secretariat advice/discussions held/interaction	Meeting
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
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 Multilateral fund 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