UNITED NATIONS

EP

United Nations Environment Programme

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/98/31
14 May 2026

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Ninety-eighth Meeting
Montreal, 22–26 June 2026
Item 8(c) of the provisional agenda[1]

PROJECT PROPOSAL: CABO VERDE

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

Phase-out

• HCFC phase-out management plan (stage II, second tranche)	UNEP	Blanket approval

[1] UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/98/1

PROJECT EVALUATION SHEET – MULTI-YEAR PROJECTS

Cabo Verde

PROJECT TITLE	AGENCY	MEETING APPROVED	CONTROL MEASURE
HCFC phase-out plan (stage II)	UNEP (lead)	88th	100% phase-out by 2030

ARTICLE 7 DATA (Annex C, Group I)	Year: 2024	0.00 ODP tonnes

COUNTRY PROGRAMME SECTORAL DATA (ODP tonnes)							Year: 2024
Substance	Aerosol	Foam	Firefighting	Refrigeration		Solvent	Total sector consumption
				Manufacturing	Servicing		
HCFC-22					0.00		0.00

CONSUMPTION DATA (ODP tonnes)			
2009–2010 baseline:	1.10	Starting point for sustained aggregate reductions:	0.25
CONSUMPTION ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING			
Already approved:	0.25	Remaining:	0.00

ENDORSED BUSINESS PLAN		2026	2027	2028	Total
UNEP	ODS phase-out (ODP tonnes)	0.05	0.03	0.00	0.08
	Funding (US $)	*261,030	89,270	0	350,300

*Including US $113,000 for UNEP for additional activities to maintain energy efficiency (decision 89/6)

PROJECT DATA			2021	2022-2024	2025	*2026	2027	***2028	2029	2030	Total
Consumption (ODP tonnes)	Montreal Protocol limits		0.72	0.72	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	0	n/a
	Maximum allowable		0.04	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0	n/a
Amounts approved in principle (US $)	UNEP	Project costs	173,000	0	0	**231,000	0	79,000	0	44,500	527,500
		Support costs	22,490	0	0	29,672	0	10,147	0	5,716	68,025
Funds approved by ExCom (US $)		Project costs	173,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	173,000
		Support costs	22,490	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22,490
Total funds recommended for approval at this meeting (US $)		Project costs				231,000					231,000
		Support costs				29,672					29,672

*The second tranche was originally scheduled for submission in 2024.
**Funding for 2026 includes US $100,000, plus agency support costs of US $12,845, for UNEP, for additional activities to maintain energy efficiency (decision 89/6).
***The third tranche, originally scheduled for submission in 2027, is proposed for 2028 to allow time for second tranche implementation.

Secretariat's recommendation:	Blanket approval

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. On behalf of the Government of Cabo Verde, UNEP as the designated implementing agency has submitted a request for funding for the second tranche of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP), in the amount of US $231,000, plus agency support costs of US $29,672.[2] The submission includes a progress report on the implementation of the first tranche, a request for funding additional activities to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector,[3] and the tranche implementation plan for June 2026 to December 2027.

Report on HCFC consumption

2. The Government of Cabo Verde reported a consumption of 0.00 ODP tonnes of HCFCs in 2024, which is 100 per cent below the country's HCFC baseline for compliance. The 2025 consumption has been estimated at 0.00 ODP tonnes, but it is still to be reported both under Article 7 and the country programme implementation report (CP). The 2020–2024 HCFC consumption is shown in table 1.

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

HCFC-22	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Baseline
Metric tonnes (mt)	0.80	0.80	0.70	0.10	0.00	20.1
ODP tonnes	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.01	0.00	1.10

3. HCFC consumption in Cabo Verde has been steadily declining, exceeding the targets agreed with the Executive Committee of a 96 per cent reduction of the country's baseline by 2022 and a 98 per cent reduction by 2025. At the 88th meeting, it was reported that the 2020 HCFC consumption had been considerably affected by supply disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic slowdown in the country; however, there was no subsequent recovery in HCFC consumption. The Government of Cabo Verde reported negligible to zero HCFC consumption for two consecutive years. The Government stopped issuing import authorisations for the import of HCFC-based equipment in 2020 and officially introduced a ban on this equipment that came into force on 1 January 2025. The country reports that there may be some continued servicing demand in domestic air-conditioning (AC), commercial refrigeration, and transport refrigeration.

Country programme implementation report

4. The HCFC consumption data provided by the Government of Cabo Verde in its CP implementation report for 2024 is consistent with the data reported under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol.

Status of implementation of stage I of the HCFC phase-out management plan

5. Stage I of the HPMP was completed on 31 December 2021. The project completion report was submitted on 13 March 2023.

[2] As per the letter of 2 April 2026 from the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment of Cabo Verde to the Secretariat.
[3] In line with decision 89/6, low-volume-consuming countries can include in their HPMPs additional activities for the introduction of alternatives to HCFCs with low or zero global-warming potential and for maintaining energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector.

Progress report on the implementation of the first tranche of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan

Legal framework

6. The control of HCFCs and HCFC-based equipment in Cabo Verde was established in July 2011. Cabo Verde ratified the Kigali Amendment on 28 October 2020. The country has established the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency to reduce demand for electricity and ensure adequate health conditions and indoor thermal comfort. In 2019, the National System of Labeling and Requirements for Electrical Equipment (SNEREE) was established, which requires specified information to be provided to the end user through labelling, documentation and minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) for import and commercialization of six household appliances, including air conditioners and domestic refrigerators.[4] Technical documentation requirements state that every appliance must be accompanied by a product data sheet containing the energy efficiency class, indicative annual energy consumption, and the name and global warming potential (GWP) of the refrigerant used, accompanied by a prescribed text on the climate implications of refrigerant leakage.

7. Under the first tranche of the HPMP, the Harmonized System (HS) codes were revised;[5] importers were required to submit annual reports of their HCFC-22 imports to the national ozone unit (NOU) since 2023, and a database was created in February 2024, to support reporting and monitoring. The sustained reduction in HCFC consumption for servicing has been supported by a ban on the import of new HCFC-based equipment and a ban on flushing with HCFCs, which came into force on 1 January 2025.

8. During the implementation of the first tranche activities, the NOU faced challenges procuring refrigerant identifiers. Funds for this activity were used instead to train additional customs officers and refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) service technicians. A total of seven workshops were organized to train six customs trainers and 155 customs officers (including 48 women) on updated regulations, revised customs codes, and inspection of shipments. A total of 200 copies of three sets of OzonAction publications and information tools were locally translated and distributed to all customs training participants. The NOU, in collaboration with the customs services, has conducted a dozen import checks at border crossing points, in shops and in large enterprises that use ODS.

Refrigeration servicing sector

9. Under the first tranche, three RAC technician trainers were trained and two were certified on best maintenance practices and handling of fluorinated gases. A meeting was held with the training centres to discuss the certification scheme, and an agreement was reached on the certifying centres to be established during the second tranche. The two RAC associations were supported in conducting meetings and carrying out awareness-building activities and training sessions. The RAC associations assessed the HCFC-based installed equipment in 2023 and 2024, proposed corrective measures and based on the results of those assessments, conducted trainings in the workshops organised by the NOU.

10. A total of seven workshops were organized to train four RAC trainers, and 140 RAC technicians (including 21 women) on good servicing practices and managing flammable refrigerants. An agreement was

[4] *Portaria* 66/2020 Air Conditioners: Air conditioners are classified using a Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER). The regulation uses a ten-class rating scale from G to A+++. The minimum class for import and commercialization is class C (SEER $\geqslant$ 4.10) and the voluntary Cabo Verde efficiency seal may only be applied to appliances achieving at least class A (SEER $\geqslant$ 5.10).
Portaria 67/2020 Refrigerators: Domestic refrigerators are classified using an Energy Efficiency Index (IEE). The regulation uses a ten-class rating scale from G to A+++. The minimum class for import and commercialization is class B (IEE < 75) and the voluntary Cabo Verde efficiency seal may only be applied to appliances achieving at least class A (IEE < 55).

[5] The country is currently using 2022 HS-codes.

signed with two additional technical training colleges to include recovery and recycling of HCFCs and handling of hydrocarbons (HC) in their curricula. A third agreement, aimed at strengthening capacity building in management and control of refrigerant gases, is being explored with a cold storage centre. Twelve sets of servicing tools were procured and distributed to four technical training colleges to strengthen capacity for safe and efficient RAC maintenance.[6]

11. Awareness campaigns were conducted in schools, and in 2024 and 2025, the Government released official statements on its social media channels, accompanied by nationwide distribution of posters and information panels, and a display at the National Agricultural Show; and two workshops were organized to inform key stakeholders about zero- and low-GWP technologies.

Project implementation and monitoring

12. The NOU supervised and monitored the activities under the HPMP and ensured that all activities were carried out on time. All of the US $10,000 approved for project monitoring activities under the first tranche was disbursed, including for project staff and consultants (US $6,000), domestic travel (US $2,500), and meetings (US $1,500).

Level of fund disbursement

13. As of April 2026, of the US $173,000 approved for the first tranche, US $168,430 had been disbursed. The balance of US $4,570 will be disbursed in 2026 during the implementation of the second tranche.

Implementation plan for the second tranche of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan

14. The following were the activities originally submitted to be implemented by UNEP between July 2026 and December 2027:

(a) Strengthening legislation to control HCFC imports: Development and drafting of legislation to ban the import of HCFCs as of 1 January 2030 (US $5,000);

(b) Capacity-building for customs and enforcement officers: Update HS codes, adjust the customs import software and conduct inspections as needed; conduct five training sessions for a total of 100 customs officers and other law enforcement agents on updated regulations, updated HS codes and inspection of shipments (US $35,000);

(c) Establishment and operation of a mandatory certification scheme for RAC servicing: Operationalize the mandatory certification scheme for RAC technicians as of 1 January 2027, including development of a code of conduct and guidance on the certification process, stakeholder consultation, establishing two certifying centres, training at least two teachers abroad to become certifiers, and initial certification of 25 technicians (US $30,000 and US $4,570 from the previous tranche);

(d) Capacity-building of RAC servicing technicians: Conduct five sessions to train 100 RAC technicians in good servicing practices and safe management of flammable refrigerants (US $25,000); continue to support RAC associations in carrying out meetings,

[6] Including in each set: three pipes, valve remover tool, inspection mirror, multiple flaring device, flaring tool, pipe cutter, electronic thermometer, ratchet wrench, bending springs, and electronic scales.

awareness-building activities and training sessions (US $6,000); procure at least 12 sets of tools for distribution in technical training colleges[7] (US $20,000);

(e) Activities to maintain energy efficiency: These activities are described in detail in the following section (US $100,000); and

(f) Project monitoring: Monitoring the activities under the HPMP (US $10,000) including consultants (US $6,000), domestic travel (US $2,500) and meetings (US $1,500).

Activities to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector

15. The project related to energy efficiency, submitted in line with decision 89/6, has been designed to promote the labelling, MEPS and low-GWP and energy-efficient appliances in the tourism sector through a pilot technical package and sustainable procurement guidelines for the tourism sector and an updated curricula for technician training to include energy efficiency in support of MEPS and labelling. The description and proposed cost breakdown of activities to maintain energy efficiency in the sector include:

(a) Pilot framework for the use of energy-efficient, low-GWP RAC equipment in the tourism sector:[8] A market survey of low-GWP and MEPS-compliant RAC equipment; a technology assessment of availability and suitability; assessment of current installed equipment in the sector; cost-benefit analysis and future projections on energy savings; design of the pilot and site selection;[9] preparation of a pilot technical package for the identified site, including scope of equipment replacement or upgrade, projected energy savings and emission reductions, investment cost estimates, and a monitoring and verification methodology replicable across the sector; development of a sustainable procurement guide for the tourism sector covering MEPS aligned with the SNEREE regulations *Portarias*; outreach and inter-ministerial coordination (US $55,000); and

(b) Technician training: Technician needs assessment to identify energy efficiency knowledge and skill gaps; development of curriculum and training materials; integration of energy efficiency competencies into the technician certification system for formal adoption; a training session for RAC trainers with the updated modules for 15 trainers; four training workshops for a total of 100 technicians (US $45,000).

SECRETARIAT'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION

COMMENTS

Verification report

16. UNEP indicated that the verification report on HCFC consumption for 2021 to 2025 had not yet been finalised and would therefore be submitted in the coming weeks. In line with decision 72/19, the transfer of any approved funds for tranches to UNEP would occur only after receipt by the Secretariat of the

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[7] Including: Pipes, valve remover tools, inspection mirrors, multiple flaring devices, flaring tools, pipe cutters, electronic thermometers, ratchet wrenches, bending springs, and electronic scales.

[8] The tourism sector is a key driver of economic growth in Cabo Verde, contributing to 25 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (National Statistics Institute).

[9] A national procurement process will outline engagement details, commitment and co-financing requirements, allocation of human resources.

verification report confirming that the country had been in compliance with the Montreal Protocol and the Agreement between its Government and the Executive Committee.

Submission delays

17. The second tranche was scheduled for 2024 according to the Agreement between the Government of Cabo Verde and the Executive Committee. At its 96th meeting, the Committee noted the delays in implementation due to the structural changes within the Government and urged it to work with UNEP so that the second tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 97th meeting with a revised plan of action.[10] Further delays were due to continuous changes in the Government and a new national ozone officer was only appointed in 2025. UNEP indicated that the current NOU has demonstrated strong commitment and dedication to ensuring the timely implementation of planned activities.

Progress report on the implementation of the first tranche of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan

Legal framework

18. The Government of Cabo Verde has issued HCFC import quotas for 2026 at 0.02 ODP tonnes, which is lower than the Montreal Protocol control targets and is in accordance with the country's Agreement with the Executive Committee.

Certification scheme

19. The Secretariat enquired about the steps that had taken place in preparation for the establishment of a certification scheme. UNEP indicated that only one activity could be implemented, as it proved very difficult to find a Portuguese-speaking international consultant to lead the process. As a result, UNEP developed an initiative grouping countries together to optimize costs and to leverage technical expertise across the group. Two trainers, who would serve as future certifiers were trained under this initiative. Under the same initiative, during the second tranche, the certification scheme will be designed according to the specific needs of each country and will involve: the organization of stakeholder workshops and field visits to collect relevant data; assessing training centres to evaluate available equipment and recommend improvements; the development of labour competency standards and certification procedures; and the establishment of two certifying centres. The certification scheme would be operationalized as of mid-2028; an initial certification of 25 technicians would take place during the third tranche. UNEP explained that the Government was not yet ready to make certification mandatory, as had been originally planned, since several preliminary steps still needed to be completed before any regulatory and administrative measures could be taken in this regard.

Implementation plan for the second tranche of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan

20. The Secretariat observed that a few of the activities planned for implementation had already been carried out under the first tranche and discussed how these activities would add to the work already completed without any overlap, and enquired whether some funding might be used to increase training, and inter-island dialogue to exchange information and develop common procedures for identification and prevention of potential illegal trade, which is a continuing activity.

[10] Decision 96/20

21. Following discussion, it was agreed that the activities for the second tranche implementation would be revised as follows:

(a) Capacity-building for customs and enforcement officers: Conduct six training sessions for a total of 120 customs officers and other law enforcement agents on updated regulations, revised customs codes and inspection of shipments (US $30,000);

(b) Establishment and operation of a mandatory certification scheme for RAC servicing: Operationalize the certification scheme for RAC technicians as of mid-2028, including development of a code of practice and guidance on the certification process, stakeholder consultation, establishing two certifying centres (US $40,000 and US $4,570 from the previous tranche);

(c) Capacity-building of RAC servicing technicians: Conduct six sessions to train 120 RAC technicians in good servicing practices and safe management of flammable refrigerants (US $31,000); procure at least 12 sets of tools for distribution in technical training colleges[11] (US $20,000);

(d) Activities to maintain energy efficiency: These activities are described in paragraph 15 above (US $100,000); and

(e) Project monitoring: Monitoring the activities under the HPMP (US $10,000) including consultants (US $6,000), domestic travel (US $2,500) and meetings (US $1,500).

Activities to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector

22. In line with decision 89/6(d), UNEP has included in the tranche implementation plan the specific actions, performance indicators and funding associated with additional activities to maintain energy efficiency.

Gender policy implementation

23. During the implementation of the first tranche, the NOU collected sex-disaggregated data from workshops and meetings and from the recruitment of staff, experts and consultants to ascertain the level of participation by women. It was reported that 29 per cent of the participants in the training for customs and enforcement officers, and 15 per cent of the participants in the technician training and one of the consultants hired, were women. The NOU will continue to maintain sex-disaggregated records regarding participation in the various activities of the project and relevant achievements.

Updated Agreement

24. In view of the inclusion of funding for additional activities to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector and the accordingly revised funding schedule, the delayed submission of the second tranche, and the postponement of the third tranche, the Agreement between the Government of Cabo Verde and the Executive Committee has been updated. Specifically, Appendix 2-A has been revised, and paragraph 17 has been added to indicate that the updated Agreement supersedes that reached at the 88th meeting, as contained in annex I to the present document. The full updated Agreement will be appended to the final report of the 98th meeting.

[11] Including: pipes, valve remover tools, inspection mirrors, multiple flaring devices, flaring tools, pipe cutters, electronic thermometers, ratchet wrenches, bending springs, and electronic scales.

Sustainability of the HCFC phase-out and assessment of risks

25. Cabo Verde has made significant strides in adopting a robust regulatory framework to enforce controls, ensuring compliance with the HCFC consumption targets under its Agreement with the Executive Committee. The country continues efforts to ensure the long-term sustainability of the HPMP achievements while phasing out legacy HCFCs in the country. To progressively eliminate the national demand for HCFC-22, no HCFC-based equipment has been imported since 2020. Equipment importers, distributors, and retailers have been engaged and sensitized on the bans that entered into force in 2025. This, coupled with the capacity that is being built for customs and other border enforcement agencies, will ensure effective enforcement of the ban. Continued training RAC technicians on the safe use of low-GWP refrigerants will ensure that they have the required capacity to facilitate a smooth transition. A certification scheme will be introduced during the second tranche, which will include up-to-date RAC servicing and energy efficiency competencies.

Conclusion

26. Cabo Verde has achieved significant progress during the implementation of the first tranche. The Government has been enforcing its HCFC import and export licensing and quota system and adopted a ban on the import of HCFC-based equipment and a ban on flushing with HCFCs, which have been in force since 1 January 2025. The Government of Cabo Verde reported negligible consumption of HCFC in 2023 (0.01 ODP tonnes) and zero consumption in 2024. The tools procured for technical training colleges will support training activities to be conducted in the second tranche. Ninety-seven per cent of the funding for the first tranche was disbursed. Implementation of the second tranche activities will assist the country in maintaining the current levels of consumption and ensuring full phase-out by 2030. UNEP is committed to submit the outstanding verification report in the coming weeks.

RECOMMENDATION

27. The Fund Secretariat recommends that the Executive Committee note:

(a) The progress report on the implementation of the first tranche of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) for Cabo Verde;

(b) The submission of additional activities to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector in the amount of US $100,000, plus agency support costs of US $12,845, for UNEP; and

(c) That the Fund Secretariat has updated the Agreement between the Government of Cabo Verde and the Executive Committee, as contained in annex I to the present document, specifically: Appendix 2-A based on the revised funding level due to the inclusion of funding for additional activities to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector referred to in subparagraph (b) above, the delayed submission of the second tranche, and the postponement of the third tranche; and paragraph 17 that has been added to indicate that the updated Agreement supersedes that reached at the 88^{th} meeting.

28. The Fund Secretariat further recommends blanket approval of the second tranche of stage II of the HPMP for Cabo Verde, and the corresponding 2026–2027 tranche implementation plan, at the funding level shown in the table below, on the understanding that the approved funds will not be transferred to UNEP until the Secretariat has reviewed the verification report and confirmed that Cabo Verde was in compliance with the Montreal Protocol and the Agreement between the Government and the Executive Committee.

	Project title	Project funding (US $)	Support costs (US $)	Implementing agency
(a)	HCFC phase-out management plan (stage II, second tranche)	231,000	29,672	UNEP

Annex I

TEXT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE UPDATED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF CABO VERDE AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE REDUCTION IN CONSUMPTION OF HYDROCHLOROFLUOROCARBONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STAGE II OF THE HCFC PHASE-OUT MANAGEMENT PLAN

(Relevant changes are in bold font for ease of reference)

17. **This updated Agreement supersedes the Agreement reached between the Government of Cabo Verde and the Executive Committee at the 88th meeting of the Executive Committee.**

APPENDIX 2-A: THE TARGETS, AND FUNDING

Row	Particulars	2021	2022-2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total
1.1	Montreal Protocol reduction schedule of Annex C, Group I substances (ODP tonnes)	0.72	0.72	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	0	n/a
1.2	Maximum allowable total consumption of Annex C, Group I substances (ODP tonnes)	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0	n/a
2.1	Lead IA (UNEP) agreed funding (US $)	173,000	**0**	0	**231,000**	**0**	**79,000**	0	44,500	**527,500**
2.2	Support costs for Lead IA (US $)	22,490	**0**	0	**29,672**	**0**	**10,147**	0	**5,716**	**68,025**
3.1	Total agreed funding (US $)	173,000	**0**	0	**231,000**	**0**	**79,000**	0	44,500	**527,500**
3.2	Total support costs (US $)	22,490	**0**	0	**29,672**	**0**	**10,147**	0	**5,716**	**68,025**
3.3	Total agreed costs (US $)	195,490	**0**	0	**260,672**	**0**	**89,147**	0	**50,216**	**595,525**
4.1.1	Total phase-out of HCFC-22 agreed to be achieved under this Agreement (ODP tonnes)									0.16
4.1.2	Phase-out of HCFC-22 to be achieved in the previous stage (ODP tonnes)									0.09
4.1.3	Remaining eligible consumption for HCFC-22 (ODP tonnes)									0.00

*Date of completion of stage I as per stage I Agreement: 31 December 2021.