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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Ninety-sixth Meeting
Montreal, 26-30 May 2025
Item 14 of the provisional agenda

Addendum

**SUMMARY AND OUTCOMES OF THE DISCUSSION IN THE HALF-DAY SESSIONS
HELD TO DATE ON STRATEGIC APPROACHES TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
KIGALI AMENDMENT AND THE CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE COOLING
OF ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY THE MULTILATERAL FUND (DECISION 95/96)**

Introduction

1. The third informal half-day session on strategic approaches to Kigali Amendment implementation for sustainable HFC phase-down and the contribution of Multilateral Fund activities to sustainable cooling (decision 95/96) was held at the headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization in Montreal, Canada, on 25 May 2025.
2. The session was attended by members and co-opted members of the Executive Committee, representatives of bilateral and implementing agencies, and observers.

Summary and outcomes from the third half-day session

3. The agenda of the third half-day session included two main parts: part A on enabling comprehensive and forward-thinking Kigali HFC implementation plans (KIPs) while promoting sustainable cooling, and part B on institutional drivers to support KIPs implementation along with sustainable cooling and energy efficiency. Part A at the third half-day session was anchored around two topics: (1) how to bridge KIPs with national priorities on economic sectors and emerging sectors with HFC consumption growth, and (2) how to best engage end-users and inspire innovation in the service sector.
4. Four international experts shared their thoughts, through pre-recorded videos, on designing a multi-faceted implementation strategy related to Montreal Protocol targets, emerging cooling demand for data centres, inspiring digitalization in the servicing sector, and the importance of institutionalizing the cooling sector and its value to the national economy.

5. Discussions were kicked off by 2-3 pre-selected participants to present thoughts about each of the topics included under parts A and B. The report of the informal third half-day session, contained in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/96/Inf.3, includes details of the discussions.

Overarching takeaways

6. The overarching takeaways from the third half-day session captured from the discussions and interventions from participants are summarized as follows:

- (a) Recognition of the need for a holistic approach that considers national priorities and emerging sectors to contribute to sustainable cooling. Opportunities include strengthening the national ozone unit's positioning via collaboration, coordination, and engagement with government ministries and agencies, local industry, and professional associations to leverage more impacts from Kigali Amendment implementation; collecting high-quality data and ensuring data collection occurs on a more regular basis so that the data analyses can inform the holistic approach, especially as it relates to informing actions on the country's installed base; using the Multilateral Fund as a catalyst for unlocking other financial opportunities to foster the holistic approach;
- (b) Leveraging regional cooperation platforms to strengthen access to lower/low-GWP alternatives, increasing supply chain buying power, and supporting the sustainability of small and medium-sized enterprises beyond Montreal Protocol compliance, as well as coordinated technician training and certification packages; and
- (c) In relation to how to best engage end-users and inspire innovation in the service sector, there is a need to move large and small end-users (consumers) towards behavioural change by promoting preventative maintenance through increasing end-user engagement/knowledge, competency-based mandatory certification, strengthening enforcement related to sustaining the phase-down, creating awareness tools that speak towards highlighting economic benefits for technicians, and leveraging behavioural change from public procurement. There is a need to consider transforming the servicing sector through the use of digital tools including, inter alia, virtual training and servicing tools, utilization of artificial intelligence as feasible, and utilizing the influence of refrigeration and air-conditioning associations to disseminate technical knowledge.