

Annex VI

VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON RENEWAL OF THE INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING PROJECTS APPROVED AT THE 81st MEETING

Bahrain

1. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening (IS) project for Bahrain (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that Bahrain reported 2017 country programme implementation data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively and is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee also noted that within the framework of the IS project, Bahrain achieved the ten per cent reduction in HCFC consumption in 2015 and is on track to achieve future obligations. The Executive Committee encouraged Bahrain to enhance further the on-going regulatory efforts by the implementation of the monitoring system to ensure compliance and effective control of HCFCs consumption. The Executive Committee noted with appreciation the efforts of Bahrain to reduce HCFC consumption and is therefore hopeful that, within the next two years, the country will continue with the implementation of stage I of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) and IS project to enable the country to achieve 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020 and lay the ground for ratification of the Kigali Amendment.

Belize

2. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Belize (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that Belize reported 2017 country programme implementation data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats indicating that the country is in compliance with Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that Belize has a structured licensing and quota system and that stage I of the HPMP is being implemented in an efficient and timely manner including activities such as capacity building for customs and refrigeration technicians, and awareness and outreach activities. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that the Government of Belize will continue activities both at the policy and project levels to enable the country to meet the targets of the Montreal Protocol.

Burundi

3. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Burundi (phase VIII) and noted with appreciation that Burundi reported 2017 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee further noted that Burundi has taken steps to phase out its consumption of ODS, namely the implementation of ODS imports controls through a licensing and quota system, and training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee appreciates the efforts of Burundi to reduce HCFC consumption is therefore hopeful that, within the next two years, Burundi will continue with the implementation of stage I of the HPMP and IS project to enable the country to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Cabo Verde

4. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Cape Verde (phase VI) and noted with appreciation that the country has reported 2017 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that an operational ODS import/export licensing and HCFC quota system is in place and the national ozone unit (NOU) coordinated the implementation of stage I of the

HPMP, which has demonstrated the country's commitment to the phase-out of HCFC consumption. The Executive Committee is therefore hopeful that, in the next two years, Cabo Verde will continue with the implementation of ODS phase out activities to enable the country to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Congo

5. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Congo (phase X) and noted with appreciation that the country has reported 2016 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the NOU to coordinate the implementation of the HPMP and its commitment to the phase-out of HCFC consumption. The Executive Committee is therefore hopeful that, in the next two years, Congo will make efforts to ensure the timely submission of country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat and continue with the implementation of HCFC phase out and IS activities to enable the country to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Djibouti

6. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Djibouti (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that Djibouti reported 2016 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that Djibouti has taken steps to reduce the consumption of HCFCs and is therefore hopeful that, within the next two years, Djibouti will make efforts to ensure the timely submission of country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat and will continue with the implementation of stage I of the HPMP and IS project activities to enable the country to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Dominica

7. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Dominica (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that the country reported country programme and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, despite the devastating hurricane that hit the country in September 2017. The Executive Committee further acknowledged with appreciation that Dominica is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee noted that the first tranche of stage I the HPMP for Dominica is being implemented according to prevailing circumstances despite the delay in the submission of the second tranche of stage I of the HPMP. The Executive Committee is therefore hopeful that Dominica will continue activities both at the project and policy levels to enable the country to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Egypt

8. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the IS project for Egypt (phase XII) and noted with appreciation that the country reported 2017 country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat, and 2016 Article 7 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation the progress achieved by the Government to control HCFCs including the ban on the use of HCFC-141b contained in pre-blended polyols, which came into effect on 1 January 2018, and the commitment to ban the import, use and export of HCFC-141b in bulk and the export of HCFC-141b contained in pre-blended polyols by 1 January 2020, to ban the use of HCFCs and blends of HCFCs in the manufacture of extruded polystyrene foam by 1 January 2023, and to ban the import of HCFC-142b

and blends of HCFC-142b by 1 January 2023. The Executive Committee is pleased that the Government of Egypt is committed to ratify the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee is hopeful that in the next two years, the country will continue the implementation of its HPMP and IS project to prepare the country to achieve the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Equatorial Guinea

9. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Equatorial Guinea (phase III) and noted with appreciation that Equatorial Guinea reported 2017 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee further noted that Equatorial Guinea has taken steps to phase out its consumption of ODS and is therefore hopeful that, within the next two years, the Government of Equatorial Guinea will ensure that the country has an operational licensing and quota system, and continue to implement stage I of the HPMP and IS project to enable the country to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Gabon

10. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Gabon (phase X) and noted with appreciation that Gabon has been in compliance with its Article 7 data reporting and HCFC phase-out obligations under the Montreal Protocol and that an operational ODS import/export licensing and HCFC quota system is in place. The Executive Committee noted that Gabon submitted country programme implementation data for 2017 to the Secretariat and that the country has trained refrigeration technicians and customs officers, gained stakeholders support through steering committee and consultation meetings, raised the public awareness on ozone protection and ratified the Kigali Amendment. The Executive Committee is therefore confident that Gabon will continue implementing stage I of the HPMP and IS project in a timely and effective manner to enable the country to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Georgia

11. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the IS project for Georgia (phase X) and noted with appreciation that Georgia reported 2016 and 2017 country programme implementation data and Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively, and is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation that Georgia has demonstrated its commitment to the phase-out of HCFC consumption through gradual reductions in import and use of HCFCs and reached a consumption of 2.1 ODP tonnes in 2017 which is 49 per cent below its allowed level for that year. In this regard, the Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Georgia in implementing stage I of the HPMP and is therefore hopeful that Georgia is on track to achieve the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption by 1 January 2020 required under the Montreal Protocol.

Grenada

12. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the IS project for Grenada (phase VI) and noted with appreciation that the country reported 2016 and 2017 country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat, and also 2016 Article 7 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating Grenada is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that the country has an operational licensing and quota system, and that the stage I of the HPMP is being implemented in an efficient and timely manner. The Executive Committee further noted with appreciation that the country has taken steps to initiate the ratification process for the Kigali

Amendment. The Executive Committee is, therefore, confident that the Government of Grenada will continue to focus on policy and project activities to enable the country to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Guatemala

13. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Guatemala (phase VIII) and noted with appreciation that Guatemala is in compliance with its Article 7 data reporting and HCFC phase-out obligations under the Montreal Protocol and that an operational ODS import/export licensing and HCFC quota system is in place. The Executive Committee noted that Guatemala submitted country programme implementation data for 2016 and 2017 to the Secretariat in a timely manner and that the country has carried-out public awareness and outreach activities to refrigeration technicians and end-users, gained stakeholders support through the strengthening of the refrigeration technicians and consultation meetings with other competent national authorities. Furthermore, the Executive Committee noted Guatemala is implementing enabling activities to support the ratification of the Kigali Amendment. The Executive Committee is therefore confident that Guatemala will continue implementing stage I of the HPMP and IS project in a timely and effective manner to enable the country to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Kuwait

14. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Kuwait (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that Kuwait reported 2017 country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat, and also 2016 Article 7 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee expects that the ongoing regulatory efforts will be further enhanced by the implementation of monitoring system put in place to ensure compliance and effective control of HCFCs consumption through implementation of HPMP. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Kuwait to reduce HCFC consumption and is therefore hopeful that, within the next two years, Kuwait will continue with the implementation of stage I of the HPMP and IS project to enable the country to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Kyrgyzstan

15. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Kyrgyzstan (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that the country has reported 2017 country programme implementation data and 2017 Article 7 data to the Fund and Ozone Secretariats, respectively. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation that Kyrgyzstan was in compliance with the Montreal Protocol and had met the 50 per cent HCFC consumption reduction target in 2017 in accordance with the HPMP Agreement with the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is therefore confident that, in the next two years, Kyrgyzstan will implement the accelerated schedule to phase out 97.5 per cent of HCFC consumption in 1 January 2020 in accordance with the HPMP Agreement.

Lao People's Democratic Republic

16. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Lao People's Democratic Republic (phase IX) and noted the country had reported 2017 county programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat, and 2016 Article 7 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that Lao People's Democratic Republic has a structured licensing and quota system and that stage I of the HPMP has been implemented in efficient and timely manner including capacity building for customs and refrigeration technicians, and mandatory labelling requirement of HCFC cylinders. The

Executive Committee commended the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic for the deposit of its instrument of ratification of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on 16 November 2017. The Executive Committee is therefore confident that the Government of Lao People's Democratic Republic will continue activities both at the policy and project levels to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Libya

17. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the IS project for Libya (phase V) and noted with appreciation that the country reported 2017 country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat, and 2017 Article 7 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is compliance with the plan of action to return to compliance set out in decision XXVII/11. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation that the national ozone unit was fully staffed, substantive progress was achieved in legislation enforcement, the licensing and quota system was operating, and the country had advanced HCFC consumption phase-out to comply with the targets agreed in the plan of action to return to compliance. The Executive Committee noted that Libya would continue to closely monitor HCFC distribution by sub-sectors, which will be critical to attain the mandatory HCFC phase-out targets, and in view of preparing the country for future commitments related to the Kigali Amendment. The Executive Committee appreciates the efforts of Libya to reduce HCFC consumption, and is therefore hopeful that, in the next two years, Libya will continue with the implementation of its HPMP and IS project to prepare the country to achieve the reductions in HCFC consumption required under decision XXVII/11 of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol.

Maldives

18. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Maldives (phase X) and noted with appreciation that Maldives reported Article 7 data indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol in 2016. Furthermore, the Executive Committee commended the Government of Maldives for the deposit of its instrument of ratification of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on 13 November 2017. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation that Maldives has operational licensing and quota system in place, financial incentives and awareness campaigns to promote low-GWP alternatives, that the country has carried out capacity building of service technicians and enforcement officers, and are targeting different sectors, such as tourism and fisheries. The Executive Committee is therefore confident that, in the next two years, Maldives will successfully prepare for the complete phase-out of HCFCs by 2020 (except for 2.4 per cent for servicing needs) in accordance with the HPMP Agreement.

Mali

19. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Mali (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that the country has reported 2017 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out obligations. The Executive Committee acknowledged with appreciation the efforts of the NOU to coordinate the implementation of stage I of the HPMP despite the circumstances in the country, which has demonstrated its commitment to HCFC consumption phase-out. Furthermore, the Executive Committee commended the Government of Mali for being the first country to deposit its instrument of ratification of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on 31 March 2017. The Executive Committee is therefore hopeful that, within the next two years, Mali will continue with the implementation of stage I of the HPMP and IS project activities with outstanding success to enable the country to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Mauritania

20. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Mauritania (phase VI) and noted with appreciation the re-establishment of the NOU in 2016 and the national ozone committee. The Executive Committee noted that Mauritania had reported 2017 Article 7 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee further noted that Mauritania has taken steps to incorporate the HCFC control measures into the licensing system, to prepare stage I of the HPMP, and has carried out a number of awareness activities. The Executive Committee is therefore hopeful that, within the next two years, Mauritania will implement stage I of the HPMP and IS project activities to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Nepal

21. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Nepal (phase X) and noted with appreciation that the country reported 2017 country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat, and 2017 Article 7 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that Nepal has an operational licensing and quota system in place, a ban on the import of HCFC-based equipment, has carried out capacity building of service technicians and enforcement officers, and is introducing low-GWP alternatives. The Executive Committee noted that the HPMP and IS projects will support the effort of the country to fulfil its HCFC reduction goals and is therefore hopeful that the Government of Nepal will continue to implement HCFC phase-out activities to enable the country to implement the accelerated HCFC phase-out schedule as formulated in the HPMP Agreement.

Nicaragua

22. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Nicaragua (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that Nicaragua submitted 2017 country programme implementation to the Fund Secretariat, is in compliance with its Article 7 data reporting and HCFC phase-out obligations under the Montreal Protocol, and that an operational ODS import/export licensing and HCFC quota system is in place. The Executive Committee noted that the country has trained refrigeration technicians, provided additional training equipment to vocational schools, gained stakeholders support through steering committee and consultation meetings and raised the public awareness on ozone protection. The Executive Committee is therefore confident that Nicaragua will continue implementing stage I of the HPMP and IS project in a timely and effective manner to enable the country to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Saint-Kitts and Nevis

23. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Saint Kitts and Nevis (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that the country reported 2017 country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with the phase-out targets set out in the HPMP agreement, and also 2016 Article 7 data to the Ozone Secretariat indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee further noted that Saint Kitts and Nevis implemented ODS imports controls through a licensing and quota system, and trained customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of Saint Kitts and Nevis to reduce HCFC consumption, and is therefore hopeful that, in the next two years, Saint Kitts and Nevis will continue the implementation of stage I of the HPMP and IS project to achieve compliance with the 35 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required under the Montreal Protocol by 1 January 2020.

Seychelles

24. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Seychelles (phase VIII) and noted with appreciation that Seychelles submitted its country programme implementation data for 2017 in advance of the deadline, and reported 2017 Article 7 data indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee appreciates the efforts of Seychelles to reduce imports of HCFCs and expressed the expectation that in the next two years, Seychelles will continue with the implementation of the licensing and quota system and reduce HCFC consumption as part of its efforts to achieve complete HCFC phase-out in advance of the Montreal Protocol schedule.

Sudan

25. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the IS project for Sudan (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that Sudan reported 2017 country programme implementation data to the Fund Secretariat, and 2016 Article 7 data to the Ozone Secretariat, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Executive Committee acknowledged that Sudan has a licensing and quota system, and that the country had carried out training of customs officers, refrigeration technicians and awareness-raising activities. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Sudan, and is therefore confident that Sudan will continue activities both at the policy and project levels to enable the country to reduce HCFC consumption in accordance with the agreement with the Executive Committee.