

Annex XXVI

VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON RENEWAL OF INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING PROJECTS SUBMITTED TO THE 95TH MEETING

Armenia

1. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Armenia (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that Armenia reported Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee further noted that Armenia had been implementing the monitoring system for the consumption of controlled substances, organized regular meetings with Customs and other governmental institutions, coordinated activities with all stakeholders involved, and organized numerous awareness raising activities including the celebration of World Ozone Day. The Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Armenia and is therefore hopeful that, within the next three years, the Government of Armenia will submit stage III of the HCFC phase-out management plan and continue the implementation of activities including stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan with success to maintain compliance with the control measures of the Montreal Protocol.

Bahamas

2. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for the Bahamas (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that the Bahamas submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, demonstrating compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee acknowledged the licensing system for HFCs in the Bahamas. The Committee encouraged the Government to maintain momentum as it seeks to sustain the phase-out achieved and remain in compliance with the Montreal Protocol and implement activities under the tranches of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan and its commitments under the Kigali Amendment.

Barbados

3. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Barbados (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that Barbados submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee noted that the Government continued to effectively implement the licensing system for HCFCs and HFCs and sustained compliance with the targets under the Montreal Protocol and its Agreement with the Executive Committee for HCFC phase-out, and with the Kigali Amendment obligations. The Committee acknowledged the dedication of the country in implementing its ODS and HFC management programme and its activities. The Committee encouraged the Government to build on the measures put in place to ensure that the country maintains momentum as it seeks to sustain HCFC phase-out achievements and comply with the HFC phase-down as stipulated in the Kigali Amendment.

Belize

4. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Belize (phase XII) and noted with appreciation that Belize submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee noted that the Government continued to effectively implement the licensing system for HCFCs and HFCs through the National Single Window system and sustained compliance with the targets under the Montreal

Protocol and its Agreement with the Executive Committee for HCFC phase-out, and with the Kigali Amendment obligations. The Committee acknowledged the dedication of the country in implementing ODS phase-out and HFC phase-down activities. The Committee encouraged the Government to build on the measures put in place to ensure that the country maintains momentum as it seeks to sustain HCFC phase-out achievements and comply with the HFC phase-down as stipulated in the Kigali Amendment.

Bhutan

5. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Bhutan (phase X) and noted with appreciation that Bhutan submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee noted that the Government is coordinating the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) for accelerated phase-out of HCFCs and is preparing the strategy and implementation plan for stage I of its Kigali HFC implementation plan. The Committee also noted the active participation of the country's national stakeholders in the training and awareness-raising activities and the World Ozone Day celebrations as well as the continued participation of the Government in the regional network events. The Committee is therefore hopeful that within the next three years, the Government of Bhutan will continue implementing its HPMP and institutional strengthening project with success, with the goal of achieving complete phase-out of HCFC consumption by 1 January 2025.

Botswana

6. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Botswana (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that Botswana submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee noted the implementation of the licensing and quota system, training of customs officers and refrigeration technicians, and public awareness-raising events and information dissemination, to curb HCFC consumption. The Committee acknowledged the efforts of Botswana to reduce the consumption of HCFCs and is therefore hopeful that, within the next three years, the Government of Botswana will continue the implementation of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan and the institutional strengthening activities with success to prepare the country to achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required by 1 January 2025.

Brunei Darussalam

7. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Brunei Darussalam (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that Brunei Darussalam submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee noted that the country maintained a robust licensing and quota system for HCFC trade control through the Brunei Darussalam National Single Window. The Committee noted with appreciation that the Government expedited ratification of the Kigali Amendment, which resulted in significant progress. The Committee is therefore hopeful that phase IX of the institutional strengthening project will assist Brunei Darussalam in complying with the Montreal Protocol obligations while ensuring gender mainstreaming in implementing the Montreal Protocol activities.

Central African Republic

8. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for the Central African Republic (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that the country submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2013 to 2023 to the Ozone and Fund

Secretariats, respectively, demonstrating its compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee also acknowledged the country's progress in phasing out ODS consumption through the enforcement of ODS import controls via a licensing and quota system despite the country's national circumstances. The Committee is therefore hopeful that the Central African Republic will be able to submit its HCFC phase-out management plan to achieve and sustain the next control target of the Montreal Protocol.

Côte d'Ivoire

9. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Côte d'Ivoire's (phase XI) and noted with appreciation that the country submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. Achievements were also noted in Côte d'Ivoire's efforts to phase out the consumption of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) during the project period. The Committee also noted the enforcement measures implemented to control ODS and HFC imports through a licensing and quota system, alongside the comprehensive training provided to customs officers and refrigeration technicians. Furthermore, Côte d'Ivoire's initiatives aimed at reducing HCFC and HFC consumption were noted. The Committee is therefore hopeful that, within the next three years, the Government will continue the implementation of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan and the institutional strengthening activities with success to prepare the country to achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required by 1 January 2025.

Egypt

10. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Egypt (phase XV) and noted with appreciation that Egypt had reported Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule and that the HCFC consumption does not exceed the annual maximum allowable consumption indicated in the Agreement with the Executive Committee. The Committee noted with appreciation the ratification of the Kigali Amendment on 22 August 2023. The Committee further noted Egypt had been implementing a monitoring system for the consumption of controlled substances, organized Steering Committee meetings, coordinated activities with stakeholders and organized awareness raising activities, including the celebration of International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, every year. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that in the next three years, the Government of Egypt will continue implementing activities under stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan and will prepare and submit stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan to enable the country to comply with the Montreal Protocol.

Fiji

11. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Fiji (phase XIV) and noted with appreciation that Fiji reported 2022 and 2023 Article 7 data and country programme data to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee also noted the Government of Fiji's efforts in maintaining cooperation with national stakeholders and conducting awareness-raising activities, including during World Ozone Days and the country's active participation in regional network events. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that the upcoming phase of the institutional strengthening project and the HCFC phase-out management plan will assist Fiji to comply with their Montreal Protocol obligations while ensuring gender mainstreaming into the implementation.

Ghana

12. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Ghana (phase XVI) and noted with appreciation that Ghana submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country achieved its HCFC reduction targets for both years. The Committee further noted Ghana's progress in phasing out ODS consumption during the project period, through the enforcement of ODS import controls through the licensing and quota system, awareness creation, and the provision of training to customs officers and refrigeration technicians, while taking actions to increase the participation of women in the refrigeration and cooling sectors. The Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Ghana to reduce HCFC and HFC consumption and is therefore hopeful that, within the next three years, the Government of Ghana will continue implementation of the HCFC phase-out management plan, the Kigali HFC implementation plan, and the institutional strengthening project with success in order to achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required by 1 January 2025, sustain the freeze in HFC consumption achieved on 1 January 2024 and aim towards the 10 per cent reduction by 1 January 2029.

Guinea

13. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Guinea (phase XIII) and noted that the country submitted data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone Secretariat, demonstrating its commitment to comply with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee also noted Guinea's effort to phase out ODS consumption through enforcement measures implemented to control ODS imports through a licensing and quota system, alongside the comprehensive training provided to customs officers and refrigeration technicians. Furthermore, the Committee noted Guinea's initiatives aimed at reducing HCFC and HFC consumption. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that within the next three years, the Government will continue implementing its HCFC phase-out management plan and institutional strengthening projects, with the goal of achieving a 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption by 1 January 2025, and of starting the implementation of stage I of its Kigali HFC implementation plan.

Haiti

14. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Haiti (phase VI) and noted with appreciation that Haiti reported Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee further noted that despite the challenging conditions in the country, Haiti is effectively phasing out ODS consumption through the implementation of its licensing and quota systems, as well as the adoption of low-GWP alternatives, and the country is on track to achieve its HCFC phase-out targets. The Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Haiti to reduce HCFC consumption and to make progress towards the ratification of the Kigali Amendment and is therefore hopeful that, within the next three years, the Government of Haiti will continue implementation of the HCFC phase-out management plan and the institutional strengthening project with success in order to achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required by 1 January 2025 and to ratify the Kigali Amendment.

Honduras

15. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Honduras (phase XI) and noted with appreciation that the country has complied with its data reporting, HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down obligations under the Montreal Protocol. The Committee also noted that the country coordinated activities under stage II of its HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP), first and second tranches, submitted stage I of the Kigali HFC

implementation plan (KIP) for 10 per cent reduction of HFCs, and organized training sessions for customs officers. Additionally, the Committee noted that the Government encouraged the continued participation of stakeholders in the implementation of the Montreal Protocol at the national level; organized awareness-raising activities and the World Ozone Day celebrations; and actively participated in regional network events. The Committee acknowledged the challenges faced by the Government of Honduras to implement the projects and noted that they were able to achieve satisfactory results. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that in the next three years, the Government will continue the implementation of the HPMP, the KIP, and institutional strengthening project activities with success to comply with the Montreal Protocol while ensuring the incorporation of the gender perspective in all the implemented activities.

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

16. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for the Islamic Republic of Iran (phase XIV) and noted with appreciation that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran reported Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol and has achieved the reduction targets in accordance with the country's Agreement with the Executive Committee for both years. The Committee noted that continued the enforcement of control measures to sustain ODS phase-out, including the update of rules and regulations and improvements to the HCFC licensing and quota system. The Executive Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP), prepare stage III of the HPMP, and make progress towards the ratification of the Kigali Amendment, and is therefore hopeful that, within the next three years, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue the implementation of Multilateral Fund activities at both the policy and project levels to enable it to comply with the next control measures of the Montreal Protocol and submit the instrument of ratification of the Kigali Amendment.

Jamaica

17. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Jamaica (phase XII) and noted with appreciation that Jamaica submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee also noted that the Government continues to implement the licensing system for HCFC and sustained compliance with the Montreal Protocol HCFC phase-out obligations and maximum allowable consumption as specified in its Agreement with the Executive Committee, and its Kigali Amendment obligations. The Committee noted the efforts of the Government to build on the measures already taken to ensure that the country maintains momentum as it seeks to sustain HCFC phase-out achievements and continue progress towards the ratification of the Kigali Amendment.

Jordan

18. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Jordan (phase XIV) and noted with appreciation that Jordan reported Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee noted that despite administrative changes in the National Ozone Unit, the country was able to maintain its activities and compliance with the Montreal Protocol. The Committee further noted that Jordan had taken steps to phase out HCFC consumption including strict monitoring of HCFC trade through the national ODS regulatory framework and allocation of quotas, as well as through the development of the national electronic database to improve the monitoring and control of imports and reduce reporting discrepancies. The Committee acknowledged the close cooperation between the national ozone unit and the customs authorities to further improve the effectiveness of the ODS regulations and ensure implementation of policies issued

by the Government of Jordan including the ban on the import of pure HCFC-141b and HCFC-141b contained in imported pre-blended polyols from 1 January 2022. The Committee congratulated Jordan for the ratification of the Kigali Amendment and the initiation of HFC phase-down activities including the activities to implement stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan (KIP). The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that within the next three years, the Government of Jordan will continue implementing activities under the HCFC phase-out management plan and stage I of the KIP to enable the country to comply with the upcoming control measures of the Montreal Protocol.

Kyrgyzstan

19. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Kyrgyzstan (phase XII) and noted with appreciation that Kyrgyzstan submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee also noted that the country successfully completed the implementation of its accelerated HCFC phase-out management plan in December 2021, and that stage I of its Kigali HFC implementation plan was approved in 2023. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that during the upcoming phase, the Government of Kyrgyzstan will continue the implementation of the institutional strengthening project and sustain HCFC phase out achievements and meet the first HFC phase-down obligation under the Kigali Amendment.

Lesotho

20. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Lesotho (phase XII) and noted with appreciation that Lesotho submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee further noted that the Government of Lesotho implemented a licensing and quota system to control ODS imports and trained Customs officers and refrigeration and air-conditioning technicians. The Committee noted the efforts of Lesotho to reduce the consumption of HCFCs and is hopeful that, within the next three years, Lesotho will continue the implementation of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan, stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan, and the institutional strengthening project activities and achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required by 1 January 2025 and meet the first HFC phase-down obligation under the Kigali Amendment.

Malawi

21. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the institutional strengthening project for Malawi (phase XIV) and noted with appreciation that Malawi submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee acknowledged that Malawi has a licensing and quota system, and that the country had carried out training of Customs officers, refrigeration technicians and awareness-raising activities. The Committee noted the efforts of Malawi to reduce the consumption of the controlled substances under the Montreal Protocol and is, therefore, hopeful that within the next three years, Malawi will continue the implementation of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan, stage I of its Kigali HFC implementation plan and continue to implement institutional strengthening project activities in order to prepare the country to achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required by 1 January 2025 and to sustain the 2024 freeze in HFC consumption.

Marshall Islands (the)

22. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for the Marshall Islands (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that the Marshall Islands submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee further noted that the Marshall Islands maintained zero ODS consumption during the implementation of phase VIII of the institutional strengthening project. The Committee also noted the Government's effort to implement the mandatory controls of HFCs and HFC blends through the Ministerial Order. The Committee also noted the country's participation in regional network meetings despite the challenges in participating in the Montreal Protocol meetings. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that the upcoming phase of the institutional strengthening project as well as the HCFC phase-out management plan will assist the Marshall Islands in complying with its Montreal Protocol obligations while ensuring gender mainstreaming into the implemented activities.

Mauritania

23. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Mauritania (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that the country submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee also noted Mauritania's efforts to phase out ODS consumption during the project period through a licensing and quota system, alongside the training provided to Customs officers and refrigeration technicians. Furthermore, the Committee noted Mauritania's initiatives aimed at reducing HCFC consumption. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that Mauritania will continue implementing its HCFC phase-out management plan and institutional strengthening project, with the goal of achieving a 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption by 1 January 2025 as well as the ratification of the Kigali Amendment and the initiation of its implementation.

Mozambique

24. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Mozambique (phase XI) and noted with appreciation that Mozambique submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee further noted that the Government of Mozambique took steps to phase out its ODS consumption, including the implementation of ODS import controls through a licensing and quota system, and the training of Customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Committee noted the efforts of Mozambique to reduce the consumption of HCFCs and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next three years, Mozambique will continue the implementation of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan, stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan, and the institutional strengthening project activities with success to prepare the country to achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required by 1 January 2025 and meet the first HFC phase-down obligation under the Kigali Amendment.

Nepal

25. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Nepal (phase XII) and noted with appreciation that Nepal submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that, in the next phase, the Government of the Nepal will continue implementing the institutional strengthening project and the HCFC phase-out management plan to prepare the country to

achieve the phase-out of HCFCs by 2030 and ensure that the country will ratify the Kigali Amendment ratification.

Nigeria

26. The Executive Committee reviewed the report presented with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Nigeria (phase XIII) and noted with appreciation that Nigeria reported Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively indicating that the country achieved its HCFC reduction targets under the Montreal Protocol and the country's Agreement with the Executive Committee. The Committee noted that the national ozone unit of Nigeria facilitated engagement with key stakeholders to increase national collaboration and awareness on the country's Montreal Protocol obligations and to strengthen collection and reporting of data on controlled substances. The Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Nigeria to reduce HCFC and HFC consumption and is therefore hopeful that, within the next three years, the Government of Nigeria will continue implementation of stage III of the HCFC phase-out management plan and the institutional strengthening project with success and will start the implementation of stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan, to achieve and sustain compliance with the control measures of the Montreal Protocol.

Saint Kitts and Nevis

27. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Saint Kitts and Nevis (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that Saint Kitts and Nevis submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee encouraged the Government to maintain momentum as it seeks to remain compliant with the Montreal Protocol and implement activities under the upcoming stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan.

Seychelles

28. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for the Seychelles (phase XI) and noted with appreciation that Seychelles submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee also noted that Seychelles has a licensing and quota system, and that the country had carried out training of Customs officers, refrigeration technicians, and awareness-raising activities. The Committee noted the efforts of Seychelles to reduce the consumption of HCFCs earlier than the Montreal Protocol schedule and is, therefore, hopeful that, within the next three years, the Government of Seychelles will continue the implementation of the HCFC phase-out management plan, stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan, and institutional strengthening project activities in order to prepare the country to sustain the achieved full phase-out of HCFCs and freeze its HFC consumption at the baseline level.

Sierra Leone

29. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Sierra Leone (phase X) and noted with appreciation that Sierra Leone submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee further noted that the Government of Sierra Leone has taken steps to phase out its HCFC consumption, including the implementation of import controls through a licensing and quota system, and the training of Customs officers and refrigeration technicians. The Committee noted the efforts of Sierra Leone to reduce the consumption of HCFCs and is, therefore, hopeful that within the next three years, the Government of Sierra Leone will continue the implementation of stage II of the HCFC phase-out

management plan, stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan, and institutional strengthening project activities with success in order to prepare the country to achieve and sustain the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required by 1 January 2025 and 10 per cent reduction of the country's HFC baseline by 2029.

Sri Lanka

30. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Sri Lanka (phase XV) and noted with appreciation that Sri Lanka reported Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol, has achieved its HCFC reduction targets in accordance with the country's Agreement with the Executive Committee, and has sustained the phase-out of other ODS. The Committee noted that the Government of Sri Lanka has deployed actions towards gender mainstreaming in line with the Multilateral Fund policy on gender mainstreaming and the creation of coordination mechanisms that will allow the harmonization of work among different teams and units implementing the HCFC phase-out management plan, the institutional strengthening project, and the future Kigali HFC implementation plan. The Committee acknowledged the efforts of the Government of Sri Lanka to reduce HCFC and HFC consumption and is therefore hopeful that, within the next three years, the Government of Sri Lanka will continue the implementation of Multilateral Fund activities at both the policy and project levels to enable it to comply with the next control measures of the Montreal Protocol.

Türkiye

31. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Türkiye (phase X) and noted with appreciation that Türkiye reported Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee further noted that Türkiye had taken steps to phase out HCFC consumption including the implementation of strict monitoring of HCFC trade through the national ODS regulatory framework and allocation of quotas, as well as through further improvement of the national electronic database to improve the monitoring and control of imports and reduce reporting discrepancies. The Committee acknowledge the cooperation between the national ozone unit and the customs authorities to further improve the effectiveness of the ODS regulations and ensure implementation of policies issued by the National Ozone Committee. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that within the next three years, the Government of Türkiye will continue implementing activities under stage I of the HCFC phase-out management plan and will initiate the implementation of stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan to enable the country to comply with the Montreal Protocol.

Turkmenistan

32. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Turkmenistan (phase VII) and noted with appreciation that Turkmenistan reported Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee further noted Turkmenistan had taken steps to phase out HCFC consumption including implementation of the strict monitoring of HCFC trade through the national ODS regulatory framework and allocation of quotas. In addition, the Committee noted that Turkmenistan had reported HFC data and had issued quotas for HFCs and initiated implementation of stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan (KIP) ensuring the freeze in HFC consumption at the baseline level. The Committee acknowledged the close cooperation between the national ozone unit with stakeholders including the customs authorities and industry representatives. The Committee is, therefore hopeful that within the next three years, the Government of Turkmenistan will continue implementing activities under stage II of the

HCFC phase-out management plan and stage I of the KIP to enable the country to comply with the control measures of the Montreal Protocol.

Uganda

33. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Uganda (phase VI) and noted with appreciation that Uganda submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee noted that Uganda has an HCFC and HFC licensing and quota system, and that the country carried out training of Customs officers and refrigeration technicians and held awareness-raising activities during the previous phase. The Committee noted the efforts of the Government of Uganda to reduce the consumption of HCFCs and is, therefore, hopeful that within the next three years, the Government will continue the implementation of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan, stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan, and institutional strengthening project activities with success in order for the country to achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption required by 1 January 2025 and freeze its HFC consumption at the baseline level.

United Republic of Tanzania (the)

34. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for the United Republic of Tanzania (phase IX) and noted with appreciation that the country is on target to meet its Montreal Protocol HCFC and HFC control measures. The Committee noted that the Government has a licensing and quota system, and that the country had carried out trainings for Customs officers and refrigeration technicians, in addition to awareness-raising activities and preparation of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that the Government will continue implementing HCFC phase-out activities successfully to achieve the 67.5 per cent reduction in HCFC consumption by 1 January 2025.

Viet Nam

35. The Executive Committee reviewed the report submitted with the request for the renewal of the institutional strengthening project for Viet Nam (phase XV) and noted with appreciation that the country submitted Article 7 and country programme data for 2022 and 2023 to the Ozone and Fund Secretariats, respectively, indicating that the country is in compliance with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule. The Committee noted that Viet Nam continued to enforce a licensing and quota system for HCFC import and export and implemented a HFC quota system to supplement its HFC licensing system from 1 January 2024. The Committee is, therefore, hopeful that the Government of Viet Nam will continue activities both at the project and policy levels to enable the country to meet the Montreal Protocol targets.