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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Ninety-ninth Meeting
Montreal, 7–11 December 2026
Item 9(c) of the provisional agenda[1]

PROJECT PROPOSAL: CAMEROON

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

Phase-down

• Kigali HFC implementation plan (stage I, second tranche)	UNIDO	Blanket approval

[1] UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/99/1

Pre-session documents of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol are without prejudice to any decision that the Executive Committee might take following issuance of the document.

PROJECT EVALUATION SHEET – MULTI-YEAR PROJECTS

Cameroon

PROJECT TITLE	AGENCY	MEETING APPROVED	CONTROL MEASURE
Kigali HFC implementation plan (stage I)	UNIDO (lead)	92nd	30% phase-out by 2030

ARTICLE 7 DATA (Annex F)	Year: 2025	2,009.09 mt	3,728,532 CO_2-eq tonnes

COUNTRY PROGRAMME SECTORAL DATA (CO_2-eq tonnes)								Year:	2025
Substance	Aerosol	Foam	Fire-fighting	Air-conditioning (AC) and refrigeration			Servicing	Solvent	Other
				Manufacturing					
				Refrigeration	AC	Other			
HFCs			12,880				3,715,652		

CONSUMPTION DATA (CO_2-eq tonnes)			
HFC baseline:	4,760,203	Starting point for sustained aggregate reductions:	TBD
CONSUMPTION ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING			
Already approved:	1,424,903	Remaining:	TBD

ENDORSED BUSINESS PLAN		2026	2027	2028	Total
UNIDO	HFC phase-down (mt)	269.89	0.00	197.43	467.33
	Funding (US $)	434,420	0	317,790	752,210

PROJECT DATA			2023	2024	2025	2026*	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total
Consumption (CO_2-eq tonnes)	Montreal Protocol limits		n/a	4,760,203	4,760,203	4,760,203	4,760,203	4,760,203	4,284,183	4,284,183	n/a
	Maximum allowable		3,579,012	3,753,448	3,728,532	3,594,623	3,568,669	3,386,415	3,360,461	3,335,300	n/a
	Reduction from baseline (%)		n/a	21.1	21.7	24.5	25.0	28.9	29.4	29.9	n/a
Amounts approved in principle (US $)	UNIDO	Project costs	355,500	0	0	406,000	0	297,000	0	153,000	1,211,500
		Support costs	24,885	0	0	28,420	0	20,790	0	10,710	84,805
Funds approved by ExCom (US $)		Project costs	355,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	355,500
		Support costs	24,885	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24,885
Total funds recommended for approval at this meeting (US $)		Project costs				406,000					406,000
		Support costs				28,420					28,420

* Recommended for approval at the present meeting

Secretariat's recommendation	Blanket approval

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. On behalf of the Government of Cameroon, UNIDO as the designated implementing agency has submitted a request for funding for the second tranche of stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan (KIP),[2] in the amount of US $406,000, plus agency support costs of US $28,420.[3] The submission includes a progress report on the implementation of the first tranche, the verification report on HFC consumption for 2021 to 2025, and the tranche implementation plan for 2026 to 2028.

Report on HFC consumption

2. The Government of Cameroon reported a consumption of 3,728,532 CO_2-equivalent (CO_2-eq) tonnes of HFCs in 2025, which is 21.7 per cent below the country's HFC baseline for compliance. The 2021-2025 HFC consumption is shown in table 1.

Table 1. 2021–2025 HFC consumption and HFC baseline for Cameroon (Article 7 data)

HFCs	GWP	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Metric tonnes (mt)						
HFC-134a	1,430	1,148.20	1,165.30	1,177.90	1,197.90	1,180.48
HFC-227ea	3,220	4.50	4.50	4.00	4.00	4.00
HFC-32	675	0.05	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
R-404A	3,921.6	123.00	124.80	158.15	183.15	183.15
R-407C	1,773.85	86.00	87.20	149.00	167.00	167.00
R-410A	2,087.5	405.50	411.50	381.50	401.50	401.50
R-417A	2,346	0.00	0.00	78.10	65.60	65.60
R-507A	3,985	4.00	4.50	4.00	4.86	4.86
Total (mt)		**1,771.25**	**1,800.30**	**1,955.15**	**2,026.51**	**2,009.09**
CO_2-eq tonnes						
HFC-134a	1,430	1,641,926	1,666,379	1,684,397	1,712,997	1,688,086
HFC-227ea	3,220	14,490	14,490	12,880	12,880	12,880
HFC-32	675	30	1,688	1,688	1,688	1,688
R-404A	3,921.6	482,357	489,416	620,209	718,249	718,249
R-407C	1,773.85	152,551	154,680	264,304	296,233	296,233
R-410A	2,087.5	846,481	859,006	796,381	838,131	838,131
R-417A	2,346	0	0	183,211	153,898	153,898
R-507A	3,985	15,940	17,933	15,940	19,367	19,367
Total (CO_2-eq tonnes)		**3,153,776**	**3,203,591**	**3,579,009**	**3,753,442**	**3,728,532**
HFC baseline calculation (CO_2-eq tonnes)						
HFC average consumption in 2020–2022						3,237,693
HCFC baseline (65%)						1,522,510
HFC baseline						**4,760,203**

3. The growth observed since 2021 has been driven by the economic recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic and the replacement of HCFC-22 with high-global-warming-potential (GWP) HFC blends as the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) progresses. Imports of R-404A, R-407C and R-417A have increased, primarily in the commercial refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) sector, as drop-in replacements for HCFC-22. Since 2023, growth has been contained by the annual HFC quota, which is set

[2] Stage I of the KIP for Cameroon was approved at the 92nd meeting (decision 92/34) and the Agreement was approved at the 97th meeting (decision 97/17(e) and annex XIII to document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/97/91).

[3] As per the letter of 23 September 2026 from the Ministry of Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development of Cameroon to UNIDO.

at the maximum allowable consumption under the Agreement and effectively control the imports. Consumption increased by 4.4 per cent annually between 2021 and 2025, below the 6 per cent growth rate assumed in the unconstrained scenario under stage I of the plan. No evidence of stockpiling in advance of the freeze or of blend reclassification was identified.

Country programme implementation report

4. The HFC consumption data provided by the Government of Cameroon in its country programme implementation report for 2025 is consistent with the data reported under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol.

Verification report

5. The verification report confirmed that the Government was implementing a licensing and quota system for HFC imports and exports and that the total consumption of HFCs reported under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol for 2021 to 2025 was correct (as shown in table 1 above). The verification concluded that Cameroon's HFC imports remain below the Montreal Protocol targets as outlined in the Agreement. The main recommendations are to reconcile quotas, import licences, customs records and Article 7 data by substance and importer, to establish a documented annual data-closure procedure with customs and the electronic licensing platform, to clarify to importers and other relevant stakeholders the validity period of import licences, and to complete activities under the first tranche related to refrigerant identifiers, servicing tools, curricula, technician certification and workshop categorization.

Progress report on the implementation of the first tranche of stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan

Legal framework

6. Cameroon operationalized the HFC licensing and quota system since 2023 and allocated annual import quotas for 2026 to 29 importing enterprises. HFC controls were integrated into the electronic licensing platform and linked with customs procedures, while the 2022 Harmonized System codes for HFCs and HFC blends were adopted to strengthen import monitoring and reporting. The country also adopted EN 378 as the national safety standard for flammable refrigerants, which also applies to the installation of systems based on these refrigerants

Refrigeration servicing sector

7. The following activities were completed during the first tranche implementation:

(a) Capacity-building programmes enhanced the ability of customs officers and environmental inspectors to enforce HFC control measures and licensing requirements. Fifty-eight customs and enforcement officers (including 10 women) were trained, while market surveillance was strengthened through 32 environmental control posts and the initiation of procurement of 10 refrigerant identifiers for use at border crossings and inspection locations;

(b) The RAC sector capacity was strengthened by revising the training curricula to incorporate low-GWP alternatives and the safe handling of flammable refrigerants. Three workshops were held, and a total of 132 participants (of which 17 were women) were trained, including 25 trainers and 107 technicians, students and enterprise representatives, creating a foundation for wider dissemination of good servicing practices. The equipment needs of the Douala and Limbe centres of excellence were surveyed, technical specifications for tools and equipment were defined and validated, and priorities were identified as leak detectors and recovery equipment;

(c) The transition towards low-GWP RAC technologies was supported by promoting alternative refrigerants, good servicing practices and compliance with HFC control measures. The project also advanced refrigerant recovery and recycling practices, helping prepare the market for long-term reductions in HFC demand and supporting Cameroon's Kigali Amendment obligations; the Government is also in consultation with the national stakeholders on prohibiting imports of high-GWP refrigerant-based equipment (e.g., in domestic refrigerators); and

(d) Awareness-raising and outreach initiatives engaged stakeholders across government, industry, educational institutions and the refrigeration servicing sector. More than 724 stakeholders across four cities were reached through workshops, training events and communication campaigns designed to promote compliance with HFC regulations and increase awareness of alternative technologies.

Pilot project to enhance energy efficiency (decision 91/65)

8. The pilot project to maintain and enhance the energy efficiency of replacement technologies[4] was launched in March 2026 with an inception workshop at Édéa, at which two working groups were formed, one on policy and regulations and one on minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) and labelling for domestic refrigerators and residential air conditioners. This project will mitigate barriers related to capacity-building and policy development, thereby facilitating the approval and enforcement of MEPS and labelling for domestic refrigerators and residential air conditioners across Cameroon. As additional time was needed to complete the planned activities, the Executive Committee approved an extension to 31 December 2026 of the project completion date.[5]

Project implementation and monitoring

9. The national ozone unit (NOU) and UNIDO have been monitoring activities, reporting on progress, and working with stakeholders to phase down HFCs. The US $28,750 approved for project monitoring activities under the first tranche was fully disbursed, comprising expenditures for project staff and consultants (US $18,750), domestic travel (US $7,500), meetings and workshops (US $2,000), and other expenses (US $500).

Level of fund disbursement

10. As of September 2026, of the US $355,500 approved so far, US $234,250 (65.9 per cent) had been disbursed. The balance of US $121,250 will be disbursed in 2026 and 2027.

Implementation plan for the second tranche of stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan

11. The following activities will be implemented by UNIDO between December 2026 and December 2028:

(a) *Regulatory framework and control mechanisms*: Reinforce implementation of the HFC licensing and quota system through importer workshops, strengthened reporting requirements, and development of supporting regulations; conduct four training sessions for 135 customs and enforcement officers, including 27 women, on HFC identification, licensing requirements, and trade control measures to enhance customs and enforcement capacity; procure and distribute additional 10 refrigerant identifiers to regional inspection points and associations; continue market monitoring activities through annual surveys, assessment of refrigerant availability and pricing, and studies on illegal trade; launch the

[4] Decision 94/54
[5] Decision 98/14

RAC workshop categorization scheme; support standards and labelling initiatives; implement awareness-raising campaigns on HFC regulations and quota system; and conduct incentive programmes as part of the component on promoting demand for low-GWP technologies in the RAC sector, encouraging businesses and consumers to adopt low-GWP technologies, including financial incentives covering approximately 15 to 25 per cent of equipment replacement costs (US $185,750);

(b) *Capacity-building of the RAC servicing sector*: Provide continued support to professional associations through consultation meetings and awareness-raising programmes, including on the identification of counterfeit refrigerants; deliver six training sessions to 240 refrigeration technicians on good servicing practices and the safe handling of low-GWP refrigerants; conduct two sessions to train 40 air-conditioning servicing technicians in the residential and commercial air-conditioning sector; demonstrate low-GWP technologies in the health sector through the installation of a first batch of R-600a vaccine refrigerators in selected health facilities identified through a survey of 130 facilities, with monitoring of energy performance and environmentally sound disposal of replaced units (US $82,750);

(c) *Mobile air-conditioning (MAC), firefighting and refrigerant management*: Provide continued support to sector associations through consultation meetings and awareness-raising programmes with a focus on containment and recovery and recycling; develop a code of practice for the sector; implement five training sessions for 120 garage technicians on the safe handling of alternatives and on containment and recovery and recycling practices; procure and install up to 32 refrigerant recovery cylinders and recycling machines to designated workshops to support recovery and recycling operations; and conduct a training needs assessment of the firefighting sector, develop training materials, and deliver an initial training programme to support improved management of refrigerant-based systems (US $108,750) and

(d) Project management and monitoring (US $28,750): Includes funding for staff and consultants (US $18,750), travel (US $7,500), consultation meetings (US $2,000) and other expenses (US $500).

SECRETARIAT'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION

COMMENTS

Report on HFC consumption and verification

12. The HFC licensing and quota system for Cameroon has been functional since 2023, as confirmed by the verification report. During the first year, the Inter-Ministerial Committee authorized an additional quota of 72.25 mt for R-404A, R-407C and R-417A for managing the year's market demand while considering the maximum allowable consumption for that year. UNIDO indicated that the Government will address the recommendations of the verification through prioritizing measures for strengthening the HFC consumption monitoring and reporting system and data reconciliation processes related to Article 7 and continuing training and other capacity-building activities to further enhance HFC data management and reconciliation.

Progress report on the implementation of the first tranche of stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan

Legal framework

13. The Government of Cameroon has issued HFC import quotas for 2026 at 3,594,599 CO_2-eq tonnes, which is lower than the Montreal Protocol control targets and in accordance with the targets set in its

Agreement with the Executive Committee. The HFC import quotas for 2027 are expected to be lower than the control targets for that year.

14. UNIDO indicated that there are currently no regulations to control the import of high-GWP HFC-based equipment. During the second tranche, consultations will be undertaken and the implementation timing of these regulations will be assessed, particularly for R-404A-based equipment and HFC-134a-based domestic refrigerators; these activities are expected to ensure the enforcement of regulations controlling imports of high-GWP refrigerant-based equipment and to reduce dependence on equipment that uses such refrigerants. A ministerial order is currently being developed, incorporating the national safety standard for flammable refrigerants, the record-keeping obligations of enterprises and good practice requirements, as well as the MEPS and energy label. The Government of Cameroon will promote the adoption of green public procurement policies to create a stable demand for low-GWP, energy-efficient RAC technologies. By integrating environmental and energy performance criteria into public tenders, such as requiring low-GWP refrigerants, MEPS, and life-cycle cost considerations, public institutions, including hospitals, schools, administrative buildings, and fisheries and cold-chain facilities, can act as early adopters and send a clear signal to the market. These policies will be supported by the national regulatory framework, including import controls on HFC-based equipment and the establishment of energy-efficiency standards and labelling, which will help procurement officers identify compliant products. Green procurement will also encourage local suppliers and importers to stock low-GWP equipment and will build the technical capacity of procurement and technical staff to apply the new criteria. These combined measures are expected to accelerate the market transition, reduce the reliance on high-GWP technologies, and contribute to Cameroon's commitments under the Montreal Protocol and the Kigali Amendment.

Refrigeration servicing sector

15. On the lower-than-planned number of service technicians trained, UNIDO explained that this was primarily attributable to delays in the initiation of KIP activities. A key constraint was the absence of a national pool of trainers; this was addressed through two national workshops that trained 25 trainers in 2026. Training activities for customs officers and the service sector have gained momentum, and additional training is planned for the remainder of 2026 and the first half of 2027.

16. On recovery and reuse of refrigerants in the MAC sector, UNIDO explained that the recovery and reuse of HFC-134a is common among larger MAC servicing enterprises; however, in small and informal garages, refrigerant recovery and reuse is not practiced due to a lack of recovery equipment and because technicians are generally trained on the job. Accordingly, the MAC association identified the procurement of recovery machines as a priority activity under the KIP. In addition, training activities under the second tranche will focus on refrigerant recovery and the deployment of recycling machines and recovery cylinders for wider use by the small and informal garages.

17. On the linkage between KIP activities and the energy-efficiency pilot project approved pursuant to decision 91/65, UNIDO indicated that the MEPS and energy labels for domestic refrigerators and residential air conditioners are currently being developed under the pilot project. Following the inception workshop in March 2026, the working group on policy and regulations has been preparing the mandatory standards and the supporting legal instrument, with a view to making the MEPS mandatory within 18 to 24 months. The standards will be approved and published by the national standards agency, and their enforcement is expected to commence approximately 18 months thereafter. Energy labels will also include information on the type of refrigerant used and its GWP prominently displayed. This is expected to result in faster adoption of low-GWP refrigerant-based energy-efficient equipment in the country.

18. On the certification for service technicians, UNIDO explained that the certification system is being developed under the HPMP and is not funded under stage I of the KIP. The system is expected to become operational during the first tranche of stage III of the HPMP, with the development of assessment tools, certification procedures and the governance structure. The Douala and Limbe centres of excellence are

intended to serve as certification centres, and the certification scheme includes the safe handling of flammable refrigerants.

Co-financing

19. The Government will encourage co-financing from national counterparts for programmes related to demand-side management and the adoption of low-GWP technologies, which may include financial contributions from public and private sector partners, as well as in-kind support from the beneficiaries in the form of staff time, facilities, and other resources.

Gender policy implementation

20. In line with decisions 84/92(d) and 90/48(c), the NOU of Cameroon has undertaken various measures to maximize women's participation in the KIP implementation. Sex-disaggregated data is collected during training programmes, and the requested tranche sets a target of at least 20 per cent participation by women. In addition to promoting women's participation in training activities, the NOU will organize awareness-raising campaigns to encourage wider engagement of women in the RAC sector. These campaigns will aim to challenge stereotypes about technical careers, highlight opportunities available in the sector, and showcase women technicians as role models. They will target secondary schools, technical and vocational training institutions, and the general public, and will be carried out in collaboration with relevant stakeholders such as the RAC association, training centres, and women's organizations. The campaigns will complement relevant responsive measures built into the training programme, with the overall objective of increasing the number of women trained, certified, and employed in the sector.

Sustainability of the HFC phase-out and assessment of risks

21. The Government will ensure the long-term sustainability of the HFC phase-down through the continued operation of the HFC import licensing and quota system, which will be strengthened through improved data management and reconciliation, the enforcement of HFC import and export controls by customs and environmental inspectors at the 32 control posts, and the institutional arrangements established under the HPMP and extended to HFCs. The adoption of EN 378 as the national safety standard for flammable refrigerants, together with the updates to the vocational training curricula, is intended to sustain safe servicing practices beyond the duration of the plan. In addition, the technicians and trainers trained through the Douala workshops are expected to strengthen capacities within technical schools and sector associations. Risks associated with the procurement and delivery of tools and equipment will be minimized through the consolidation of procurement processes and tendering requirements, as well as careful planning based on supplier lead times. Furthermore, the use of a single organizational structure responsible for planning and managing implementation facilitates the cost-effective and coordinated implementation of stage III of the HPMP and stage I of the KIP.

Conclusion

22. Cameroon is in compliance with the targets set out in its Agreement for stage I of the KIP. The HFC licensing and quota system is enforceable and will be further strengthened to enhance the management and monitoring of import and export data. Training activities implemented for customs officers and service technicians, together with regulations for promoting the safe adoption of alternatives, will support reductions in HFC consumption and the faster adoption of alternatives. In addition, consultations on the implementation of prohibitions on the use of high-GWP HFCs are expected to reduce the lock-in of HFC-based equipment. The disbursement rate of approved funds amounts to 65.9 per cent. The implementation plan of the second tranche includes activities to strengthen the capacity of customs and enforcement officers; incorporation of the verification recommendations to strengthen monitoring and reporting of HFCs; enhance regulations and controls related to the HFC licensing and quota system; provide service sector training, including servicing

and HFC recovery and reuse practices in the MAC sector; and promote the adoption of low-GWP technologies across various applications.

RECOMMENDATION

23. The Fund Secretariat recommends that the Executive Committee note the progress report on the implementation of the first tranche of stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan (KIP) for Cameroon, and further recommends blanket approval of the second tranche of stage I of the KIP and the corresponding 2026–2028 tranche implementation plan for Cameroon at the funding level shown in the table below, on the understanding that upon completion of the end-user project, UNIDO will submit a final report on the implementation of this project, including the HFC phase-out and energy-efficiency gains achieved, in line with decision 92/36(g).

	Project title	Project funding (US $)	Support costs (US $)	Implementing agency
(a)	Kigali HFC implementation plan (stage I, second tranche)	406,000	28,420	UNIDO