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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Ninety-seventh Meeting
Montreal, 1–5 December 2025
Item 9(c) of the provisional agenda¹

PROJECT PROPOSAL: CAMBODIA

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

Phase-out

- | | | | |
|---|--|------------------|------------------|
| • | HCFC phase-out management plan (sixth tranche) | UNEP and
UNDP | Blanket approval |
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¹ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/97/1

PROJECT EVALUATION SHEET – MULTI-YEAR PROJECTS**Cambodia**

(I) PROJECT TITLE	AGENCY	MEETING APPROVED	CONTROL MEASURE
HCFC phase-out plan	UNEP (lead), UNDP	61 st	100% phase-out by 2035

(II) LATEST ARTICLE 7 DATA (Annex C Group I)	Year: 2024	7.54 ODP tonnes
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(III) LATEST COUNTRY PROGRAMME SECTORAL DATA (ODP tonnes)								Year: 2024	
Chemical	Aerosol	Foam	Fire fighting	Refrigeration		Solvent	Process agent	Lab use	Total sector consumption
				Manufacturing	Servicing				
HCFC-22					7.54				7.54

(IV) CONSUMPTION DATA (ODP tonnes)			
2009–2010 baseline:	15.00	Starting point for sustained aggregate reductions:	15.00
CONSUMPTION ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING			
Already approved:	15.00	Remaining:	0.00

(V) ENDORSED BUSINESS PLAN		2025	2026	2027	Total
UNEP	ODS phase-out (ODP tonnes)	1.70	0.00	0.00	1.70
	Funding (US \$)	226,000	0	0	226,000
UNDP	ODS phase-out (ODP tonnes)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Funding (US \$)	0	0	0	0

(VI) PROJECT DATA			2010	2011-2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017-2018	2019	2020-2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026-2029	2030	2031	Total
Montreal Protocol consumption limits (ODP tonnes)			n/a	n/a	15.0	15.0	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	4.88	4.88	0.38	0.38	n/a
Maximum allowable consumption (ODP tonnes)			n/a	n/a	15.0	15.0	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.75	4.88	4.88	0.38	0.38	n/a
Funding agreed in principle (US \$)	UNEP	Project costs	150,000	0	100,000	0	0	150,000	0	100,000	0	200,000	0	120,000	200,000	0	0	50,000	1,070,000
		Support costs	19,500	0	13,000	0	0	19,500	0	13,000	0	26,000	0	15,600	26,000	0	0	6,500	139,100
	UNDP	Project costs	200,000	0	200,000	0	0	100,000	0	150,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	650,000
		Support costs	15,000	0	15,000	0	0	7,500	0	11,250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48,750
Funds approved by ExCom (US \$)		Project costs	350,000	0	300,000	0	0	250,000	0	250,000	0	200,000	0	120,000	0	0	0	0	1,470,000
		Support costs	34,500	0	28,000	0	0	27,000	0	24,250	0	26,000	0	15,600	0	0	0	0	155,350
Total funds recommended for approval at this meeting (US \$)		Project costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200,000	0	0	0	200,000
		Support costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26,000	0	0	0	26,000

Secretariat's recommendation:	Blanket approval
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. On behalf of the Government of Cambodia, UNEP as the lead implementing agency has submitted a request for funding for the sixth tranche of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP), at the amount of US \$200,000, plus agency support costs of US \$26,000, for UNEP only.² The submission includes a progress report on the implementation of the fifth tranche, the verification report on HCFC consumption for 2022 to 2024 and the tranche implementation plan for 2026 to 2030.

Report on HCFC consumption

2. The Government of Cambodia reported a consumption of 7.54 ODP tonnes of HCFCs in 2024, which is 49.7 per cent below the country's HCFC baseline for compliance. The 2020-2024 HCFC consumption is shown in table 1.

Table 1. HCFC consumption in Cambodia (2020-2024 Article 7 data)

HCFC-22	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Baseline
Metric tonnes (mt)	120.95	99.63	58.44	125.54	137.15	388.80
ODP tonnes	6.65	5.48	3.21	6.90	7.54	15.00

3. In Cambodia, HCFCs are only consumed in the refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) servicing sector, with HCFC-22 being the only HCFC imported since 2020. From 2020 to 2022, consumption decreased, due to HCFC phase-out activities, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, the consumption increased in 2023 and 2024, due to the need for servicing HCFC-based air conditioners imported and installed, as well as proactive measures by importers to ensure sufficient availability of HCFCs in anticipation of the 67.5 per cent reduction from the HCFC baseline consumption in 2025.

Country programme implementation report

4. The Government of Cambodia reported HCFC sector consumption data under the 2024 country programme (CP) implementation report that 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 HCFC imports and exports, and that the total consumption of HCFCs reported under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol for 2022 to 2024 was correct (as shown in table 1 above) and below the maximum allowable consumption levels set in the Agreement with the Executive Committee. The verification concluded that Cambodia has an effective and enforceable HCFC licensing and quota system that provides a clear framework allowing Cambodia to meet its obligations under the Montreal Protocol to phase out HCFC.

Progress report on the implementation of the fifth tranche of the HCFC phase-out management plan

Legal framework

6. Cambodia enforced the restriction of HCFCs, HFCs, and other refrigerants sales to only registered workshops or certified technicians through coordination with relevant institutions. Although the proposed ban on HCFC-based equipment was still being developed, no such equipment has been imported since 2021. The implementation of safety standards progressed in the RAC servicing sector and vocational training, with efforts underway to develop simplified safety guidelines. The requirement for RAC servicing

² As per the letter of 29 September 2025 from the Ministry of Environment of Cambodia to UNEP.

workshops to employ at least one certified technician for business license registration or renewal is being enforced.

7. Four workshops were held to train 128 enforcement officers (including 11 women), and another four workshops for 91 customs brokers and importers (including 44 women), on effective implementation of the quota and licensing system, as well as the effective implementation of the Environment and Natural Resources Code. The national ozone unit (NOU) visited 122 service workshops across 18 provinces in 2023 and carried out 146 monitoring and spot checks in 2024, with market surveys confirming full compliance.

Refrigeration servicing sector

8. The following activities were implemented:

- (a) *Training of RAC technicians:* The training agenda was revised to incorporate best practices for technician training while comprehensively addressing both evolving global technological advancements and the specific training needs within the country. One train-the-trainer workshop was conducted with 43 participants, and six training workshops were held for 227 technicians (including two women) on good service practices;
- (b) *Certification of RAC technicians:* Four meetings with 19 participants were held to develop the “Recognition of Prior Learning” (RPL) assessment criteria for competency-based assessments. Three meetings with 60 participants (including 10 women) led to the approval of 11 assessment centres to conduct such assessments. One training session was held for 26 examiners/assessors (including one woman), and a competency-based certification was conducted with 25 participants, all of whom successfully passed the test;
- (c) *Technical assistance to support good service practices:* Training toolkits were distributed to 12 vocational training centres, and servicing tools for good practices were supplied to 50 workshops. A total of 145 individuals, including lecturers, vocational school students, and workshop technicians, were trained on the use and maintenance of the new equipment. Furthermore, 204 people comprising technicians, end-users, and stakeholders participated in awareness workshops aimed at promoting replacement incentive programme. A total of 454 HCFC-22 units were replaced with HFC-32 equipment;
- (d) *Outreach and awareness activity:* A mobile application was developed to provide end-users with access to information on certified RAC technicians. A series of awareness workshops were held for 151 technicians (including 13 women) about competency-based assessment. Another series of workshops were organised with 123 participants (including nine women) informing about OzonAction tools and resources and to encourage active participation in the effective implementation of the Montreal Protocol.

Activities to maintain energy efficiency in the refrigeration servicing sector

9. A study visit was conducted for six participants to learn about enforcement and integration of minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) and energy labelling within the framework of the Montreal Protocol. Regulations for MEPS and energy labelling were drafted, pending its approval. Follow-up meetings were held with the Ministry of Mines and Energy to support the approval of subsidiary regulations for implementing energy-efficiency activities. Development of a training module on energy efficiency was initiated. A series of training workshops were planned, including one for customs and enforcement authorities on MEPS and energy labelling enforcement, scheduled for late October 2025.

Project implementation and monitoring

10. Of the US \$30,000 approved for project implementation and monitoring, a total of US \$25,521 was disbursed on staff, travel, monitoring activities, meetings, communication and other operational expenses.

Level of fund disbursement

11. As of September 2025, of the US \$1,470,000 approved so far, US \$1,310,783 had been disbursed (US \$686,567 for UNEP and US \$624,216 for UNDP), as shown in table 2. The balance of US \$159,217 will be disbursed in 2025 and 2026.

Table 2. Financial report of the HPMP for Cambodia (US \$)

Funding tranche	Agency	UNEP	UNDP	Total	Disbursement rate (%)
First	Approved	150,000	200,000	350,000	100
	Disbursed	150,000	200,000	350,000	
Second	Approved	100,000	200,000	300,000	100
	Disbursed	100,000	200,000	300,000	
Third	Approved	150,000	100,000	250,000	100
	Disbursed	150,000	100,000	250,000	
Fourth	Approved	100,000	150,000	250,000	89.2
	Disbursed	98,676	124,216	222,892	
Fifth	Approved	200,000	0	200,000	85.9
	Disbursed	171,990	0	171,990	
Additional activities (decision 89/6)	Approved	120,000	0	120,000	13.3
	Disbursed	15,901	0	15,901	
Total	Approved	820,000	650,000	1,470,000	89.1
	Disbursed	686,567	624,216	1,310,783	
	Balance	133,433	25,784	159,217	

Implementation plan for the sixth tranche of the HCFC phase-out management plan

12. The following activities will be implemented between January 2026 and December 2030:

- (a) *Policy review and amendments of regulations:* Organizing five consultation meetings on policy and regulations including ban on import of all HCFC-based equipment, enforcement of the condition for RAC servicing workshop and development of safety standards (UNEP) (US \$ 5,000);
- (b) *Training of enforcement officers:* Organizing four training workshops for 120 customs and enforcement officers on monitoring and controlling HCFC import and export; four training workshops for 80 customs brokers and importers on effective implementation of the quota and licensing system; support to the implementation of mandatory labelling requirements of HCFC cylinders to monitor and control illegal import of HCFC (UNEP) (US \$40,000);
- (c) *Training of RAC technicians:* Conducting seven training workshops for 210 RAC technicians on good service practices (UNEP) (US \$60,000);
- (d) *Certification of RAC technicians:* Implementing competency-based certification of RAC technicians to certify 300 RAC technicians (UNEP) (US \$45,000);
- (e) *Replacement support project for end-users:* Continue the implementation of the incentive programme to reach the targeted replacement of 900 HCFC-based residential units (UNDP) (balance from the fourth tranche);

- (f) *Outreach and awareness raising*: Developing appropriate communication tools to disseminate information related to HCFC phase-out and the Montreal Protocol; designing and producing awareness materials and media campaign for the target groups (UNEP) (US \$20,000);
- (g) *Activities to maintain energy efficiency (decision 89/6)*: Organizing four training workshops for 80 customs and enforcement officers on MEPS and labelling; one training for 20 importers on MEPS and labelling regulations; one training workshop for 20 participants from the Ministry of Commerce for market inspection; one pilot training for 25 technicians to assess suitability of the revised training agenda; providing support on MEPS implementation and product registration through support from United for Efficiency, providing technical support to conduct a market assessment to develop a programme for enhancing awareness of public on energy efficiency through support from the International Institute for Energy Conservation; implementing awareness and outreach activities in consultation with the relevant stakeholders (UNEP) (balance from approved fund at the 94th meeting); and
- (h) *Project monitoring* (UNEP) (US \$30,000): US \$13,750 for staff, US \$8,750 for travel and monitoring activities and US \$7,500 for overhead expenses and meeting.

SECRETARIAT'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION

COMMENTS

Progress report on the implementation of the fifth tranche of the HCFC phase-out management plan

Legal framework

13. The Government of Cambodia has issued HCFC import quotas for 2025 at 4.78 ODP tonnes, which is lower than the Montreal Protocol control targets.

14. The Secretariat inquired about the status of the ban on import of HCFC-based equipment, which was planned to be implemented by December 2022. UNEP replied that due to the time required for internal processes, the same has not yet been implemented. However, there is no import of HCFC-based equipment since 2021, and that the ban will be established by 1 January 2029.

Refrigeration servicing sector

15. In response to the Secretariat's inquiry on whether the incentive programme for residential air conditioner replacement might also consider R-290-based equipment, in addition HFC-32, considering start of HFC phase-down, UNDP replied that R-290 currently has hardly any presence in Cambodian market.

Gender policy implementation

16. In line with decision 84/92(d), during the implementation of the previous tranche, the NOU promoted gender inclusion in HPMP activities by encouraging women's participation in planning, training, and decision-making, as well as collecting relevant data and discussed gender issues in workshops. A total of 1,321 people participated in project activities including 215 women (16 per cent). These efforts contributed to ensuring both men and women could engage in and benefit from the project activities.

Sustainability of the HCFC phase-out and assessment of risks

17. The Government of Cambodia continues its commitment to phase out its HCFC consumption, through strengthening regulations and capacity-building of stakeholders. To ensure sustainability various measures are taken by the NOU including collaboration with importers and cross-checking HCFC import data with Customs and Excise General Department, conducting regular market surveys to assess the adoption of alternative technologies in the RAC sector, and monitoring the implementation of capacity-building activities with relevant agencies. The long-term sustainability of the complete phase-out of HCFCs will be ensured through measures such as continued coordination with key stakeholders, training of custom officers, continued implementation of the technician certification scheme, and harmonizing HPMP activities with stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan activities to ensure a smooth transition to alternatives with low global-warming potential (GWP). Potential risks include non-compliance with licencing system requirements, import of HCFC-based equipment, and limited recovery and reclamation activities. These will be mitigated through strengthening trade controls, organising border dialogues, imposing import restrictions, capacity-building of customs and enforcement officers, organising training and awareness workshops promoting low-GWP alternatives and energy-efficient practices.

Conclusion

18. The Secretariat notes that Cambodia remains in compliance with the Montreal Protocol targets and its Agreement with the Executive Committee, as also confirmed by the verification report. Although the ban on import of HCFC-based equipment will be established by 1 January 2029, no such import has taken place since 2021. Activities in the refrigeration servicing sector are proceeding and the level of funds disbursed is 85.9 per cent for the fifth tranche and 89.1 per cent for all funds approved under the HPMP. The proposed activities of the technician certification programme, continued customs and technician training, promoting market penetration of alternative technologies through the replacement programme and strengthening training institutions, will ensure the sustainability of the phase-out of HCFCs. Furthermore, activities under the energy efficiency component have been initiated for the development of MEPS and labelling, and efforts have also been initiated to build the sector's capacity for energy efficiency.

RECOMMENDATION

19. The Fund Secretariat recommends that the Executive Committee note the progress report on the implementation of the fifth tranche of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) for Cambodia and further recommends blanket approval of the sixth tranche of the HPMP and the corresponding 2026-2030 tranche implementation plan for Cambodia at the funding level shown in the table below.

	Project title	Project funding (US \$)	Support costs (US \$)	Implementing agency
(a)	HCFC phase-out management plan (sixth tranche)	200,000	26,000	UNEP