UNITED NATIONS

EP

United Nations Environment Programme

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/99/28
20 November 2026

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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

OVERVIEW OF ISSUES IDENTIFIED DURING PROJECT REVIEW

Introduction

1. This document consists of the following sections:

   I: Overview of projects and activities submitted by bilateral and implementing agencies

   II: Overview of projects and activities following the project review process:

      II.1 Projects submitted and subsequently withdrawn
      II.2 Projects recommended for blanket approval
      II.3 Projects recommended for individual consideration

   III: Issues identified during the project review process

      III.1 Methodology used to calculate the climate impacts from the implementation of Kigali HFC implementation plans (presented in the Addendum)[2]

   IV: Reports on the implementation of decisions and follow-up on previous discussions relating to project review:

      IV.1 Institutional strengthening renewal requests
      IV.2 Funding withheld pending submission of verification reports or meeting specific conditions
      IV.3 Prices of controlled substances and alternatives

[1] UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/99/1
[2] UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/99/28/Add.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.

I. Overview of projects and activities submitted by bilateral and implementing agencies

2. Table 1 presents a summary of requests submitted by bilateral and implementing agencies to the 99th meeting.

Table 1. Requests submitted by bilateral and implementing agencies

Project and activities	No. of countries	No. of funding requests	Amounts requested (US $)	Amounts in principle (US $)
New stage of HCFC phase-out management plans (HPMPs)	2	3	195,605	566,880
Tranches of approved HPMPs	20	43	48,612,315	
Stage I of Kigali HFC implementation plans (KIPs)	11	21	5,243,853	11,809,246
Tranches of approved KIPs	9	20	2,694,916	
HFC investment project	1	1	422,109	
Renewal of institutional strengthening (IS) projects	26	26	8,675,788	
Preparation of new stages of HPMPs	2	4	89,200	
Preparation of stage I KIPs	3	9	756,300	
Additional activities to maintain energy efficiency in the servicing sector (decision 89/6)*	7	8	844,400	
Pilot projects on energy efficiency (decision 91/65)	6	10	4,386,821	
Pilot projects on energy efficiency (decision 94/60)	4	4	12,429,258	
Energy efficiency project (decision 95/87)	1	1	2,454,728	
Preparation of pilot projects on energy efficiency (decision 91/65)	2	2	85,600	
Preparation of pilot projects on energy efficiency (decision 94/60)	5	5	197,950	
Preparation of a pilot project (decision 95/87)	1	1	32,100	
Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) (2027 budget)		1	12,333,366	
Core unit costs (2027)		3	6,059,037	
Total		**162**	**105,513,346**	

*Requests for three countries (Gabon, Serbia and the United Republic of Tanzania) have been submitted as part of their HPMP tranche requests.

Note: Funding amounts include agency support costs.

II. Overview of projects and activities following the project review process

3. Following the project review process, 14 funding requests for projects and activities totalling US $8,507,666, including agency support costs, have been withdrawn, 85 requests totalling US $14,945,472, including agency support costs, have been recommended for blanket approval, and 63 requests totalling US $80,498,046, including agency support costs, have been forwarded for individual consideration. Together, the funding requests for projects and activities recommended for either blanket approval or individual consideration amount to US $95,443,518, including agency support costs.

II.1 Projects submitted and subsequently withdrawn

4. Table 2 presents a summary of requests that were submitted by bilateral and implementing agencies to the 99th meeting and subsequently withdrawn.

Table 2. Requests submitted and subsequently withdrawn

Projects and activities	No. of countries	No. of funding requests	Amount requested (US $)
Tranches of approved HPMPs	2	4	2,729,088
Stage I of a KIP	1	3	736,729
Tranche of an approved KIP	1	3	1,566,341

Projects and activities	No. of countries	No. of funding requests	Amount requested (US $)
Pilot project on energy efficiency (decision 91/65)	1	1	749,000
Pilot project on energy efficiency (decision 95/87)	1	1	2,454,728
Preparation of pilot projects on energy efficiency (decision 94/60)	1	1	32,100
Total		**14**	**8,507,666**

Note: Funding amounts include agency support costs.

Tranches of approved HCFC phase-out management plans (Pakistan and the Philippines)

5. UNIDO, on behalf of the Government of Pakistan, submitted a request for the second tranche of stage III of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP). Since the disbursement of the previously approved tranche was less than 20 per cent, UNIDO withdrew the tranche request.

6. UNIDO, on behalf of the Government of the Philippines, submitted a request for the second tranche of stage II of the HPMP. Following a delay in submitting the endorsement letter, UNIDO notified the Secretariat that the Government needed more time for consultation. Consequently, the tranche request was withdrawn and will be resubmitted to the 100th meeting.

Stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan (Syrian Arab Republic)

7. UNEP, on behalf of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, submitted a proposal for stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan (KIP). Following discussions with the lead and cooperating agencies, and in light of: (a) the fact that preparation of the proposal took place during a period of instability over the past two years, resulting in incomplete data collection and reliance on estimates, assumptions, and projections for several consuming sectors; (b) the long delay in implementing previously approved projects, including manufacturing conversion projects under the HPMP with unspent balances; and (c) the fact that the country's political and institutional situation has stabilized and normal governmental operations are on track, with plans for rapid reconstruction following years of instability, the Secretariat, UNEP and UNIDO agreed on an approach focused on reinstating the operation and capacity of the national ozone unit, completing pending activities under stage I of the HPMP,[3] and re-surveying the consuming sectors to support the preparation of stage II of the HPMP and of the KIP and to ensure those were based on accurate, up-to-date information and projections. Accordingly, UNEP informed the Secretariat of the Government's request to withdraw the submission of stage I of the KIP, on the understanding that it would be updated and resubmitted to a future meeting, allowing time for improved data collection and analysis that accounted for the expected rapid growth in a number of related consuming sectors.

Tranche of an approved Kigali HFC implementation plan (Chile)

8. UNDP, on behalf of the Government of Chile, submitted a request for the second tranche of the KIP. While some progress has been made in the implementation of the first tranche, the level of fund disbursement was below 20 per cent. UNDP indicated that 60 per cent of the funds had been committed and it was expected that some would be disbursed soon after the deadline for project submission. As disbursement remained at 7.8 per cent for the first tranche six weeks prior to the meeting, UNDP withdrew the tranche request.

Pilot project on energy efficiency pursuant to decision 91/65 (Viet Nam)

9. UNIDO, on behalf of the Government of Viet Nam, submitted a request for a pilot project related to energy efficiency (decision 91/65): Demonstration of energy-efficient and low-global-warming-potential (GWP) cooling technologies for data centres in Viet Nam. Noting the significant administration changes in

[3] Requests for phase VII of the institutional strengthening (IS) project and an extension of stage I of the HPMP have been submitted to the current meeting.

the Government and the need to restructure the project, UNIDO withdrew the proposal as more time was required to discuss with the new administration and to redesign the project.

Pilot project on energy efficiency pursuant to decision 95/87 (South Africa)

10. UNIDO, on behalf of the Government of South Africa, submitted a proposal for a project to enhance energy efficiency in the context of HFC phase-down in the manufacturing of heat exchangers in line with decision 95/87. In reviewing the proposal, the Secretariat noted insufficient information on the use of alternative low-GWP refrigerants for this type of equipment in the country, as well as linkage of local manufacturers' adoption of low-GWP, energy-efficient technologies in the sector. Following discussions, UNIDO informed the Secretariat of the Government's request to withdraw the submission from the present meeting, on the understanding that it would be updated and resubmitted for consideration at a future meeting.

Project to enhance energy efficiency in commercial refrigeration manufacturing (decision 91/65) (India)

11. UNDP submitted a project to enhance the energy efficiency of R-290-based stand-alone commercial refrigeration equipment manufactured by the enterprise Birla Aircon.[4] As established by decision 95/87(d), projects submitted under decision 91/65 were only eligible for funding if they related to activities in the servicing sector. Since the proposed project did not meet this criterion, it was not eligible for funding under decision 91/65. Therefore, UNDP withdrew the project and indicated the Government's intention to submit a project to enhance the energy efficiency of stand-alone commercial refrigeration equipment manufactured in the country under decision 94/60 at a future meeting. The Secretariat noted that, similar to other eligible manufacturing enterprises, Birla Aircon would be eligible to receive additional capital costs for this project (including, for example, product design and testing, which could include development of prototypes, training of personnel and factory upgrades) as well as additional operating costs (above the agreed incremental operating costs under the present project), in line with the proposed energy-efficiency targets.

II.2 Projects recommended for blanket approval

12. Table 3 presents a summary of requests recommended for blanket approval. Document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/99/30, considered under agenda item 9(c), includes additional information on those requests, the Secretariat's recommendation for the consideration of the Executive Committee, and an annex containing a full list of projects recommended for blanket approval.

Table 3. Requests recommended for blanket approval

Projects and activities	No. of countries	No. of funding requests	Amounts recommended (US $)
Tranches of approved HPMPs	14	25	2,835,955
Preparation of stage II/III of HPMPs	2	4	89,200
Tranches of approved KIPs	6	12	1,671,476
Preparation of stage I of KIPs	3	9	895,400
Renewal of IS projects	26	26	8,675,788
Additional activities to maintain energy efficiency in the servicing sector (decision 89/6)*	6	7	713,452
Preparation of pilot projects on energy efficiency (decision 91/65)	2	2	64,200
Total		**85**	**14,945,472**

*Requests for two countries (Gabon and the United Republic of Tanzania) have been submitted as part of their HPMP tranche requests.

Note: Funding amounts include agency support costs.

[4] Paragraphs 37–78 of document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/99/56

II.3 Projects recommended for individual consideration

13. Table 4 presents a summary of requests submitted for individual consideration. More details on those projects and activities are contained in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/99/31, considered under agenda item 9(d).

Table 4. Requests recommended for individual consideration

Projects and activities	No. of countries	No. of funding requests	Amounts recommended (US $)	Amounts in principle (US $)
Stage II/III of HPMPs	2	3	195,605	566,880
Tranches of approved HPMPs	4	14	43,046,260	
Stage I of KIPs	10	18	3,296,074	5,818,233
Tranches of approved KIPs	2	5	286,712	
HFC investment project	1	1	422,109	
Additional activities to maintain energy efficiency in the servicing sector (decision 89/6)*	1	1	128,400	
Pilot projects on energy efficiency (decisions 91/65)	5	9	2,727,005	
Pilot projects on energy efficiency (decisions 94/60)	3	3	11,842,979	
Preparation of pilot projects on energy efficiency (decision 94/60)	4	4	149,800	
Preparation of a pilot project on energy efficiency (decision 95/87)	1	1	10,700	
CAP (2027 budget)		1	12,333,366	
Core unit costs (2027)			6,059,036	
Total		**63**	**80,498,046**	

* Submitted as part of the request for stage III of HPMP for Serbia

Note: Funding amounts include agency support costs

III. Issues identified during the project review process

III.1 Methodology used to calculate the climate impacts from the implementation of Kigali HFC implementation plans

14. The issue is presented in the addendum to the present document.[5]

IV. Reports on the implementation of decisions and follow-up on previous discussions relating to project review

IV.1 Institutional strengthening renewal requests

15. The Secretariat reviewed the terminal reports and requests for the extension of institutional strengthening (IS) funding for 26 countries against relevant decisions, including decision 91/63(d) on the funding level for IS projects, and decision 91/63(c) on the requirement to use the revised format for terminal reports and requests for the extension of IS funding and the corresponding performance indicators. All requests were crosschecked against original work plans for the previous IS phase, data reported under the country programme (CP) implementation report and Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol; the latest reports on the implementation of HPMPs and KIPs; implementing agencies' progress reports; and any relevant decisions on compliance adopted by the Parties to the Montreal Protocol. All countries submitted the 2025 CP data as at the date of issuance of the relevant work programme documents. All the requests submitted included an assessment of performance indicators, project risk and sustainability, and achievement of the IS objectives, in accordance with decision 91/63(b). The Secretariat observed that there was a good

[5] UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/99/28/Add.1

level of consistency in the application of the performance indicators between the countries requesting IS funding. The Secretariat recommended all IS projects submitted to the 99th meeting for blanket approval.

IV.2 Funding withheld pending submission of verification reports or meeting specific conditions

16. At the 98th meeting, the Executive Committee approved the second tranche of stage I of the KIP for Albania, the second tranche of stage II of the HPMPs for Benin, Burkina Faso and Cabo Verde, and the third tranche of stage III of the HPMPs for the Dominican Republic and Panama, on the understanding that the approved funds would not be transferred to relevant agencies until the Secretariat had reviewed the verification reports and confirmed that the countries were in compliance with the Montreal Protocol and their Agreements with the Executive Committee (decision 98/26). The verification reports for all countries were received and, following satisfactory review and confirmation of compliance, the Secretariat notified the Treasurer and the funds were released.

17. At the 93rd meeting, the Executive Committee approved the second tranche of stage II of the HPMP for Qatar, on the understanding that the funds approved for UNEP's component would only be transferred by the Treasurer to UNEP after the Secretariat had confirmed that the country had implemented the commitments listed in decision 88/54(e). As detailed in paragraphs 23 to 29 of document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/99/68, the last of the measures adopted by the Government to implement those commitments was issued, and the Secretariat requested the Treasurer to transfer to UNEP the funds approved for the second tranche.

18. The release of funds for the tranches for the following countries remains subject to the conditions set by the Executive Committee.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

19. At the 98th meeting, the Executive Committee approved the second tranche of stage II of the HPMP for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, on the understanding that the approved funding would not be transferred to UNEP and UNDP until the Secretariat had reviewed the verification report and confirmed that the Democratic Republic of the Congo was in compliance with the Montreal Protocol and the Agreement between the Government and the Executive Committee; and to UNDP also, until the Secretariat had reviewed the final report of the feasibility study for the establishment of a recovery and reclamation system in the country, to be submitted at least 10 weeks prior to the 99th meeting (decision 98/26). UNDP submitted the feasibility study report to the Secretariat on 30 September 2026, and UNEP advised that the verification report was in the final stages of preparation and would be submitted prior to the 99th meeting. Upon receipt of the verification report, the Secretariat will review both documents and report to the Executive Committee at the 100th meeting.

Mexico

20. At the 98th meeting, the Executive Committee approved the second tranche of stage I of the KIP for Mexico, on the understanding that the Treasurer would transfer the approved funds associated with the UNDP tranche only upon confirmation by the Secretariat that UNDP had signed the contracts with the two systems houses involved in the project and had submitted the first list of eligible downstream users included in the project, along with their HFC consumption (decision 98/47(b)(ii)). UNDP submitted a progress report to the Secretariat on 10 September 2026, providing the first list of eligible downstream users for inclusion in the project and reporting substantial progress in finalizing agreements with the systems houses. At that time, the agreements were expected to be signed in November 2026. As of 19 November, one agreement had already been signed and the second was expected to be finalized in the coming weeks. Once UNDP confirms that both agreements have been signed, the Secretariat will notify the Treasurer to proceed with the transfer of funds to UNDP.

Nigeria

21. At the 98th meeting, the Executive Committee approved the fourth and final tranche of stage II of the HPMP for Nigeria, on the understanding that US $25,000 of funding agreed for the fourth tranche would be withheld by the Treasurer until UNDP informed the Secretariat that the ban on the import and manufacture of HCFC-22-based equipment was being enforced (decision 98/34(d)). UNDP informed the Secretariat that the ban would enter into force on 1 January 2027. Once UNDP confirms the enforcement of the ban, the Secretariat will notify the Treasurer to proceed with the transfer of funds.

IV.3 Prices of controlled substances and alternatives

22. In line with decision 79/4(c), the Secretariat presents for information purposes a summary of the prices of the controlled substances and the alternatives to be phased in for investment projects included as part of the KIP for Bangladesh and India, as submitted to the 99th meeting.

Bangladesh: Stage I of the Kigali HFC implementation plan – foam manufacturing sector

23. The Secretariat reviewed an investment project in the polyurethane foam manufacturing sector as part of stage I of the KIP for Bangladesh, finding no price difference between R-410A and HFC-32 compared to what was reported in the CP data report for 2025. In the case of HFC-245fa contained in pre-blended polyols and cyclopentane, since no information was provided in the CP data report, the Secretariat used the prices provided by the agency to evaluate the foam sector project.

India: Conversion from HFC-134a and R-407C to R-290 in the manufacturing of commercial refrigeration appliances at Birla Aircon

24. The Secretariat reviewed an investment project to convert two lines manufacturing commercial refrigeration appliances from HFC-134a and R-407C to R-290 at the enterprise Birla Aircon. The conversion would eliminate 23.77 mt of HFC-134a and 0.14 mt of R-407C (23.91 mt in total) consumed annually. The price of HFC-134a provided in the submission is consistent with that provided in the CP data report; the CP report does not provide a price for R-407C or R-290.