Network meeting of Ozone Officers for Mexico, Central and South America and Spanish-speaking Caribbean, Quito, Ecuador 19-22 August 2014

Results of the workshop on the management of HFCs, Paris
11-12 July 2014

Gilbert M. Bankobeza
Ozone Secretariat
UNEP

Workshop on the management of HFCs, Paris, 11-12 July 2014

The workshop discussed HFC management in the context of

- > Technical aspects
- > Legal aspects and mutually supportive measures
- > Finance and technology transfer
- Policies and measures for HFC management

Technical aspects

Significant growth in HFC use is expected in Article 5 parties owing to population growth, urbanization, electrification and consumer patterns

* A number of policies and regulations to control HFCs are now in place in a number of countries and regulations have created interest in markets to develop alternatives

Technical aspects

* Time is needed for alternative technologies to be commercialized, validated and become available in developing country markets

* Technical support is needed to assist businesses in developing countries in building skills of servicing technicians in order to handle many new flammable refrigerants and technologies

Legal aspects and mutually supportive measures

- * The Vienna Convention and its Montreal Protocol and the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol can complement each other
- * Jurisdictional overlap between the two regimes is an opportunity to examine and resolve issues and to determine shared responsibilities among the regimes
- * Current and future conflict issues can be resolved through conflict clauses and reaching agreement on the sharing of responsibilities

Legal aspects and mutually supportive measures

- Parties are free to decide to modify a treaty or conclude a new treaty on the same subject
- Treaties could be amended only if there was agreement by all parties, through a negotiating process
- * In case of conflict between the climate regime and any amended Montreal Protocol arose, a clause in the amendment clarifying its effects on the UNFCCC could be included to resolve the conflict

Finance and technology transfer

* Assisting Article 5 parties in maximizing the climate benefits of HCFC phase-out and managing HFCs will be complex due to diverse range of alternatives

* There are different challenges for technology users, technology takers and technology providers

 Usefulness of demonstration projects to respond to specific (technical) challenges was acknowledged

Finance and technology transfer

- Availability of financial resources to cover the cost of transition was mentioned as one of the specific challenge
- Several options were mentioned for parties to further explore including
- Setting a clear target on HFCs to increase (financial and non-financial) incentives to develop and implement low-GWP and energy efficient alternatives
- Developing a leapfrog approach for Article 5 parties and a leadership approach for non-Article 5 parties to address the management of HFCs
- Using the experience of the Montreal Protocol and its financial mechanisms to leapfrog HFCs and at the same time consider energy efficiency

Policies and measures for HFC management

- * Policies and measures are designed to both restrict and reduce emissions of HFCs and to restrict their use
- Policies often use a combination of mandatory or regulatory measures and voluntary approaches

For manufacturing sectors, the focus is on conversion from high-GWP to low-GWP alternatives

Policies and measures for HFC management

* For servicing sectors, the focus is on containment and promotion of new energy-efficient refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment using low-GWP refrigerants

* Appropriate controls and the enforcement of measures is needed to ensure good maintenance and servicing practices for the safe operation of equipment using flammable alternatives

Thank you
Gilbert.Bankobeza@unep.org
http://ozone.unep.org