

## EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA (ECA) MEETING OF OZONE OFFICERS IN ANTALYA, TURKEY, 11-12 OCTOBER 2018

### MEDIA BRIEFING

**European and Central Asian countries, the Ozone Secretariat and implementing agencies of the Montreal Protocol met in Antalya to share information and lessons learned from their efforts to reduce the use of ozone-depleting and global warming chemicals.**

The meeting of the Regional Ozone Network for Europe and Central Asia (ECA network) took place after to the twining workshop for Montreal Protocol officers (formerly ozone officers<sup>1</sup>) and national energy policymakers on ozone layer-friendly, climate-friendly and energy-efficient refrigeration and air-conditioning. It was jointly organized by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization of Turkey and UN Environment / OzonAction and opened by Ms. Pervin Dogan, Chief of the Division for the Protection of the Ozone Layer of the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization of Turkey.



Group photo of the ECA meeting in Antalya

The participants included the designated Montreal Protocol officers of the ECA network countries as well as representatives of Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine which are countries with economies in transition (CEIT countries). It was supported by the representatives of the Ozone Secretariat in Nairobi and the implementing agencies UNDP, UN Environment and UNIDO.

### Overview of topics discussed

The agenda covered the report of the Ozone Secretariat on the status of compliance, reporting and ratification of the Kigali Amendment in the ECA region, outcomes of the Open-Ended-Working Group meeting and the energy-efficiency workshop in Vienna,

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<sup>1</sup> With the entry into force of the Kigali Amendment on 1 January 2019, the Montreal Protocol (MP) will also control and phase-down the production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons which are global warming gases but do not contribute to ozone layer depletion. It is therefore more accurate to refer to Montreal Protocol officers (MP officers) than to ozone officers.

policy matters related to the forthcoming Meeting of the Parties in Quito as well as highlights of the World Ozone Day celebrations.

The status of enabling activities for Kigali Amendment ratification was reviewed and several countries might request additional time to complete the projects. Participants shared their experience related to Article 7 and Country Programme data reporting and discussed the difference between both type of reports and how to obtain reliable data on the use of controlled substances by sector. It was highlighted that the experts who conduct verification reports would need to be independent and should not be involved in the preparation or implementation of HCFC phase-out management plans. There have been lively discussions on gender mainstreaming of Montreal Protocol projects and policies and countries requested a webinar and training on that issue.

The countries shared information on World Ozone Day activities and several countries focused on industry stakeholders this year. Macedonia FYR presented potential synergies between Montreal Protocol related legislation and that for end-of-life electronic and electrical equipment which includes refrigeration and air-conditioning appliances. Armenia described non-state actions on promoting energy-efficiency in the country based on a GIZ publication and related posters. UNDP presented several case studies and results of demonstration projects focusing on energy-efficiency. UNIDO briefed the participants on the status of the regional centre of excellence in Yerevan which offers training for refrigeration technicians on the safe use of alternative refrigerants.

UN Environment encouraged the countries to use available publications, tools and resources in the design of HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down strategies. Countries were encouraged to submit nominations for the Global Montreal Protocol Award for Customs and Enforcement Officers. Bosnia and Herzegovina reported two additional seizures and Serbia prevented illegal trade through the application of the informal Prior Consent mechanism. So far, UN Environment received 23 preliminary indications of seizures out of which 15 took place in the ECA region. This demonstrates the commitment and dedication of customs and enforcement officers in the region.

Small working groups prepared action plans for the implementation of selected panel recommendations of the inter-regional thematic technical workshops and network meetings in Paris in January 2018. This exercise was meant to encourage Montreal Protocol officers to review the list of more than 130 panel recommendations, to select priority recommendations and to develop action plans for implementation.

The results of the survey on ECA needs and priorities, which was conducted in Valencia in June 2018, were presented and the host countries for ECA and KCEP meetings in 2019 decided. Ukraine agreed to host the ECA meetings with the involvement of customs and enforcement officers in May 2019 and Serbia offered to host the ECA / KCEP meeting with the involvement of national energy policymakers in December 2019.

Interested participants visited an ozone-friendly, climate-friendly and energy-efficient ammonia / carbon dioxide cascade system in the nearby Erm Tarim AS factory in Ermenek / Karaman.

### **ECA meetings Kiev and Belgrade in 2019**

The participants agreed to hold next year's ECA meeting in Kiev, tentatively in May 2019, with the involvement of Montreal Protocol officers and customs / enforcement officers and selected winners of the Global Montreal Protocol Award for Customs and Enforcement Officers. The enforcement of trade restrictions and prevention of illegal trade is considered crucial for the successful implementation of the Montreal Protocol.

Serbia offered to host next year's twining workshop for Montreal Protocol officers and national energy policymakers in Belgrade, tentatively in December 2019, in conjunction with the SMEITS / KGH international congress on heating, refrigeration and air-conditioning<sup>2</sup> which will take place 4-6 December 2019. This would allow the participants to attend also the annual technology roundtable on ozone-friendly, climate-friendly and energy-efficient cooling technologies which is organized under the awareness component of Serbia's HCFC phase-out management plan.



Plenary of the annual SMEITS / KGH congress on heating, refrigeration and air-conditioning in Belgrade

Also, Albania, Belarus, Macedonia FYR, Russia and Turkey expressed their willingness to host future network meeting.

### **Needs and priorities of the ECA network countries**

The results of the assessment of needs and priorities of the ECA network countries, which was conducted during the Valencia meeting in June 2018, was presented and the

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<sup>2</sup> The SMEITS / KGH international congress on heating, refrigeration and air-conditioning takes place annually in Belgrade, Serbia and will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2019. The parallel exhibition includes more than 120 booths with companies from Serbia and around the world. The KGH Society is a member of ASHRAE, REHVA, IIR and produces quarterly KGH journals and disseminates electronic newsletters. Please visit the congress website for more detailed information: [www.kgh-kongres.rs/](http://www.kgh-kongres.rs/).

countries clearly confirmed the need for other ECA meetings in 2019 beside the ECA K-CEP twinning workshop.

Considering the funding constraints, most countries preferred involving customs and enforcement officers in the ECA meeting in 2019, and refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) associations / experts in the ECA meeting in 2020. The meeting with RAC associations / experts should preferably be arranged in parallel to an international RAC conference as the previous meetings in Belgrade, Ohrid and Valencia.

The majority of countries would welcome a twinning meeting with Montreal Protocol officers from another region. A few countries indicated that they would benefit from a special training for Montreal Protocol officers about half of the countries were interested in country-to-country assistance (subject to funding availability).

Russian-speaking countries indicated that they would benefit from the translation of policy and technical documents into Russian.

### **Global Montreal Protocol Award for Customs and Enforcement Officers 2018**

The award was launched in January 2018 and so far, UN Environment / OzonAction received preliminary indication of 23 seizures including 15 seizures in the Europe and Central Asia region. This demonstrates the commitment and dedication of customs and enforcement officers in the region. In addition, illegal / unwanted trade has been



prevented through the informal Prior Informed Consent (iPIC) mechanism in Serbia which is equally eligible for the global award. Nominations for the award can be submitted until end of December 2018. For further information and the nomination form in English and Russian languages, please visit the following webpage:

<http://web.unep.org/ozonaction/partnership/global-montreal-protocol-customs-enforcement-award>



Seizure of HFC-134a cylinders labelled as helium for blowing up balloons. It is a potential health hazard when HFC-134a is inhaled e.g. provoking lethargy and liver damage.

## **Use of available information materials, tools and resources**

UN Environment / OzonAction encouraged the participating countries to use the available information materials, resources and tools and to incorporate them in the HCFC phase-out and future HFC phase-down strategies. The following products and resources are currently available:

1. Publications and factsheets:
  - HFC policy and legislative measures
  - Kigali factsheets
  - Cold chain technology briefs
  - Quick guide for servicing flammable refrigerants
  - Refrigerants classification
  - refrigerant management for future engineers (university course)
  - Customs training manual
2. Mobile applications:
  - “What gas ?”
  - GWP / ODP calculator
  - eDocs+ publications and awareness materials
  - Refrigeration and air-conditioning technician video series
3. Electronic tools and online learning:
  - WCO course for customs officers
  - Refrigerants literacy course
  - Informal Prior Informed Consent initiative

## **Action plans to implement selected panel recommendations of the inter-regional thematic technical workshops and network meetings in Paris in January 2018**

The more than 130 recommendations resulting from seven panel discussions were translated into Russian and the Montreal Protocol officers participating in Valencia meeting in June 2018 provided feedback on the relevance of these recommendations for their respective countries and to which extent they have already been implemented. This feedback has been incorporated in the handouts of the Antalya meeting to assist the Montreal Protocol officers to identify a few priority recommendations and to elaborate action plans on how to implement them in an effective manner. Seven working groups presented the action plans for the implementation of 14 recommendations in the plenary. The aim of this exercise was to encourage the Montreal Protocol officers to review the panel recommendation, to elaborate action plans for the implementation of selected priority recommendations and to incorporate them into their respective HCFC phase-out and HFC phase-down strategies.

## **Inclusion of gender dimension on Montreal Protocol projects**

The Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer is conducting a desk study on the evaluation of gender mainstreaming in the Montreal Protocol projects and policies (Decision 81/7) and the Executive Committee invited bilateral and implementing

agencies to take into account the information in the desk study for the evaluation of gender mainstreaming in Montreal Protocol projects and policies, and to apply their own institutions' gender policies to the projects and activities approved under the Multilateral Fund, when relevant. UN Environment was requested to inform Montreal Protocol officer, through regional network meetings, about the discussions that had taken place on gender mainstreaming and about Decision 81/7, and to seek their input with regard to a potential gender policy for the Multilateral Fund. The Secretariat would prepare a discussion document for the 83rd meeting, outlining possible objectives and elements of a potential gender policy for the Multilateral Fund, taking into account the policies of the bilateral and implementing agencies, input received from the NOUs and other relevant information.

Previously, UNDP had included gender related sessions in the agendas of their project meetings for countries with economies in transition (GEF-funded) and gender related presentations were also delivered during the thematic meetings of the ECA network in Chisinau and in Belgrade in November 2016. After a short review of the terminology used to describe the gender sensitivity of projects, ranging from gender blind and gender neutral to gender sensitive, responsive, transformative and gender mainstreaming, the participants discussed how to categorize Montreal Protocol projects and how to incorporate the gender dimension in future project submissions.

Relevant documents were included in meeting USB which was distributed during the last meeting day, including:

1. UNEnv Gender equality and the environment – policy and strategy English 2015
2. UNEnv Global gender and environment outlook 2016 English
3. UNWomen WB UNDP UNEnv Cost of the gender gap in agricultural productivity English
4. FAO UNDP UNEnv Guidance note on gender sensitive REDD 2013 English
5. UNEnv Gender plan of action 2007 English)
6. UNIDO Guide on gender mainstreaming - Montreal Protocol projects 2015 English

UNDP informed on their ongoing study by a gender specialist reviewing the status of gender mainstreaming in the foam, refrigeration and air-conditioning and servicing sectors in three regions (not ECA). It was agreed that the report and recommendations of the study shall be shared with the network countries and that UNDP / UN Environment will arrange a webinar to inform about the results of the study. It was also agreed to include a training session for Montreal Protocol officers in the forthcoming ECA meeting to be conducted by a gender expert.

In order to provide input for the desk study on gender mainstreaming in Montreal Protocol projects and policies, the network countries will send information on how gender mainstreaming is currently handled in their respective countries and suggest ideas on how to incorporate the gender dimension into Montreal Protocol projects and policies to UN Environment / OzonAction for compilation. The Montreal Protocol officers



welcomed the “Women in Refrigeration” initiative and enquired about the status of the IIR initiative on promoting the education of women in refrigeration.

### **Site visit of ammonia / carbon dioxide cascade system**

Participants had the opportunity to visit an ozone-friendly, climate-friendly and energy-efficient ammonia / carbon dioxide cascade system in the Yörükoğlu Dairy Production Factory in Antalya.



Meeting participants visiting the ammonia / carbon dioxide cascade system

The factory is processing, freezing, freeze drying and storing a variety of agricultural products and requires room temperatures between +10 and -33 degrees Celsius with a planned cooling capacity of 854 KW. For temperatures below -30 degrees Celsius, the second stage carbon dioxide system has a higher coefficient of performance (COP) and consumes less electrical energy than comparable systems using ammonia. In addition, investment costs, system size, tube diameters, refrigerant charge and refrigerant costs are less, and carbon dioxide is non-flammable and non-toxic. The manufacturer Erkasis Sogutma has installed eight similar cascade systems in Turkey and is currently installing another system in Dubai.

Contact: Mr. Barış Uçaner, SOSIAD, Email: [baris.ucaner@cantassogutma.com](mailto:baris.ucaner@cantassogutma.com)

Contact: Mr. Ercin Kaymak, ERKASIS, Email: [ercin@erkasis.com](mailto:ercin@erkasis.com) .



Ammonia first stage (higher temp.)



Carbon dioxide second stage (low temp.)

Turkey recently adopted legislation on fluorinated greenhouse gases in line with the European Union F-gas regulation. The new legislation will gradually restrict the use of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and natural refrigerants such as ammonia and carbon dioxide will become increasingly attractive in industrial and commercial applications.

### **Meeting evaluation**

Meeting participants completed an evaluation questionnaire and the overall evaluation of the meeting as excellent (91%) and good (9%).

### **Meeting documents and presentations**

Meeting documents and presentations will be made available on the OzonAction meeting portal:

[www.ozonactionmeetings.org/europe-and-central-asia-annual-meeting-ozone-officers-antalya-turkey-11-12-october-2018](http://www.ozonactionmeetings.org/europe-and-central-asia-annual-meeting-ozone-officers-antalya-turkey-11-12-october-2018)

Contact: Halvart Koeppen, Email: [halvart.koppen@un.org](mailto:halvart.koppen@un.org).