

## World Ozone Day and 30 years of Montreal Protocol 2017

16 September 2017



The celebration of World Ozone Day is part of outreaching activities that the Lao National Ozone Unit (Lao NOU) used to distribute information and raise awareness regarding to the importance of ozone protection to the general public. This year is a special occasion to mark the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Montreal Protocol and Lao NOU hosted the event at National Convention Centre on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017 with more than 170 participants from various government sectors, university and high school students.



**Mr. Khamphanh NANTHAVONG**, Director General of Pollution Control Department, made his statements on the involvement of Lao PDR as a party to the Protocol and achievement since ratification of the Protocol in 1998. He congratulated all relevant agencies who made a strong commitment and cooperation which brought a successful story in response to ozone depletion.

**Mr. Pipat Pooperasupong**, HPMP Officer of UN Environment OzonAction addressed to the audiences on history of the Montreal Protocol and what this treaty does to help the ozone layer recovered and how it links to the mitigation of the climate change. In his statements, he expressed his appreciation that Lao PDR is in the advance stage to ratify Kigali Amendment to phase down the use of HFCs. During the event, a documentary on the Kigali Amendment, which is translated



into local language, was displayed to address the global response to combat the climate change by reducing the use of high global-warming substances.



Following the statements, **Mr. Thevarack PHONEKEO**, Lao National Ozone Officer (NOO) made a presentation on the obligation of Lao PDR to the Protocol and the government strategies to phase-out ozone depleting substances as well as the activities and achievements that Lao PDR has implemented since the ratification to the Montreal Protocol. After the NOO presentation, a representative from Pakpasak Technical College, **Mr. Khamphone CHANSY** and Chairman of Lao Refrigeration Association, **Mr. Khenphone CHANTHAVONE** addressed their roles that potentially contribute to the country's compliance to the Protocol. The video message on the international day for the preservation of ozone layer "Marking the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Montreal Protocol" of UN' Secretary-General was displayed to the participants with translation into local language.



To gain more understanding from young generation, a student from National University of Laos was invited to share her ideas and perspectives on the importance of ozone layer and the effect of UV to human and environment.

At the end of the event, an ozone quiz activity was launched and 4 teams from university and high school joined the quiz. Two teams who won the competition were awarded with a study support fund.





Apart from the above event, Lao NOU also outreached the ozone day celebration through the following channels:

- Interview of Director of Pollution Control Division, a focal point to Montreal Protocol regarding the Montreal Protocol, which was broadcasted on 13-18 September 2017;
- Interview of the Chairman of Lao Refrigeration Association and an instructor from Pakpasak Technical College regarding their involvement which was broadcasted on 13-18 September 2017;
- A news article published in local newspapers such as Vientiane Mai, Pasason and Vientiane Times regarding Montreal Protocol and types of refrigerants controlled under Montreal Protocol.
- Publishing 3,000 Ozzy cartoon books and 3,000 posters as gifts for International Ozone Day and to be distributed to government agencies and schools.
- Installing street banners around Vientiane to mark the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Montreal Protocol and World Ozone Day.

