

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix – Travail – Patrie

**MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT, DE LA
PROTECTION DE LA NATURE ET DU
DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE**

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

DIRECTION DES NORMES
ET DU CONTROLE

BUREAU NATIONAL DE L'OZONE



REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace – Work – Fatherland

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
PROTECTION OF NATURE AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF STANDARDS
AND CONTROL

NATIONAL OZONE OFFICE

REPORT OF THE 33rd EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE OZONE LAYER 2020

REPORT



September 2020

BACKGROUND

The ozone layer is a layer in the Earth's atmosphere which absorbs most of the Sun's Ultraviolet (UV) radiation. The ozone layer absorbs 97–99% of the Sun's medium-frequency ultraviolet light, which otherwise would potentially damage exposed life forms on Earth. Ozone depletion describes two distinct but related phenomena observed since the late 1970s:

- A steady decline of about 4% per decade in the total volume of ozone in Earth's stratosphere, and
- A much larger springtime decrease in stratospheric ozone over the Earth's Polar Regions. The latter phenomenon is referred to as the ozone hole.

However, scientific confirmation of the depletion of this ozone layer prompted the international community to establish a mechanism for cooperation to take action to protect the ozone layer. This was formalized in the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, which was adopted and signed by 28 countries, on 22 March 1985. In September 1987, this led to the drafting of The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

The principal aim of the Montreal Protocol is to protect the ozone layer by taking measures to control total global production and consumption of substances that deplete it, with the ultimate objective of their elimination on the basis of developments in scientific knowledge and technological information.

It is suspected that a variety of biological consequences such as increases in skin cancer, cataracts, damage to plants, and reduction of plankton populations in the ocean's photic zone may result from the increased UV exposure due to ozone depletion.

On the 19th of December 1994, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed **16 September the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer**. This designation was made in commemoration of the date, in 1987, on which nations signed the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

The Protocol has led to the ban on the production of ozone-depleting substances like chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), halons, and other ozone-depleting chemicals such as carbon tetrachloride and trichloroethane. Attention focused initially on chemicals with higher ozone-depletion potentials including CFCs and halons. The phase-out schedule for Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) was more relaxed due to their lower ozone-depletion potentials and because they have also been used as transitional substitutes for CFCs.

The HCFC phase-out schedule was introduced in 1992 for developed and developing countries, the latter with a freeze in 2015, and final phase-out by 2030 in developed countries and 2040 in developing countries.

More recently with the coming into force of the Kigali Amendment, in January 2019, the phase down of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) comes into play. These substances were introduced as substitutes for HCFCs and from scientific and technological information, the inconveniences are that they possess very high global warming potentials (GWPs). The phasing down of these substances brings out the dual approach of the Montreal Protocol which is not only concern with the preservation of the ozone layer but also equally combating climate change.

INTRODUCTION

Cameroon joined the international community to commemorate this year's International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone layer, under the theme: **“Ozone for life; 35 years of Protection of the Ozone Layer”**.

The theme for this year recognizes the collective efforts and achievements of parties to the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol towards the restoration of the ozone layer over the last three and the half decades and the global commitment to combat climate change.

The global pandemic which has come to modify and imposed new methods of work and celebration, did not leave Cameroon indifferent. The day was mainly intended to spread awareness not only on the achievements of both the Convention and the Protocol at the level of the country but also on the importance of continually enhancing our measures to protect the Ozone Layer now and in the future.

Activities to commemorate the 33rd birthday of Ozone Layer Preservation ran from the 7th to the 16th of September 2020.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

The NOU of MINEPDED planned to mark the 2020 World Ozone Day with the following activities:

1. Wednesday, 02 – Friday, 04, September 2020

NOU of MINEPDED had a series of preparatory meetings in the office of the coordination to first of all take stock of 2019 activities; the weaknesses and

strength and then proposed areas of improvement. The proposed areas were to bring more visibility into the celebration as well as the activities of the ministry. More actors in the refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pump (RACHP) sector were co-up into the 2020 Ozone day celebration.

Terms of references for this year's celebration were prepared and made available to all the Regional Delegations to acquaint themselves with the theme and bring in more activities.

2. Monday, 07 – Friday, 11 September 2020

The National Ozone Unit together with the Communication Unit of MINEPDED made field visits with the media (Cameroon Radio and Television and Cameroon Tribune) to Douala and Yaoundé to collect data for the production of a documentary on Ozone activities in the country.

This field visit was to attest to the public what the National Ozone Unit is doing and to confirm to the media that Cameroon is in good footing as far as the implementation of the Montreal Protocol activities are concern.

Competition: Bilingual High School Essos, Government Technical High School Nkolbisson, Enfant Vert Programme, Think Green Club, Zoo Nature Club and Little Angel LANEK, all from Yaoundé were part of our school challenge.

There was launching of school competition on the main media, centered on best poem (video and audio) and essay writing of not more than 500 words, all on this year's theme.

Production of mask and hand sanitizers bearing theme of the year which were distributed to all present at the ceremonial ground.

3. Monday, 14 and Tuesday, 15 September 2020

Banners, brochures and posters were printed in English and French bearing the theme "**Ozone for life; 35 years of Protection of the Ozone Layer**". The banners and posters were placed at strategic points all over Yaoundé, whereas the brochures were generously distributed to the public.

Radio and Television broadcasts on Ozone Layer Protection: In the hope to create more awareness through the media on the importance of the Vienna Convention on mankind and the environment, including the importance of the Ozone layer protection, the NOU of MINEPDED prepared a press release which was aired on

the national radio station- Cameroon Radio and Television (CRTV); and printed in the National Press – Cameroon Tribune.

The public equally participated in a series of radio briefs on the same national radio station, coupled with footnotes on National Television. (*See Annexes 4 and 5 respectively*). All these messages highlighted NOU's/MINEPDED's obligations to protect the Ozone layer.

A jury was constituted to examine the project proposed by the competitors of the school challenge. The members were made up from diverse background but having knowledge of the Montreal Protocol.

The following criteria were used in evaluating the competitors:

- ✓ Reference to the 2020 theme of the world ozone day,
- ✓ Degree of creativity,
- ✓ Originality,
- ✓ Presentation style.

The schools or clubs that took part or submitted their projects included; Bilingual High School Essos, Government Technical High School Nkolbisson, Enfant Vert Programme, Think Green Club, Zoo Nature Club and Little Angel LANEK, all from Yaoundé.

The submission of project was a measure to enhance government barrier measures for COVID 19. This help to reduce physical contact and respect social distancing amongst peers.

4. Wednesday 16 September 2020

14:00 pm – 17:25p.m

This was the D-Day under the Chair Person of **Excellency Dr NANA ABOUBAKAR DJALLOH**, Minister Delegate to the Minister of Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development. It has held at the Conference Room of the Minister's Cabinet.

The National Anthem was sang by the general assembly while the Ozone Anthem was presented by Bilingual High School Essos with the acclamation of all present.

- ✚ This was closely followed by the presentation of the UN Secretary General's message, on the 2020 international day for the preservation of the ozone layer, by the National Ozone Focal Point.
- ✚ There was the viewing of a fifteen (15) minutes documentary prepared during the ozone week by a team of expert from Cameroon Radio and Television (CRTV).

- ✚ Subsequently, the long awaited results of the various competitions were announced, followed by the awarding of prizes to the proud and happy winners.
- ✚ The celebrations took on a more serious note with the speech of **Excellency Dr NANA ABOUBAKAR DJALLOH**, Minister Delegate to the Minister of Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development; which was warmly applauded by all.
- ✚ After the Minister's speech, all members present gathered together for the taking of the much cherished family photo.
- ✚ This was closely followed by a granted interview by the media to the Ozone Focal Point on behalf of the Minister Delegate.
- ✚ Last, but not least, the NOU of MINEPDED treated everyone, who made time to attend this prestigious celebration, to a sumptuous cocktail which marked the end of a day well spent.

Annexe 1. Programme of Activities



JOURNEE INTERNATIONALE DE L'OZONE 2020 PROGRAMME D'ACTIVITES 16 Septembre 2020



REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix – Travail – Patrie

MINISTERE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT, DE LA
PROTECTION DE LA NATURE ET DU
DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

DIRECTION DES NORMES
ET DU CONTROLE

BUREAU NATIONAL DE L'OZONE

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace – Work – Fatherland

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
PROTECTION OF NATURE AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF STANDARDS
AND CONTROL

NATIONAL OZONE OFFICE

JOURNEE INTERNATIONALE DE LA PROTECTION DE LA COUCHE D'OZONE 16 SEPTEMBRE 2020

Thème : « L'ozone pour la vie : 35 ans de protection de la couche d'ozone »

DATE	HEURES	ACTIVITE	LIEU
Du Lundi 07 au Vendredi 11 septembre 2020	A partir de 09 Heures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lancement du Concours de rédaction d'essais et de poème (vidéo et audio) sur les questions relatives à la préservation de la couche d'ozone qui met au prise le Lycée Technique de Nkolbisson, Lycée Bilingue d'Essos,, LANEC, Enfant Vert, Think Green and Zoo Nature Club- visite de terrain pour la collecte de données en vue de la production d'un documentaire	<i>On line</i> <i>Douala</i>
Du Lundi 14 à Mardi 15 septembre 2020	Chaque matin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sensibilisation du grand public sur la Préservation de la couche d'ozone à travers les médias :- Examen des œuvres d'art par le jury et publication des résultats	-CRTV -CANAL 2 -Cameroun Tribune -Vision 4

<p>Mercredi le 16 Septembre 2020</p>	<p>11H00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hymne national; - Lecture du message du S.G pour la journée internationale de la préservation de la couche d’ozone par le représentant Résident du PNUD Coordonnateur du système des Nations Unies au Cameroun ; - Projection des meilleurs résultats (vidéo, audio et rédaction) - Projection du documentaire sur l’ozone ; - remise des prix aux vainqueurs; - déclaration du MINEPDED; - Photo de famille ; - Exchange avec le media. 	<p>Salle vert du Cabinet du Ministre</p>
--	--------------	---	--

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

--

**MESSAGE ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY
FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE OZONE LAYER**

16 September 2020

There are few global agreements as successful as the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. Today, on World Ozone Day, we celebrate 35 years of this convention, which was the first step in fixing the hole in the planet's ozone layer.

Gases used in aerosols and cooling appliances were causing this hole. Under the convention's Montreal Protocol, governments, scientists and industry cooperated and have so far replaced 99 per cent of these gases. The ozone layer is now healing, safeguarding human and ecosystem health.

But the work of the Montreal Protocol is not over. Through the Protocol's Kigali Amendment, the international community is finding alternatives for coolants that contribute to the growing menace of climate disruption. If fully implemented, the Kigali Amendment can prevent 0.4 degrees Celsius of global warming. I congratulate the 100 Parties that have been leading by example.

As we look ahead to global recovery from the social and economic devastation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, we must commit to building stronger and more resilient societies. It is imperative that we put our efforts and investments into tackling climate change and protecting nature and the ecosystems that sustain us.

The ozone treaties stand out as inspiring examples that show that, where political will prevails, there is little limit to what we can achieve in common cause. Let us take encouragement from how we have worked together to preserve the ozone layer and apply the same will to healing the planet and forging a brighter and more equitable future for all humanity

Annex 3. Speech by MINEPDED

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix – Travail – Patrie

MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT,
DE LA PROTECTION DE LA NATURE
ET DU DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE



REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace – Work – Fatherland

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,
PROTECTION OF NATURE AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

33^{ème} JOURNEE INTERNATIONALE POUR LA PROTECTION DE LA COUCHE D'OZONE
16 SEPTEMBRE 2020

**DISCOURS DE SON EXCELLENCE Dr NANA ABOUBAKAR DJALLOH,
MINISTRE DELEGUE AUPRES DU MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT, DE LA
PROTECTION DE LA NATURE ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE.**

Monsieur le Secrétaire Général,

Monsieur l'Inspecteur Général,

Monsieur le Président du Conseil d'Administration de l'ONACC,

Mesdames et Messieurs les Directeurs,

Mesdames et Messieurs,

J'ai l'honneur et le plaisir de prendre la parole ici à l'occasion de la 33^{ème} édition de la journée internationale pour la préservation de la couche d'ozone qui se célèbre chaque année le 16 septembre.

Permettez-moi tout d'abord de souhaiter une chaleureuse bienvenue à tous les participants et de vous remercier pour votre présence à cette cérémonie.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Le Cameroun est parti à la Convention de Vienne sur la protection de la couche d'ozone et à son protocole appelé « Protocole de Montréal » relatif aux substances qui appauvrissent la couche d'ozone.

La commémoration de cette journée aux cotés de la communauté internationale témoigne, s'il en était besoin de l'engagement de notre pays à contribuer de manière significative à la préservation de la couche d'ozone pour le bien-être de l'humanité toute entière.

Certaines activités économiques du secteur de l'agriculture, de l'élevage, de l'industrie entre autres sont responsables de la destruction de la couche d'ozone.

Les industries de froid, de fabrication des mousses, des extincteurs, les installations de traitement de déchets d'équipement électriques et électroniques concourent aux émissions et aux rejets des substances qui appauvrissent la couche d'ozone.

Ces substances lorsqu'ils ne sont pas gérés de manière écologiquement rationnelle contribuent aussi au phénomène de réchauffement climatique

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Conscient du danger que représentent les substances chimiques et les SAO en particulier, et soucieux de préserver la santé humaine et protéger l'environnement, le Cameroun a ratifié la Convention de Vienne et le Protocole de Montréal y relatifs le 30 août 1989.

Aussi, le Cameroun a entrepris un certain nombre d'actions parmi lesquelles

- La délivrance de plus de cinq mille cinq cent (5500) Visas Techniques pour le contrôle de qualité des substances appauvrissant la couche d'ozone ;
- L'établissement d'un système de licence et de quota pour assurer l'élimination progressive des substances appauvrissant la couche d'ozone ;
- La signature de nombreux textes en matière de protection de l'environnement en général, et de la couche d'ozone en particulier, parmi lesquels l'adoption de la loi N°2019/011 du 19 juillet 2019, autorisant le Président de la République à ratifier l'amendement au Protocole de Montréal relatif aux substances qui appauvrissent la couche d'ozone, adopté à Kigali le 16 octobre 2016.

Actuellement, il est question pour le Cameroun de signer et de déposer l'instrument de ratification de l'amendement de Kigali.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

En cette année marquée par la pandémie de COVID-19, qui a entraîné des difficultés sociales et économiques, le message porté par ces accords sur la protection de l'ozone nous montre que travailler ensemble, en harmonie et pour le bien collectif est plus important que jamais.

Le thème de cette Journée, « **L'OZONE POUR LA VIE : 35 ans de protection de la couche d'ozone** », nous rappelle que non seulement l'ozone est crucial pour la vie sur Terre, mais

que nous devons continuer à protéger la couche d'ozone pour les générations futures. Cette Journée démontre que les décisions et nos actions collectives, guidées par la science, sont le seul moyen de résoudre les grandes crises mondiales.

Ainsi, je voudrais vous exhorter à faire de cette journée, non seulement une journée de réflexion, de partage d'idées, d'expérience mais surtout d'engagement des uns et des autres pour rendre effective et plus efficace la contribution de chacun et de tous à l'effort de lutte contre la destruction de la couche d'ozone et les phénomènes de changements climatiques.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Je ne saurais terminer cette intervention sans remercier la communauté internationale, le Secrétariat de la Convention de Vienne et son Protocole, les Agences d'exécution ainsi que le Fonds Multilatéral pour toute l'assistance qu'ils ne cessent d'apporter à notre pays dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre de ces instruments.

C'est sur ces mots que je vous souhaite une bonne célébration.

Vive la préservation de la couche d'ozone,

Vive la Coopération Internationale,

Vive le Cameroun,

Je vous remercie.

Annex 4. Foot Note

FOOT NOTE

Cameroon joins the International Community to commemorate the International Day for the preservation of the ozone layer on September, 16th 2020 at “**Conference Room of the Minister’s Cabinet**”, Yaoundé under the theme « **Ozone for Life: 35 years of ozone layer protection** ».

Annex 5. Press Release

PRESSE RELEASE

Cameroon joins the International Community on Wednesday the 16th of September 2020 to celebrate the International Day for the Protection of the Ozone Layer under the theme: « **Ozone for Life: 35 years of ozone layer protection** ». Activities marking the 33rd edition of this day will be held under strict COVID-19 barrier measures at the “Conference Room of the Minister’s Cabinet” Yaoundé from 11:00 am.

The Vienna Convention and its Montreal Protocol, of which Cameroon is a signatory since 1987, are two international legal instruments that target the preservation of the ozone layer through the phasing out of ozone depleting substances.

It should be recalled that the ozone layer, plays an important role of filtering harmful ultra violet radiation from the sun, thereby protecting life on earth. This layer is destroyed by certain substances used in the sector of air conditioning, refrigeration, foam manufacturing, agriculture used in the control of pesticides, and fire extinguishers.

The theme for this year reminds us of the tremendous effort Cameroon has put to eliminate 100% of Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and 35% of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) phase out. Owing to this success, Cameroon has engaged in the ratification process of the Kigali Amendments to the Montreal Protocol which aim at phase down Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) which are greenhouse gasses and thus catalyst to climate change.

Activities to mark this year’s edition include: sensitization at the media, working sessions with establishments in the refrigeration and air conditioning sector in Douala and Yaoundé geared towards the production of a documentary and school challenge between students of some secondary schools and environmental clubs in Yaoundé, on the preservation of the ozone layer related issues.

Trente-cinq ans de conscience

La couche d'ozone en destruction !
La vie sur terre en dégradation !
L'Espérance de vie en diminution !
Les cancers en multiplication
Les espèces en disparition !

Trente-cinq ans de conscience !

Et si les forêts sont en destruction,
Les industries en continuelle construction,
Sans contrôle sans sanctions,
La couche d'Ozone sera en toujours en dégradation,
Les espèces verront toujours leur disparition,
Et l'humanité sa pleine désolation,
Et pourtant, trente-cinq ans de conscience

A l'heure de l'industrialisation
Il faut une certaine civilisation
Et un système de vérification
Qui privilégie des appareils sans pollution
Et des consommations sans congélation
Trente-cinq ans de conscience

Saviez-vous que votre responsabilité
Dans ce monde en compétitivité
Est d'aider à réduire les activités
Qui polluent sans sensibilités
Et qui aboutissent à la mortalité ?
Trente-cinq ans de conscience

Trente-cinq ans de conscience
Surtout de ces sciences
Qui malgré les conséquences
De la dégradation de la couche d'ozone
Continuent à innover dans nos zones
Des appareils cancérigènes
Qui détruisent nos gènes !
Et pourtant trente-cinq ans de conscience.

Non à la dégradation de la couche d'ozone
Ce n'est pas un discours poétique
C'est une situation chaotique
Un danger tyrannique
Qui demande un engagement politique
Et surtout des politiques pratiques

Trente-cinq ans de la convention de Vienne
Même si certains interviennent
Pour des actions qui conviennent
Le chemin est encore long pour qu'on parvienne
A espérer une couche d'ozone
Qui protège nos zones
Pour des vies qui conviennent

Trente-cinq ans de conscience

Poème du Programme Enfant vert

Annex 7. Some Photographs



Message of SG UN presented by Focal Point Ozone



Prize Award to best Poem by MINDEL



Speech of the Minister of the Occasion of World Ozone Day 2020



Interview by the Media

Annex 8. Documentary in the two languages is attached.

See attachment.