

## Empowering Regional Action: How ECA Network Countries Used Legislative & Policy Options / RAC Sector Action Tables as an Effective Tool to Foster Dialogue and Share Insights to Support Kigali Amendment Implementation

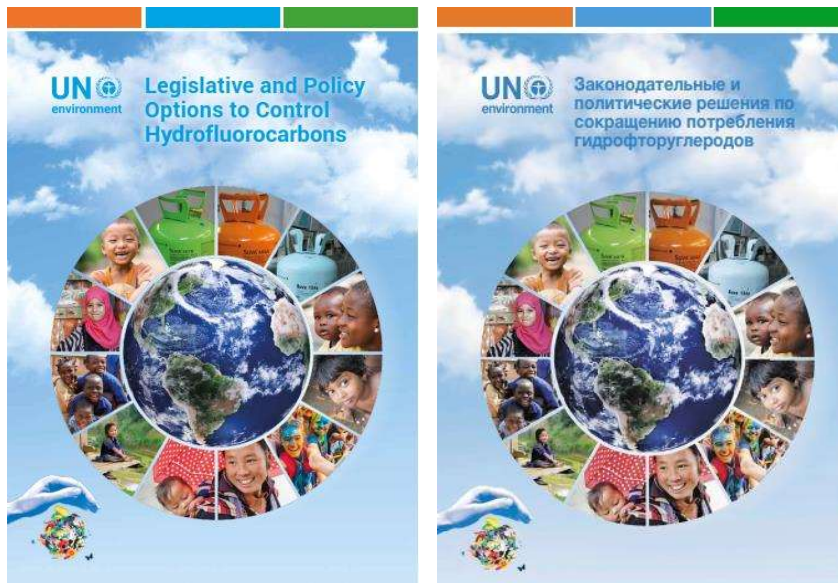
### Introduction:

The Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol requires parties to reduce hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) consumption. To support the countries' efforts, UNEP OzonAction has developed tools to assist countries in implementing effective legislative and policy measures.

### A Proven Framework: Lessons from HCFC Phase-out Initiatives:

In 2010, UNEP OzonAction released a publication focusing on hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) - '*HCFC Policy and Legislative Options: A Guide for Developing Countries*' (available in English, Russian and other languages). It recommended the adoption of various measures to phasing out the consumption of ozone-depleting substances including HCFCs.

Based on this publication, the Montreal Protocol Network for Europe and Central Asia (ECA network) created an overview table of HCFC legislative and policy options. The objective was to share information between the countries on what legislative and policy measures were already in place or planned to be put in place, to encourage discussions between the countries and the exchange of experiences, and to contribute to the harmonization of measures in the region. It also allowed comparison with measures implemented by European Union countries and helped establish national roadmaps for adopting future legislative and policy measures.



Note: Author was the policy expert Dr. Janusz Kozakiewicz from Poland

### Expanding the Scope: Focus on HFCs and the RAC Sector:

In 2017, OzonAction released a similar publication related to HFCs (available in English, Russian and other languages) entitled '*Legislative and Policy Options to Control Hydrofluorocarbons*'.

## UNEP OzonAction

To facilitate the HFC phase-down, the ECA network created similar overview tables as it had previously created for HCFCs:

1. *Overview table for HFC legislative and policy options:* This tool maps the status of HFC-related measures across countries, providing a clear overview of existing policies.
2. *Overview table for RAC sector action:* This tool focuses on the refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) sector, the largest consumer of HFCs, and helps countries address sector-specific challenges and provides inspiration of what actions can support the HFC phase-down.

The tables cover the 11 ECA network countries and several countries of economies in transition (CEITs)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
	ALB	ARM	AZB	BEL	BIH	GEO	KAZ	KYR	MDN	MNE	MOL	RUS	SER	TAJ	TKM	TUR	UKR	UZB	
1	HFC policy options																		
2	Options related to monitoring and controlling trade related to HFCs																		
3	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	
4	Exemptions from the HFC import quotas																		
5	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	
6	Labeling of HFC containers																		
7	YES	PLA	NO	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES	NO	YES	YES	PLA	
8	Restrictions on imports/placing on the market of products and equipment containing/relying on HFC																		
9	YES	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	NO	NO	NO	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	NO	NO	
10	Permits for each HFC shipment																		
11	YES	NO	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	PLA	YES	
12	Fees for HFC imports / placing on the market																		
13	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	NO	YES	YES	PLA	YES	NO	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	
14	Options related to restrictions on use of HFCs																		
15	Specific phase-down schedules for HFCs																		
16	NO	NO	NO	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	
17	Ban on new HFC installations																		
18	Options related to record keeping of HFCs																		
19	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	NO	YES	NO	
20	Mandatory HFC equipment logbooks																		
21	Options related to prevention of HFC emissions																		
22	HFC emission control measures																		
23	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	NO	YES	YES	PLA	
24	Options related to capacity building and awareness raising																		

## Key Features of the Overview Tables of Legislative & Policy and RAC Sector Action

The overview tables are living documents which can be updated at any time (at least once a year). They cover aspects like:

- Monitoring and controlling trade with HFCs
- HCFC/HFC use restrictions
- Record keeping
- Capacity building and awareness raising
- Emission control measures
- RAC associations and their activities
- Safety standards
- Training and certifications on good practices and containment
- Training and certifications on the safe use of alternatives technologies
- Equipment logbooks and inventories
- Energy efficiency measures
- Ozone and climate-friendly technologies existing in the country
- Bans and restrictions for HCFC/HFC products and equipment
- Financial mechanisms
- Refrigerant recovery, recycling, reclamation and destruction
- Enforcement measures.

The status of measures is categorized as follows:

- In place
- Planned to be put in place
- Not planned.

## How Countries can use the Overview Tables:

By offering structured data and actionable insights, the tools inspired ECA countries to identify priorities and gaps, plan effectively, and collaborate regionally. Below are examples of how countries can utilize the tables:

- **Gap analysis:** The tools enable countries to compare their current legislative and policy measures against regional benchmarks. By identifying gaps, governments can prioritize areas that need immediate attention or improvement, such as trade monitoring and HFC use restrictions.
- **Planning roadmaps:** Using the tables' systemic and structured data, countries can outline phasedown timelines and specific action plans. These roadmaps can guide national efforts in meeting Kigali Amendment targets and align phasedown schedules with local economic and technological capacities.
- **Initiating regional discussions and collaboration:** The tools provide a structured framework for fostering regional dialogues and cross-border collaboration. They enable countries to exchange insights, share experiences, and align strategies. This collaborative approach helps harmonize legislation, adopt best practices, and streamline regional implementation, enhancing the effectiveness of HFC management.
- **Educational aspect:** When reviewing the tables, Montreal Protocol Officers can examine possible options, compare them with those implemented by other countries and ask for clarifications on their counterparts and UNEP OzonAction on how to implement such measures and whether there are any lessons learned.

Below are the links to the above-mentioned publication and overview tables (available in English, Russian and other languages) for the countries in the Europe and Central Asia region.

- [Legislative and Policy Options to Control Hydrofluorocarbons](#)
- [RAC sector action ECA CEIT English Russian](#) - **see below**
- [HFC legislative and policy options ECA CEIT English Russian](#) - **see below**

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Table: December 2024 RAC sector action - ECA-CEIT

RAC sector actions	ALB	ARM	AZB	BEL	BIH	GEO	KAZ	KYR	MDN	MOL	MNE	RUS	SER	TAJ	TUR
<b>RAC association</b>															
RAC association operational	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
RAC association congress	NO	NO		YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES
RAC association publications	NO	PLA		YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
RAC association website	NO	NO		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
RAC association involved in HPMP activities	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>Training on good practices and containment (HCFC, HFC)</b>															
Training needs assessment related to HCFC and HFC technologies	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Training center with trained trainers and HCFC / HFC equipment	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES
Code of good practice for HCFC / HFC technologies	PLA	PLA		PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES
Training curriculum on good practices and containment	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES
Training on good practices and containment (mandatory)	NO	NO		YES	YES	PLA	NO	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	NO
Training on good practices and containment (voluntary)	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES
Certification on good practices and containment (mandatory)	PLA	PLA		PLA	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES
Certification on good practices and containment (voluntary)	NO	YES		YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	PLA	NO	YES	YES
<b>Training on safe use of alternative technologies (HC, CO2, NH3, HFO)</b>															
Training needs assessment related to alternative technologies	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	PLA
Training center with trained trainers and alternative equipment	PLA	YES		YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	YES
Code of good practice for alternative technologies	PLA	PLA		PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES
Training curriculum on safe use of alternative refrigerants	PLA	YES		YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	YES
Training on safe use of alternative refrigerants (mandatory)	NO	NO		PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO
Training on safe use of alternative refrigerants (voluntary)	PLA	YES		YES	YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	NO	YES
Certification on safe use of alternative refrigerants (mandatory)	PLA	PLA		PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO
Certification on safe use of alternative refrigerants (voluntary)	NO	YES		YES	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	YES	?	PLA	YES
<b>Safety standards for alternative technologies</b>															
Safety standards for alternative refrigerants (mandatory)	PLA	NO		YES	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	NO
Safety standards for alternative refrigerants (voluntary)	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
<b>Equipment logbooks and inventories</b>															
HCFC equipment logbooks and inventories	PLA	YES		YES	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	NO	NO
HFC equipment logbooks and inventories	PLA	PLA		YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	YES
<b>Energy-efficiency measures</b>															
Energy-efficiency legislation	YES	YES		YES	YES	NO	NO	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES
Energy-efficiency labelling for equipment	YES	PLA		YES	YES	YES	NO	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES
Minimum energy-efficiency performance standards (MEPS)	PLA	NO		YES	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	NO	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	YES
Methodologies for Energy Efficiency Assessment or benchmarking of existing equipment in the country and equipment being imported	PLA	NO		YES	YES	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA		?	YES	?	PLA	NO
<b>Ozone- and climate-friendly technologies, existing in the country (supermarkets, breweries, hospitals etc)</b>	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	?		YES
Availability of modern ammonia RACHP systems in your country	NO	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES		YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES
Availability of modern hydrocarbon RACHP systems in your country	NO	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES		YES	YES	YES	PLA	NO
Availability of modern CO2 RACHP systems in your country	NO	YES		YES	YES	NO	YES	PLA	YES		YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES
Approved pilot or demonstration projects to promote alternative technologies	NO	NO		YES	NO	YES	NO	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	YES
Import bans or restrictions for HCFC products / equipment	YES	YES		PLA	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Import bans or restrictions for HFC products / equipment	PLA	PLA		PLA	PLA	NO	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO
Placing on the market bans or restrictions for HCFC products / equipment	YES	PLA		YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	NO	YES
Placing on the market bans or restrictions for HFC products / equipment	PLA	NO		YES	PLA	NO	PLA	NO	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA
Financial mechanisms (incentives, taxes or tax exemptions)	NO	YES		PLA	PLA	NO	NO	PLA	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	PLA	NO
Environmental fund (to finance incentives, destruction etc.)	NO	NO		NO	PLA	PLA	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	PLA	NO	YES
<b>Refrigerant recovery, recycling, reclamation and destruction</b>															
Ban on ODS venting. Mandatory ODS recovery	YES	PLA		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES		YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES
Ban on HFC venting. Mandatory HFC recovery	PLA	PLA		YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	YES		YES	PLA	YES	PLA	YES
Mandatory ODS recycling / reclaim or destruction	YES	PLA		YES	YES	YES	NO	PLA	YES		PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES
Mandatory HFC recycling / reclaim or destruction	PLA	PLA		YES	YES	YES	PLA	PLA	YES		PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES
ODS/HFCs inventory in the country	PLA	YES		YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	NO		YES	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA
Legislation allowing the import/export/transit of controlled substances for destruction or reclaim	YES	NO		YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES		PLA	YES	YES	PLA	PLA
Refrigerant recovery and recycling center operational	NO	NO		YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	PLA
Existing reclaim centers for ODS / HFCs in the country	NO	PLA		YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO		NO	YES	NO	YES	YES
Existing destruction facilities for ODS / HFCs in the country	NO	NO		PLA	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO		NO	PLA	NO	NO	YES
Existing facilities which could be upgraded to destruction facilities for ODS / HFCs (for example, use of existing cement kilns, municipal solid waste incinerators, rotary kiln incinerators)	YES	YES		YES	PLA	YES	YES	NO	YES		NO	YES	?	NO	YES
<b>Enforcement</b>															
ODS/HFC online trading monitoring within the country	PLA	NO		YES	NO	YES	NO	PLA	PLA		NO	PLA	NO	PLA	NO
Inspections for mandatory RACHP equipment checking control	PLA	PLA		YES	PLA	YES	NO	PLA	YES		PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES
Market surveillance through the analysis of reported data (logbooks), inspections, monitoring of Internet offers, consumer hotline etc.	PLA	NO		YES	NO	PLA	NO	PLA	YES		NO	PLA	?	PLA	NO
Monitoring of ODS/HFCs reclaim centers	PLA	NO		YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO		NO	PLA	NO	YES	PLA
Monitoring of ODS/HFCs destruction facilities	PLA	NO		PLA	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO		NO	PLA	NO	NO	YES
Plans for ODS/HFCs recovery, recycling, reclaim, reuse, disposal / destruction	PLA	PLA		YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES		PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	YES
<b>Other RAC sector actions</b>															
Ban of non-refillable refrigerant cylinders	YES	YES		YES	YES	PLA	NO	PLA	YES	NO	YES	YES	PLA	PLA	YES
Labeling of refrigerant cylinders	YES	PLA		YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	NO	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES
Emission control measures (ban on venting, leakage detection)	PLA	YES		YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	YES
Ban on new installations (HCFC, HFC)	PLA	PLA		YES	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	NO	HCFC - YES, HFC - PLA	YES
Use of UNEP OzonAction training materials and tools	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>Date of last up-date</b>	9.24	10.24		9.24	9.24	9.24	10.24	9.24	10.24	9.24	9.24	10.24	10.24	12.24	9.24

YES = Implemented  
 PLA = Planned to be implemented  
 NO = Not planned to be implemented  
 ? = Unknown

Table: December 2024 HFC Legislative and Policy Options ECA-CEIT

HFC policy options	ALB	ARM	AZB	BEL	BIH	GEO	KAZ	KYR	MDN	MNE	MOL	RUS	SER	TAJ	TKM	TUR	UKR	UZB	
<b>Options related to monitoring and controlling trade related to HFCs</b>																			
Import quotas for HFC	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA
Exemptions from the HFC import quotas	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	PLA	NO	PLA	NO	NO	?	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	
Mandatory reporting by HFC importers and exporters	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	
Labeling of HFC containers	YES	PLA	NO	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	PLA	
Ban on non-refillable HFC containers	YES	YES	NO	PLA	YES	PLA	NO	PLA	YES	YES	NO	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO	YES	YES	NO	
Restrictions on imports/placing on the market of products and equipment containing/relying on HFC	YES	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	NO	NO	NO	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	NO	NO	
Permits for HFC transit	NO	YES	PLA	NO	NO	YES	NO	PLA	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	PLA	NO	NO	NO	PLA	YES
Permits for each HFC shipment	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES
Requirement for proof of origin for HFC shipments	YES	NO	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	PLA	YES
Fees for HFC imports / placing on the market	NO	YES	NO	NO	PLA	NO	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	NO	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	NO	YES	
Electronically-operated licensing system for HFC	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	NO	YES	YES	PLA	YES	NO	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES	
<b>Options related to restrictions on use of HFCs</b>																			
Specific phase-down schedules for HFCs	NO	NO	NO	NO	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	PLA	
Specific use bans on HFCs	NO	NO	NO	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	PLA	NO	
Ban on new HFC installations	NO	NO	NO	YES	PLA	NO	NO	PLA	PLA	PLA	NO	PLA	NO	PLA	NO	PLA	NO	PLA	
<b>Options related to record keeping of HFCs</b>																			
Mandatory HFC logbooks (for substances)	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	NO	YES	NO	
Mandatory HFC equipment logbooks	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	NO	PLA	YES	YES	NO	
<b>Options related to prevention of HFC emissions</b>																			
HFC emission control measures	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	NO	YES	YES	PLA	
<b>Options related to capacity building and awareness raising</b>																			
Training of customs officers on HFCs	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	
Training of environmental inspectors on HFCs	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	
Training and certification of refrigeration technicians	PLA	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	
Training of refrigeration technicians on the safe use of alternative refrigerants	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	
Awareness raising of stakeholders	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	
<b>Additional options</b>																			
Import and export licensing system for ODS and HFCs	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	PLA	
iPIC including ODS and HFCs	YES	YES	PLA	PLA	YES	YES	PLA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	
Date of last update	9.24	10.24	10.2	9.24	9.24	9.24	10.24	9.24	11.24	9.24	9.24	10.24	9.24	12.24	9.24	9.24	2.22	9.19	

YES = Implemented  
 PLA = Planned to be implemented  
 NO = Not planned to be implemented  
 ? = Unknown

Red = Recommended for implementation before ratification of the Kigali amendment  
 Blue = Recommended for implementation before freeze date or at least before the date of the first phase down step  
 Green = Recommended for future implementation