

MOP 30 Highlights: Tuesday, 6 November 2018

The preparatory segment of the Montreal Protocol MOP 30 convened for its second day on Tuesday, 6 November 2018, in Quito, Ecuador. In the morning, delegates addressed linkages between hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) in transitioning to low global warming potential (GWP) alternatives, and issues related to energy efficiency while phasing down HFCs.

In the afternoon, delegates discussed:

- Proposed adjustments to the Montreal Protocol on HCFCs for non-Article 5 parties;
- Unexpected emissions of trichlorofluoromethane (CFC-11); and
- Issue raised by the United Arab Emirates regarding eligibility for financial and technical assistance.

Linkages between HCFCs and HFCs in Transitioning to Low Global Warming Potential Alternatives

Co-Chair Yaqoub Almatouq summarized prior work on this issue and invited input. SAUDI ARABIA, supported by BAHRAIN, OMAN and the EU, proposed postponing discussion until the 41st meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG 41) to allow for further consultations. Parties agreed to the proposal.

Issues Related to Energy Efficiency While Phasing Down Hydrofluorocarbons

Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) Report on Energy Efficiency in the Refrigeration, Air-Conditioning and Heat-Pump (RACHP) Sectors: TEAP Energy Efficiency Task Force Co-Chairs Bella Maranion, Fabio Polonara and Suely Carvalho presented the executive summary of the Task Force's supplemental report reflecting guidance and requests made by OEWG 40. Among the messages they highlighted were:

- Low GWP refrigerants themselves are only expected to have a minor impact on system efficiency;
- Most improvement in energy efficiency of systems can be achieved through optimization and use of new and advanced components;
- In the absence of enabling energy efficiency policy, energy efficiency values for air conditioning are generally lower in Article 5 parties compared to non-Article 5 parties;
- Minimum energy performance standards and labels have proved to be cost-effective policy tools;
- District cooling systems may reduce power demand by 55-62% in comparison to conventional air conditioning systems and may consume 40-50% less energy;

- There needs to be consideration of potential options for a new financial architecture, by which resources for energy efficiency could flow more certainly and effectively.

In the ensuing discussion, the GAMBIA noted that the funding agencies do not usually fund transitions projects. The FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA (FSM), with BURKINA FASO, called for more information on the obstacles preventing available finances to flow to energy efficiency in the RACHP sector, and requested TEAP to suggest approaches to ensure the Multilateral Fund (MLF) can partner with other financial organizations to improve financing for energy efficiency. The TEAP noted that the MLF partners with the Global Environment Facility to provide co-financing for large projects. NIGERIA highlighted the need for a globally acceptable threshold to determine energy efficiency in industrial equipment. ARGENTINA stressed that the parties need to decide whether they will fund energy efficiency. The UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE) called for more information on funding energy efficiency on an industrial scale. CHINA stressed the need for adequate funding to promote research in energy efficiency.

The US asked for more information on consumers' benefits. INDIA and SOUTH AFRICA asked for further discussion on funding sources and architecture for energy efficiency. UGANDA called for a complementary treatment of energy access and energy efficiency.

Responding to questions and comments, TEAP said:

- The benefits of energy efficiency for consumers would be experienced over the lifetime of the project;
- The research focused on multilateral funds, which tend to be allocated to large projects;
- Energy saving and operating costs for consumers are interrelated;
- The report's annex highlights different energy efficiency options so parties could chose the most cost-effective one.

COLOMBIA suggested developing a roadmap to understand funding gaps for energy efficiency in the RACHP sector.

Access of Article 5 Parties to Energy-Efficient Technologies in the RACHP Sector: RWANDA presented the African Group's conference room paper (CRP) on this issue, saying it now reflects comments provided at OEWG 40. BRAZIL and FSM supported the CRP. CANADA, the EU and US expressed concern that the requests contained in the CRP may go beyond the mandate of the Montreal Protocol and the MLF.

ZAMBIA said lessons on synergies could be drawn from the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions.

SWITZERLAND, BARBADOS, NIGERIA, the EU and BAHRAIN welcomed further discussions on the African Group proposal in a contact group. LESOTHO called for clarity on the scope of the Protocol in relation to energy efficiency.

