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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Ninety-first Meeting
Montreal, 5-9 December 2022
Item 8(b) of the provisional agenda¹

TRANCHE SUBMISSION DELAYS

Introduction

1. Pursuant to decision 47/50(d),² the Secretariat has prepared the present document. It presents actions taken in response to decisions on tranche submission delays adopted at the 90th meeting; an analysis of each of the tranches that were due but were not submitted to the 91st meeting and the tranches that were submitted but subsequently withdrawn during the project review process. It also provides an overview of the reasons for the delays and the impact on compliance with the countries' obligations under the Montreal Protocol, and the Secretariat's recommendation.

I. Follow-up to decisions taken on tranche submission delays at the 90th meeting

2. At the 90th meeting, 20³ of the 33 countries that had been scheduled to submit tranche requests, had not done so on time, representing a non-submission rate of 61 per cent. Subsequently, the Executive Committee *inter alia* requested the Secretariat to send letters to the relevant Governments regarding the decisions on tranche submission delays contained in Annex VII to the report of the 90th meeting (decision 90/30(b)).

3. Pursuant to decision 90/30(b), the Secretariat sent letters to the Governments of 22 Article 5 countries to urge the submission of the next tranche of their HCFC phase-out management plans (HPMPs). As a result, the Governments of Albania,⁴ Barbados,⁵ the Congo,⁶ Jordan,⁷ Montenegro,⁸

¹ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/1

² The Executive Committee decided that a separate sub-agenda item on delays in the submission of annual tranches and disbursement of funds for tranches and obligations should be included for future meetings.

³ Excluding two countries (Argentina and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela), whose tranche requests were submitted to the 90th meeting but were subsequently withdrawn.

⁴ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/36

⁵ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/37

⁶ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/39

⁷ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/43

⁸ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/46

Serbia,⁹ South Africa,¹⁰ South Sudan,¹¹ Syrian Arab Republic,¹² Turkmenistan¹³ and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)¹⁴ submitted respective tranches of their HPMPs to the 91st meeting.

4. However, the Governments of Argentina, Burundi, Guyana, Mali, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, Thailand, and Türkiye did not submit their tranche requests.¹⁵

II. Analysis of tranches not submitted to the 91st meeting

5. Fourteen activities associated with tranches of HPMPs for ten countries including those in paragraph 4, at a total value of US \$10,981,749 (including agency support costs), due for submission to the 91st meeting were not submitted, as shown in Annex I to the present document.¹⁶

6. In addition, the second tranche of stage II of the HPMP for Iraq, amounting to US \$994,929 (including agency support costs), was submitted to the 91st meeting, but subsequently withdrawn by the relevant implementing agencies during the project review process. This tranche is also included in Annex I to the present report.

III. Reasons for delays and impact on compliance

7. The reasons for delays in the submission of tranches of HPMPs include: Government decisions, and/or endorsements, and/or changes in the national ozone unit, and/or structural change (6); constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic (5); lack of verification report (5); disbursement below the 20 per cent threshold of approved funds for the previous tranche (3); internal or external difficulties (3); lead agency not ready for submission (3); sufficient funds from previous tranche approved (2); political situation or security issues (2); and submission of progress and financial reports (1). For the delays in the submissions, more than one reason may apply.

8. As reported by the relevant implementing agencies, delays in the submission of tranches that were past due would have no impact on compliance with the countries' obligations under the Montreal Protocol. All outstanding tranches are expected to be submitted to the 92nd meeting.

IV. Recommendation

9. The Executive Committee may wish:

(a) To note:

(i) The report on tranche submission delays contained in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/21;

⁹ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/50

¹⁰ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/51

¹¹ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/52

¹² UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/53

¹³ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/55

¹⁴ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/56

¹⁵ The tranches for Algeria and Dominica could be submitted to the 92nd meeting (Annex VII of document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/90/40). A request for cancellation of stage I of the HPMP for Haiti has been submitted to the 91st meeting and is presented in UNEP's progress report (UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/91/15).

¹⁶ For comparison, at the 90th meeting, 27 tranches for 20 countries that were due were not submitted.

- (ii) The information on tranche submission delays under HCFC phase-out management plans (HPMPs) submitted by UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO and the World Bank;
 - (iii) That 29 out of 43 activities (17 out of 27 countries) related to tranches of HPMPs due for submission at the 91st meeting had been submitted on time;
 - (iv) That relevant implementing agencies had indicated that the late submission of the tranches of HPMPs due for submission at the second meeting of 2022 would have no impact on countries' compliance with the Montreal Protocol, and that there was no indication that any of the countries concerned were in non-compliance with the Montreal Protocol control measures; and
- (b) To request the Secretariat to send letters to the relevant Governments regarding the decisions on tranche submission delays contained in Annex I to the present report.

Annex I

TRANCHES NOT SUBMITTED TO THE 91ST MEETING

Country	Agency	Tranche	Amount (with support costs) (US \$)	Reason for delay/withdrawal	Recommendations
Argentina (Stage II)	UNIDO	2021	4,160,214	20 per cent disbursement threshold/ internal or external difficulties	Noting that the overall disbursement rate of the second (2019) tranche of stage II of the HPMP was below the 20 per cent disbursement threshold, and urging the Government of Argentina to work with UNIDO so that the third (2021) tranche of stage II could be submitted to the 92 nd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2021 and subsequent tranches, on the understanding that the 20 per cent disbursement threshold for funding of the previous tranche had been achieved.
Burundi (Stage I)	UNEP	2020	37,516	COVID-19 pandemic disruption/lack of verification report/Government decisions/ endorsements/changes in the NOU	Noting the delays due to constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic and that the mandatory verification on HCFC consumption targets had not been completed, and urging the Government of Burundi to work with UNEP to complete the verification so that the fourth (2020) tranche of stage I of the HPMP could be submitted to the 92 nd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2020 tranche.
Guyana (Stage II)	UNDP	2021	133,750	Lead agency not ready for submission	Noting the delays due to constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic and that the mandatory verification on HCFC consumption targets had not been completed, and urging the Government of Guyana to work with UNEP to complete the verification and with UNDP and UNEP so that the third (2021) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 92 nd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2021 and subsequent tranches.
	UNEP	2021	51,415	COVID-19 pandemic disruption/lack of verification report/Government decisions/ endorsements/changes in the NOU	
Iraq (Stage II)	UNEP	2022	652,529	Conditions set out in decision 87/40(c)/ lack of verification report	Noting that the second (2022) tranche of stage II of the HPMP submitted to the 91 st meeting had been withdrawn as the tranche request did not meet the conditions set out in decision 87/40(c) and the mandatory verification on HCFC consumption targets had not been completed; therefore, the second tranche could not be considered, and urging the Government of Iraq to work with UNEP to complete the verification and with UNEP and UNIDO to resubmit the second (2022) tranche to the 92 nd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2022 and subsequent tranches, on the understanding that the conditions of decision 87/40(c) had been met.
	UNIDO	2022	342,400	Conditions set out in decision 87/40(c)	

Country	Agency	Tranche	Amount (with support costs) (US \$)	Reason for delay/withdrawal	Recommendations
Mali (Stage I)	UNDP	2020	30,100	COVID-19 pandemic disruption/internal or external difficulties/political situation or security issues	Noting the delays due to unrest in the country due to political challenges, and that the mandatory verification on HCFC consumption targets had not been completed, and urging the Government of Mali to work with UNEP to complete the verification, and with UNDP and UNEP so that the fifth (2020) tranche of stage I of the HPMP could be submitted to the 92 nd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2020 tranche.
	UNEP	2020	31,640	Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU/lack of verification report/political situation or security issues	
Nigeria (Stage II)	UNDP	2021	2,782,000	COVID-19 pandemic disruption/internal or external difficulties	Noting the delays due to the constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic and urging the Government of Nigeria to work with UNDP so that the third (2021) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 92 nd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2021 tranche and subsequent tranches.
Saint Kitts and Nevis (Stage I)	UNEP	2020	19,097	COVID-19 pandemic disruption/lack of verification report/sufficient funds from previous tranche approved/submission of progress and financial reports/Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU	Noting the delays due to the non-submission of the progress and financial reports and that the mandatory verification on HCFC consumption targets had not been completed, and urging the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis to submit the required progress and financial reports and to work with UNEP to complete the verification so that the third (2020) tranche of stage I of the HPMP could be submitted to the 92 nd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2020 tranche.
Suriname (Stage I)	UNEP	2020	15,255	Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU/lack of verification report/sufficient funds from previous tranche approved	Noting that the mandatory verification of HCFC consumption targets had not been completed, and urging the Government of Suriname to work with UNEP to complete the verification and with UNEP and UNIDO so that the fourth (2020) tranche of stage I of the HPMP could be submitted to the 92 nd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2020 tranche.
	UNIDO	2020	9,810	Lead agency not ready for submission	
Thailand (Stage II)	World Bank	2020	2,264,689	20 per cent disbursement threshold	Noting that the overall 20 per cent disbursement rate of the first (2018) tranche of stage II of the HPMP has been reached after the submission deadline, and urging the Government of Thailand to work with the World Bank so that the second (2020) tranche of stage II could be submitted to the 92 nd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2020 and subsequent tranches.
Tunisia (Stage II)	UNEP	2022	113,000	Lead agency not ready for submission	Noting the delay due to the decision from the Government and urging the Government of Tunisia to work with UNEP and UNIDO so that the second (2022) tranche of stage II could be submitted to the 92 nd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2022 and subsequent tranches.
	UNIDO	2022	413,705	Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU	

Country	Agency	Tranche	Amount (with support costs) (US \$)	Reason for delay/withdrawal	Recommendations
Türkiye (Stage I)	UNIDO	2022	919,558	20 per cent disbursement threshold	Noting that the overall disbursement rate of the fourth (2019) tranche of stage I of the HPMP was below the 20 per cent disbursement threshold, and urging the Government of Türkiye to work with UNIDO so that the fifth (2022) tranche of stage I could be submitted to the 92 nd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2022 and subsequent tranches, on the understanding that the 20 per cent disbursement threshold for funding of the previous tranche had been achieved.
Total			11,976,678		