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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Ninety-second Meeting
Montreal, 29 May to 2 June 2023
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 91st meeting; an analysis of each of the tranches that were due but were not submitted to the 92nd meeting and the tranches that were submitted but subsequently withdrawn during the project review process.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 91st meeting

2. At the 91st meeting, 10³ of the 27 countries that had been scheduled to submit tranche requests, had not done so on time, representing a non-submission rate of 37 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 XI to the report of the 91st meeting (decision 91/30(b)).

3. Pursuant to decision 91/30(b), the Secretariat sent letters to the Governments of 11 Article 5 countries to urge the submission of the next tranche of their HCFC phase-out management

¹ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/1

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³ Excluding Iraq, whose tranche request was submitted to the 91st meeting but was subsequently withdrawn.

plans (HPMPs). As a result, the Governments of Argentina,⁴ Guyana,⁵ Mali,⁶ Saint Kitts and Nevis, Suriname,⁷ Thailand⁸ and Tunisia,⁹ submitted respective tranches of their HPMPs to the 92nd meeting.

4. However, the Governments of Burundi, Iraq, Nigeria, and Türkiye did not submit their tranche requests.

II. Analysis of tranches not submitted to the 92nd meeting

5. Twenty-five activities associated with tranches of HPMPs for 16 countries including those in paragraph 4, at a total value of US \$13,012,285 (including agency support costs), due for submission to the 92nd meeting were not submitted, as shown in Annex I to the present document.¹⁰

6. In addition, the third tranche of stage I of the HPMP for Saint Kitts and Nevis, amounting to US \$19,097 (including agency support costs), was submitted to the 92nd meeting, but subsequently withdrawn by the relevant implementing agency 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: disbursement below the 20 per cent threshold of approved funds for the previous tranche (16); Government decisions, and/or endorsements, and/or changes in the national ozone unit, and/or structural change (10); internal or external difficulties (4); constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic (2); sufficient funds from previous tranche approved (3); lack of verification report (2); signing of agreement or project document (2); enterprise delays (2); cooperating agency not ready for submission (1); political situation or security issues (1); submission of progress and financial reports (1); and Executive Committee decisions (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 93rd 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/92/12;
- (ii) The information on tranche submission delays under HCFC phase-out management plans (HPMPs) submitted by UNDP, UNEP and UNIDO;

⁴ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/21

⁵ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/27

⁶ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/33

⁷ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/38

⁸ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/39

⁹ UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/92/40

¹⁰ For comparison, at the 91st meeting, 14 tranches for 10 countries that were due were not submitted.

- (iii) That 28 out of 53 activities (18 out of 34 countries) related to tranches of HPMPs due for submission at the 92nd 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 first meeting of 2023 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 92ND MEETING

Country	Agency	Tranche	Amount (with support costs) (US \$)	Reason for delay/withdrawal	Recommendations
Afghanistan (Stage II)	UNEP	2023	215,265	Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU/internal or external difficulties	Noting the delays due to political instability and the changes in the national ozone unit (NOU), and that the overall disbursement rate of the first (2020) tranche of stage II of the HPMP was below the 20 per cent disbursement threshold, and urging the Government of Afghanistan to work with UNEP and UNIDO so that the second (2023) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd meeting, on the understanding that the 20 per cent disbursement threshold for funding of the previous tranche had been achieved.
	UNIDO	2023	98,100	Political situation or security issues/20 per cent disbursement threshold	
Algeria (Stage I)	UNIDO	2014 and 2017	197,898	Enterprise delays	Noting the enterprise delays due to the challenges in the production of air-conditioning units based on HFC-32 and urging the Government of Algeria to work with UNIDO so that the third (2014) and fourth (2017) tranches of stage I of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2014 and subsequent tranches.
Bahrain (Stage II)	UNEP	2023	89,835	Sufficient funds from previous tranche approved	Noting the delays due to internal or external difficulties and urging the Government of Bahrain to work with UNEP and UNIDO so that the second (2023) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd meeting.
	UNIDO	2023	57,780	Internal or external difficulties/20 per cent disbursement threshold	
Bosnia and Herzegovina (Stage II)	UNIDO	2023	318,640	20 per cent disbursement threshold/internal or external difficulties	Noting that the overall disbursement rate of the first (2021) tranche of stage II of the HPMP was below the 20 per cent disbursement threshold, and urging the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina to work with UNIDO so that the second (2023) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd meeting, on the understanding that the 20 per cent disbursement threshold for funding of the previous tranche had been achieved.
Botswana (Stage II)	UNEP	2023	216,683	Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU/20 per cent disbursement threshold	Noting the delays due to the changes in the NOU, and that the overall disbursement rate of the first (2020) tranche of stage II of the HPMP was below the 20 per cent disbursement threshold, and urging the Government of Botswana to work with UNEP and UNIDO so that the second (2023) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd meeting, on the understanding that the 20 per cent disbursement threshold for funding of the previous tranche had been achieved.
	UNIDO	2023	160,500	Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU/20 per cent disbursement threshold	

Country	Agency	Tranche	Amount (with support costs) (US \$)	Reason for delay/withdrawal	Recommendations
Burundi (Stage I)	UNEP	2020	37,516	Lack of verification report/Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU	Noting the delays due to the changes in the NOU 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 93 rd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2020 tranche.
Dominica (Stage I)	UNEP	2020	18,588	COVID-19 pandemic disruption/ Government decisions/endorsements/ changes in the NOU/lack of verification report/sufficient funds from previous tranche approved/submission of progress and financial reports	Noting the delays due to the changes in the NOU and 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 Dominica 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 93 rd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2020 tranche.
Egypt (Stage II)	UNEP	2023	201,506	Signing of agreement/project document	Noting that the overall disbursement rate of the third (2021) tranche of stage II of the HPMP was below the 20 per cent disbursement threshold, and urging the Government of Egypt to work with UNEP and UNIDO so that the fourth (2023) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd meeting, on the understanding that the 20 per cent disbursement threshold for funding of the previous tranche had been achieved.
	UNIDO	2023	4,322,172	20 per cent disbursement threshold/ enterprise delays	
Iraq (Stage II)	UNEP	2022	652,529	Cooperating agency not ready for submission	Noting the delays due to the cooperating agency not being ready for submission and that the tranche request did not meet the conditions set out in decision 87/40(c), and urging the Government of Iraq to work with UNEP and UNIDO so that the second (2022) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd 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)/ 20 per cent disbursement threshold/	
Kuwait (Stage II)	UNEP	2023	1,130,242	20 per cent disbursement threshold/ sufficient funds from previous tranche approved	Noting that the overall disbursement rate of the first (2021) tranche of stage II of the HPMP was below the 20 per cent disbursement threshold, and urging the Government of Kuwait to work with UNEP and UNIDO so that the second (2023) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd meeting, on the understanding that the 20 per cent disbursement threshold for funding of the previous tranche had been achieved.
	UNIDO	2023	307,732	20 per cent disbursement threshold	

Country	Agency	Tranche	Amount (with support costs) (US \$)	Reason for delay/withdrawal	Recommendations
Lao People's Democratic Republic (Stage II)	UNDP	2023	70,283	Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU/20 per cent disbursement threshold	Noting the delays due to constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the changes in the NOU, and that the overall disbursement rate of the first (2020) tranche of stage II of the HPMP was below the 20 per cent disbursement threshold, and urging the Government of Lao People's Democratic Republic to work with UNDP and UNEP so that the second (2023) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd meeting, on the understanding that the 20 per cent disbursement threshold for funding of the previous tranche had been achieved.
	UNEP	2023	98,423	COVID-19 pandemic disruption/ Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU/20 per cent disbursement threshold	
Morocco (Stage II)	UNIDO	2023	326,350	20 per cent disbursement threshold	Noting that the overall disbursement rate of the first (2021) tranche of stage II of the HPMP was below the 20 per cent disbursement threshold, and urging the Government of Morocco to work with UNIDO so that the second (2023) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd meeting, on the understanding that the 20 per cent disbursement threshold for funding of the previous tranche had been achieved.
Nigeria (Stage II)	UNDP	2021	2,782,000	Internal or external difficulties	Noting the delays due to external factors 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 93 rd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2021 and subsequent tranches.
Qatar (Stage II)	UNEP	2023	163,285	Signing of agreement/project document/ 20 per cent disbursement threshold	Noting that the overall disbursement rate of the first (2021) tranche of stage II of the HPMP was below the 20 per cent disbursement threshold, and urging the Government of Qatar to work with UNEP and UNIDO so that the second (2023) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd meeting, on the understanding that the 20 per cent disbursement threshold for funding of the previous tranche had been achieved.
	UNIDO	2023	107,000	Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU/structural change/ 20 per cent disbursement threshold	
Saint Kitts and Nevis (Stage I)	UNEP	2020	19,097	Issues associated with the implementation of the licensing and quota system that need to be addressed to ensure that the system is enforceable and capable of ensuring the country's compliance with the Montreal Protocol HCFC phase-out schedule, in line with decision 63/17	Noting that the third (2020) tranche of stage I of the HPMP submitted to the 92 nd meeting had been withdrawn, and urging the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis to work with UNEP to undertake the following actions to ensure that an enforceable national system of licensing and quotas for HCFC imports is fully operational and is capable of ensuring the country's compliance with the Montreal Protocol HCFC phase-out schedule, so that the third (2020) tranche of stage I of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd meeting with a revised plan of action to take into account the reallocation of the 2020 tranche: (a) To further investigate and provide firm conclusions on what was actually imported under the 19 entries using CFC codes identified in the verification report. In case HCFCs were imported using

Country	Agency	Tranche	Amount (with support costs) (US \$)	Reason for delay/withdrawal	Recommendations
					<p>those codes, add the relevant amounts to the actual HCFC consumption and submit corrected Article 7 data to the Ozone Secretariat and country programme data to the Multilateral Fund Secretariat for the years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2021;</p> <p>(b) To introduce measures to alert when those codes for substances that had been phased out are used;</p> <p>(c) To carry out inspections to identify any potential uses of CFCs in Saint Kitts and in Nevis;</p> <p>(d) To initiate preparations for the enforcement of individual HCFC import quotas and the publication of quotas in the Gazette; and</p> <p>(e) To include in the revised plan of action activities that will implement the verification recommendations.</p>
Sierra Leone (Stage II)	UNEP	2023	101,700	Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU	Noting the delay due to the changes in the NOU, and urging the Government of Sierra Leone to work with UNEP and UNIDO so that the second (2023) tranche of stage II of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd meeting.
	UNIDO	2023	76,300	Government decisions/endorsements/changes in the NOU/20 per cent disbursement threshold	
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 of the HPMP could be submitted to the 93 rd 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			13,031,382		