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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF  
THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL  
Ninety-fourth Meeting  
Montreal, 27-31 May 2024  
Item 9(d) of the provisional agenda<sup>1</sup>

**PROJECT PROPOSAL: CÔTE D'IVOIRE**

This document consists of the comments and recommendation of the Secretariat on the following project proposal:

Phase-out

- HCFC phase-out management plan (stage II, first tranche) UNEP and UNIDO

<sup>1</sup> UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/94/1

Pre-session documents of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol are without prejudice to any decision that the Executive Committee might take following issuance of the document.

**PROJECT EVALUATION SHEET – MULTI-YEAR PROJECTS**

**Côte d’Ivoire**

<b>(I) PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>AGENCY</b>
HCFC phase-out plan (stage II)	UNEP (lead), UNIDO

<b>(II) LATEST ARTICLE 7 DATA (Annex C Group I)</b>	Year: 2022	33.00 ODP tonnes
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<b>(III) LATEST COUNTRY PROGRAMME SECTORAL DATA (ODP tonnes)</b>							<b>Year: 2023</b>		
Chemical	Aerosol	Foam	Fire-fighting	Refrigeration		Solvent	Process agent	Lab use	Total sector consumption
				Manufacturing	Servicing				
HCFC-22					30.25				30.25

<b>(IV) CONSUMPTION DATA (ODP tonnes)</b>			
2009-2010 baseline:	63.80	Starting point for sustained aggregate reductions:	63.80
<b>CONSUMPTION ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING</b>			
Already approved:	22.33	Remaining:	41.47

<b>(V) ENDORSED BUSINESS PLAN</b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>Total</b>
UNEP	ODS phase-out (ODP tonnes)	2.07	0.00	0.00	2.07
	Funding (US \$)	204,143	0	0	204,143
UNIDO	ODS phase-out (ODP tonnes)	2.07	0.00	0.00	2.07
	Funding (US \$)	193,670	0	0	193,670

<b>(VI) PROJECT DATA</b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2025-2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028-2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>Total</b>	
Montreal Protocol consumption limits (ODP tonnes)		41.47	20.74	20.74	20.74	0.00	n/a	
Maximum allowable consumption (ODP tonnes)		33.00	20.74	20.74	20.74	0.00	n/a	
Project costs requested in principle (US \$)	UNEP	Project costs	790,000	0	753,000	0	287,000	1,830,000
		Support costs	91,217	0	86,945	0	33,138	211,300
	UNIDO	Project costs	601,000	0	439,000	0	0	1,040,000
		Support costs	42,070	0	30,730	0	0	72,800
Total project costs recommended in principle (US \$)		1,391,000	0	1,192,000	0	287,000	2,870,000	
Total support costs recommended in principle (US \$)		133,287	0	117,675	0	33,138	284,100	
Total funds recommended in principle (US \$)		1,524,287	0	1,309,675	0	320,138	3,154,100	

<b>(VII) Request for approval of funding for the first tranche (2024)</b>		
<b>Implementing agency</b>	<b>Funds recommended (US \$)</b>	<b>Support costs (US \$)</b>
UNEP	790,000	91,217
UNIDO	601,000	42,070
Total	1,391,000	133,287

<b>Secretariat's recommendation:</b>	Individual consideration (Secretariat presentation not required)
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## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### Background

1. On behalf of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, UNEP as the lead implementing agency has submitted a request for stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP), at a total cost of US \$3,154,100, consisting of US \$1,830,000, plus agency support costs of US \$211,300 for UNEP and US \$1,040,000, plus agency support costs of US \$72,800 for UNIDO, as originally submitted.<sup>2</sup> The implementation of stage II of the HPMP will phase out the remaining consumption of HCFCs by 2030.

2. The first tranche of stage II of the HPMP being requested at this meeting amounts to US \$1,524,287, consisting of US \$790,000, plus agency support costs of US \$91,217 for UNEP and US \$601,000, plus agency support costs of US \$42,070 for UNIDO, as originally submitted.

### Status of implementation of stage I of the HCFC phase-out management plan

3. Stage I of the HPMP for Côte d'Ivoire was originally approved at the 66<sup>th</sup> meeting<sup>3</sup> and revised at the 75<sup>th</sup><sup>4</sup> and 84<sup>th</sup> meetings<sup>5</sup> to phase out 22.33 ODP tonnes of HCFCs used in the refrigeration and air-conditioning (RAC) servicing sector and to meet the 35 per cent reduction from the baseline by 2020, at a total cost of US \$1,825,740, plus agency support costs. Stage I of the HPMP was completed in December 2022, as agreed at the 90<sup>th</sup> meeting<sup>6</sup> when an extension of the implementation period for stage I was approved. The project completion report will be submitted by 30 June 2024.<sup>7</sup>

### Report on HCFC consumption

4. The Government of Côte d'Ivoire reported under country programme (CP) implementation report a consumption of 30.25 ODP tonnes of HCFC in 2023, which is 52.6 per cent below the HCFC baseline for compliance. The Article 7 data for 2023 has not been reported yet. The 2019-2023 HCFC consumption is shown in table 1.

**Table 1. HCFC consumption in Côte d'Ivoire (2019-2022 Article 7 data)**

HCFC-22	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023*	Baseline
Metric tonnes (mt)	752.00	700.00	651.57	600.00	550.00	1,159.70
ODP tonnes	41.36	38.50	35.84	33.00	30.25	63.80

\* CP data.

5. Overall HCFC consumption has been decreasing due to the activities implemented under the HPMP, in particular, the strict implementation of the licensing and quota system, training of the customs officers, capacity building of refrigeration technicians and timely sensitization of importers.

### *Country programme implementation report*

6. The Government of Côte d'Ivoire reported HCFC sector consumption data under the 2022 CP implementation report that is consistent with the data reported under Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol.

<sup>2</sup> As per the letter of 30 January 2024 from the Ministère de l'Environnement, du Développement Durable et de la Transition Écologique of Côte d'Ivoire to the Secretariat.

<sup>3</sup> Decision 66/43

<sup>4</sup> Annex XIV of UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/75/85

<sup>5</sup> Decision 84/71

<sup>6</sup> Blanket approval decision 90/32(a)

<sup>7</sup> Decision 93/18

## Status of progress and disbursement

### *Legal framework*

7. The HCFC licensing and quota system has been operational since 2013, and includes a register of importers, an annual call for expression of interest to import HCFCs based on the country's quota, quota assignment per importer valid for the calendar year, and regular data cross-checking between the national ozone unit (NOU) and the customs. All importers must submit an import application to the Ministry of Trade and Industry, who then submits this request to the NOU of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. The import of HCFC-based equipment requires prior authorization by the National Ozone Committee to ensure compliance with the regional legislation established under the West African Economic and Monetary Union. In February 2023, the interministerial decree for regulating the production, import, marketing, export, transit, re-export, transport, use and possession of ozone-depleting substances, HFCs and alternatives was signed and is in force.

8. The country plans on implementing a ban on the import of all HCFCs from 1 January 2030. Import of HCFC-22 is strictly controlled by the existing quota and licensing system. As of now, only second-hand HCFC-22-based equipment are banned.

9. Under stage I, a total of 1,050 customs and enforcement officers were trained on the identification and control of HCFCs and HCFC-based equipment, the control and monitoring of HCFC imports, and the prevention of illegal trade of controlled substances. A total of 69 customs officers and environmental inspectors were trained as trainers.

### *Refrigeration servicing sector*

10. A total of 20 trainers and 933 servicing technicians have been trained under stage I on good servicing practices and on the use of alternative refrigerants. The legislation setting up the certification scheme has been adopted, but the scheme is yet to be implemented. In order to provide services and training to RAC technicians, one centre of excellence in Koumassi was established and equipped and two centres in Bouaké and San Pedro are being strengthened with equipment and tools, the installation of which is expected to be finalized by the end of May 2024.

## Level of fund disbursement

11. As of January 2024, of the total funds of US \$1,825,740 approved under stage I, US \$1,676,957 had been disbursed (US \$904,102 for UNEP and US \$772,855 for UNIDO), and the balance of US \$148,783 is expected to be disbursed by April 2024.

## **Stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan**

### Remaining consumption eligible for funding

12. After deducting 22.33 ODP tonnes of HCFCs associated with stage I of the HPMP, the remaining consumption eligible for funding in stage II amounts to 41.47 ODP tonnes of HCFC-22.

### Sector distribution of HCFCs

13. There are approximately 6,000 technicians and 950 workshops operating in the servicing sector, consuming HCFC-22 to service residential and commercial air conditioners, and commercial and industrial refrigeration equipment, as shown in table 2. The exact percentage of refrigerants used in the servicing sector, including HCFC-22 and HFCs, is not yet available as the data on HFC use is currently being collected and would be provided along with the submission of the Kigali HFC implementation plan (KIP).

**Table 2. Estimation of demand for HCFC-22 in the RAC servicing sector in Côte d'Ivoire**

Sector/Application	(a)	(b)	(c) = (a)*(b)	(d)	(c)*(d)
	Equipment inventory	Average charge (kg/unit)	HCFC bank (mt)	Estimated bank refilled during servicing (%)	Annual need for servicing (mt)
Residential AC	700,000	1.5	1,050.00	35	367.50
Commercial AC	18,000	15	270.00	35	94.50
Commercial refrigeration	60,000	5	300.00	40	120.00
Industrial refrigeration	4,700	13	61.10	30	18.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>782,700</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>1,681.1</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>600.33</b>

#### Phase-out strategy

14. Stage II of the HPMP will focus on strengthening the HCFC phase-out legal framework, including enforcement activities; training and certification of RAC technicians, including technical assistance for the servicing sector; equipment for centres of excellence and recovery and recycling activities; monitoring and reporting of the HPMP and its components.

#### *Proposed activities*

15. Stage II proposes the following activities:

- (a) *Legislative framework and standards:* Revision and implementation of the HCFC legislation relating to prohibition of HCFC-based equipment and imports of HCFCs at a future date; gap analysis of existing codes and standards and adoption of new ones, including those for the handling of flammable refrigerants; establishment of an electronic database system for the NOU and stakeholders for the registration and reporting for recycling activities as well as licensing and quota management; promotion of a purchasing policy for environmentally friendly RAC equipment as a guideline; awareness raising of stakeholders on policy and standards updates, targeting approximately 700 participants from universities, technical schools, the general public and refrigerants sellers; conduct a gender assessment in line with decision 92/40 and periodically follow up on the implementation of the assessment report's recommendations (UNEP) (US \$220,000) and (UNIDO) (US \$140,000);
- (b) *Training of customs and enforcement officers:* Revision of training curriculum to include provisions relating to the controlling and monitoring of HCFCs, alternative technologies to HCFCs and the prohibition of import of HCFC-based equipment; production and/or procurement of training material; procurement of eight sets of refrigerant identifiers; 40 training workshops for 1,000 customs officers (25 participants each) on the control and monitoring of HCFCs and prohibition of HCFC-based equipment (UNEP) (US \$340,000) and (UNIDO) (US \$80,000);
- (c) *Training of service technicians:* Revision of training curriculum to address certification scheme requirements; two training-of-trainers workshops targeting a total of 50 trainers on good refrigeration practices with a focus on recovering and recycling of HCFCs and safe handling of hydrocarbons; training of 2,000 RAC technicians on good servicing practices; six regional workshops/training sessions for female technicians only (UNEP) (US \$835,000);
- (d) *Establishment of a certification scheme and certification of technicians:* Consultative meetings with RAC sector stakeholders and international experts on available certification

scheme options; establishment of certification scheme; certification of about 1,000 service technicians (UNEP) (US \$235,000);

- (e) *Procurement of tool kits for service technicians and recovery and recycling activities:* Procurement of 50 recovery and recycling machines for service technicians and training on the use of a logbook for business; regional fairs every two years with an expected 150 participants each to introduce local assemblers and end users of equipment to low-global-warming-potential (GWP) technologies; national competitions every other year to promote good refrigeration practices and skill upgrade amongst students and technicians (UNIDO) (US \$350,000);
- (f) *Training equipment for centres of excellence:* Update of three centres of excellence for the training of service technicians; establishment of three new centres of excellence with equipment such as recovery machines, cylinders, electronic leak detectors, vacuum pumps, and other tools and accessories for the training of service technicians; training of personnel on the use of equipment (UNIDO) (US \$270,000); and
- (g) *Recovery and recycling equipment for centres of excellence:* Establishment of three recovery and recycling centres within existing centres of excellence; training of personnel on the use of equipment (UNIDO) (US \$200,000).

#### *Project implementation and monitoring*

16. The system established under stage I of the HPMP will continue into stage II, with the NOU and UNEP monitoring activities, reporting on progress, and working with stakeholders to phase out HCFCs. The cost of those activities for UNEP amounts to US \$200,000, and includes project staff and consultants (US \$50,000), travel (US \$25,000), meetings and workshops (US \$25,000), monitoring and reporting (US \$40,000), and two verification reports (US \$60,000).

#### *Gender policy implementation*

17. The Government of Côte d'Ivoire, UNEP and UNIDO are fully committed to implementing the operational gender mainstreaming policy of the Multilateral Fund and their own gender mainstreaming policies. The implementation of stage I of the HPMP included information and awareness raising campaigns dedicated to the promotion of gender balance in the RAC servicing profession, with the organization of a training of trainers for female RAC experts. Under stage II, the female trainers trained under stage I will train other female experts, and activities to systematically address gender equality and women's empowerment during this period will be carried out.

18. Since the gender assessment in line with decision 92/40 was not planned and budgeted under the preparatory funding request of stage II, it will be performed as part of the implementation of the first tranche and a report including recommendations will be produced. Subsequently, under the second and third tranches, the Government will monitor and periodically assess whether the report recommendations have been successfully implemented.

#### Total cost of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan

19. The total cost of stage II of the HPMP for Côte d'Ivoire has been estimated at US \$2,870,000 (plus agency support costs), as originally submitted, for achieving a 67.5 per cent reduction from its HCFC baseline consumption by 2025 and a 100 per cent reduction by 2030. The proposed activities and cost breakdown are summarized in table 3.

**Table 3. Total cost of stage II of the HPMP for Côte d'Ivoire as submitted**

Activity	Cost (US \$)		
	UNEP	UNIDO	Total
Legislative framework and standards	220,000	140,000	360,000
Training of customs and enforcement officers	340,000	80,000	420,000
Training of service technicians	835,000	0	835,000
Establishment of a certification scheme and certification of technicians	235,000	0	235,000
Procurement of tool kits for service technicians and recovery and recycling activities	0	350,000	350,000
Training equipment for centres of excellence	0	270,000	270,000
Recovery and recycling equipment for centres of excellence	0	200,000	200,000
Monitoring and reporting	200,000	0	200,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,830,000</b>	<b>1,040,000</b>	<b>2,870,000</b>

Implementation plan for the first tranche of stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan

20. The first funding tranche of stage II of the HPMP in the total amount of US \$1,391,000 will be implemented between July 2024 and December 2027 and will include the following activities:

- (a) *Legislative framework and standards*: Revision and implementation of the HCFC legislation; gap analysis of existing codes and standards and adoption of new ones for the safe use of alternatives and recovery and recycling; establishment of an electronic database system for the NOU and stakeholders for the registration and reporting for recycling activities as well as licensing and quota management; promotion of a purchasing policy for environmentally friendly RAC equipment as a guideline; awareness raising of stakeholders on policy and standards updates; conduct a gender assessment and production of the report and recommendations (UNEP) (US \$115,000) and (UNIDO) (US \$140,000);
- (b) *Training of customs and enforcement officers*: Revision of training curriculum to include provisions relating to the controlling and monitoring of HCFCs, alternative technologies to HCFCs, maintenance and use of refrigerant identifiers and the prohibition of import of HFCF-based equipment; production and/or procurement of training material; procurement of eight refrigerant identifiers; 22 training workshops for 550 customs and enforcement officers on the control and monitoring of HCFCs and prohibition of HCFC-based equipment (UNEP) (US \$145,000) and (UNIDO) (US \$40,000);
- (c) *Training of service technicians*: Revision of training curriculum to address certification scheme requirements; training-of-trainers sessions for 20 trainers on good refrigeration practices; training sessions for 800 service technicians on good servicing practices; two regional workshops/training sessions for 50 female technicians (UNEP) (US \$365,000);
- (d) *Establishment of a certification scheme and certification of technicians*: Consultative meetings on available certification scheme options; establishment of certification scheme; certification of 250 service technicians (UNEP) (US \$75,000);
- (e) *Procurement of tool kits for service technicians and recovery and recycling activities*: Procurement of recovery and recycling machines for service technicians and training on the use of a logbook for business; regional fairs to introduce local assemblers and investors to low-GWP technologies; national competition to promote good refrigeration practice and skill upgrade amongst students and technicians (UNIDO) (US \$181,000);

- (f) *Training equipment for centres of excellence*: Establishment of three new centres of excellence with equipment such as recovery machines, cylinders, electronic leak detectors, vacuum pumps, and other tools and accessories for the training of service technicians; training of personnel on the use of equipment (UNIDO) (US \$140,000);
- (g) *Recovery and recycling equipment for centres of excellence*: Establishment of three recovery and recycling centres within existing centres of excellence; training of personnel for use of equipment (UNIDO) (US \$100,000); and
- (h) *Project monitoring* (UNEP) (US \$90,000): project staff and consultants (US \$20,000), travel (US \$10,000), meetings and workshops (US \$20,000), monitoring and reporting (US \$5,000), and a verification report (US \$35,000).

## SECRETARIAT'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION

### COMMENTS

21. The Secretariat reviewed stage II of the HPMP in light of stage I, the policies and guidelines of the Multilateral Fund, including the criteria for funding HCFC phase-out in the consumption sector for stage II of HPMPs (decision 74/50), and the 2024-2026 business plan of the Multilateral Fund.

#### Overarching strategy

22. The Government of Côte d'Ivoire proposes to meet the 100 per cent reduction of its HCFC baseline consumption by 2030, and to maintain a maximum annual consumption of HCFCs in the period of 2030 to 2040 at a level consistent with Article 5, paragraph 8 ter(e)(i) of the Montreal Protocol.<sup>8</sup> Through a combination of stronger regulatory controls on HCFC imports including a ban on the import of HCFC-based equipment by January 2027 and on the import of all HCFCs from 1 January 2030, continuous training of service technicians and other relevant stakeholders on the reduction of HCFC consumption and the adoption of alternatives, and awareness and outreach activities, the Government proposes to achieve its HCFC phase-out targets.

23. In line with decision 86/51, to allow for consideration of the final tranche of its HPMP, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire agreed to submit a detailed description of the regulatory and policy framework in place to implement measures to ensure that HCFC consumption is in compliance with paragraph 8 ter(e)(i) of Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol for the period 2030–2040, and, if Côte d'Ivoire intends to have consumption during the period 2030–2040, in line with paragraph 8 ter(e)(i) of Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol, proposed modifications to its Agreement with the Executive Committee covering the period beyond 2030.

#### Legal framework

24. UNEP indicated that the Government of Côte d'Ivoire would implement a prohibition on the import and sale of HCFC-22-based equipment from January 2027 to reduce its dependence on HCFC-based equipment. The Government is also actively considering implementing regulations that would allow for the exclusive purchase of refrigerants and servicing of certain categories of equipment by certified technicians, after consulting with the RAC association on the subject; regulations for the recovery and recycling of refrigerants would be considered based on the effectiveness of the implementation of the proposed project.

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<sup>8</sup> HCFC consumption may exceed zero in any year so long as the sum of its calculated levels of consumption over the ten-year period from 1 January 2030 to 1 January 2040, divided by 10, does not exceed 2.5 per cent of the HCFC baseline.

25. The Government of Côte d'Ivoire has issued HCFC import quotas for 2024 at 25.58 ODP tonnes, which is lower than the Montreal Protocol control targets. Accordingly, the maximum allowable target for 2024 was agreed at a level lower than the Montreal Protocol targets.

#### Technical and cost-related issues

26. The Secretariat requested information on the details of implementation of the proposed activities and related budget (US \$100,000) for promoting the purchase of environmentally friendly RAC equipment. UNIDO clarified that under this project, a green purchasing policy for RAC equipment would be drafted and procedures and criteria that would include different parameters (e.g., the type of refrigerants, power consumptions, variable speed controllers, etc.) will be incorporated. Further, a gap analysis reviewing existing regulations and policies will be undertaken for defining the policies and procedures for green procurement; two interministerial review meetings will be conducted with 60 respondents for providing inputs on the draft policy and introduce necessary adjustments. An awareness programme would be conducted for explaining and promoting the benefits of this policy and implementation steps for different Government ministries' stakeholders to receive further support during implementation of these measures; and additional supporting materials and information would be developed and distributed to those ministries. These activities will result in faster reduction of the country's dependence on HCFC-based equipment.

27. Upon request for clarifications on the competition that will be held every other year in one of the training centres to encourage students and service technicians to upgrade their skills, UNIDO explained that the focus of the competition would be defined after consultations with the relevant national stakeholders (e.g., recovery and recycling, good installation and maintenance of low-GWP alternative-based equipment); during the preparation of stage II, the benefits of such a competition was highlighted and this, in turn, led to the design of this component.

28. The Secretariat requested additional information and clarifications on the component related to the certification of technicians. UNEP informed that currently, there is no certification system in the country; through the implementation of stage II, a certification system would be established with relevant procedures for theoretical and practical training; the certification process would also cover servicing equipment using flammable and toxic refrigerants, and 1,000 technicians would be certified. The Government is also considering implementing regulations to allow only certified technicians to purchase refrigerants and service equipment. Further, during the country's KIP scheduled to be submitted at the first meeting in 2025, the certification system established under stage II of the HPMP would be amended and serve as a platform to train and certify technicians on the phase-down of HFCs.

29. The Secretariat requested clarifications on the activities related to the establishment of recovery and recycling centres within existing centres of excellence. UNIDO explained that the project primarily aims at maximising recovery and recycling of HCFC-22 by providing training to RAC technicians on the use of recovery and recycling equipment and the economic and environmental benefits of such practice and by giving them access to those equipment. Over time, with the decrease in availability of HCFC-22 and possible increase in its price, the practice of recovery and recycling of refrigerants would be progressively adopted. Further, this is expected to have a "spill-over" effect on the adoption of similar practices during the HFC phase-down. The Government together with UNIDO would also continue to monitor the performance of the reclamation centre established during stage I at Koumassi and based on the lessons learned from the activities in this centre, necessary adjustments in operations and management of the recovery and recycling project would be introduced. Based on further consultations with the Government, UNIDO informed that the funding relating to this activity would be reallocated to the procurement of additional recovery and recycling equipment for service technicians and related training.

30. In light of the reallocation of funds mentioned in paragraph 29, the funding for the activities has been revised and agreed as shown in table 4:

**Table 4. Total cost of stage II of the HPMP for Côte d'Ivoire as agreed**

Activity	Cost (US \$)		
	UNEP	UNIDO	Total
Legislative framework and standards	220,000	140,000	360,000
Training of customs and enforcement officers	340,000	80,000	420,000
Training of service technicians	835,000	0	835,000
Establishment of certification scheme and certification of technicians	235,000	0	235,000
Procurement of tool kits for service technicians and recovery and recycling activities	0	550,000	550,000
Training equipment for centres of excellence	0	270,000	270,000
Monitoring and reporting	200,000	0	200,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,830,000</b>	<b>1,040,000</b>	<b>2,870,000</b>

### *Gender policy implementation*

31. Currently, there are no women hired as consultants for project monitoring and reporting and there are two female RAC trainers. The gender assessment exercise to be completed during the first tranche will assess information on the number of women in each stakeholders group (policymakers, importers, customs and enforcement officers, RAC technicians, etc.), and will specifically examine key barriers, including social aspects, to the participation of women in different activities; this information would be used for strengthening specific interventions for maximising women participation. Further, the two regional training workshops for female technicians planned under the first tranche would enable focused consultations on existing barriers relating to women participation in the RAC servicing, possible steps to systemically address these barriers. Activities under the second and third tranches will include periodic follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations from the gender assessment exercise, and lessons learned from the two workshops under the first tranche will inform the organization of four additional workshops for female technicians in the region, and, if needed, in other regions. Alternatively, the remaining budget could be used to implement concrete activities on gender mainstreaming identified as part of the gender assessment exercise.

### Total project cost

32. The total cost for stage II of the HPMP amounts to US \$2,870,000, based on decision 74/50(c)(xiii) on the eligible funding level for a non-low-volume consuming country. The funding for the first tranche was agreed as submitted.

### Impact on the climate

33. The activities proposed in the servicing sector, which include better containment of refrigerants through training and provision of equipment, will reduce the amount of HCFC-22 used for RAC servicing. Each kilogram of HCFC-22 not emitted due to better refrigeration practices results in the savings of approximately 1.8 CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent tonnes. Although a calculation of the impact on the climate was not included in the HPMP, the activities planned by Côte d'Ivoire, including its efforts to promote low-GWP alternatives and recovery and reuse of refrigerants indicate that the implementation of the HPMP will reduce the emission of refrigerants into the atmosphere, resulting in climate benefits.

### Sustainability of the HCFC phase-out and assessment of risks

34. The activities planned under stage II of the HPMP are expected to fully address the remaining consumption of HCFC-22 in the servicing sector through a combination of training including on the safe servicing of equipment using flammable refrigerants and other support activities related to certification of technicians, equipment support to technicians for maximising recovery and reuse of refrigerants and

equipment support for centres to provide training to technicians on an ongoing basis, inclusion of modules relating to ozone layer protection in the training curriculum that would ensure continued training of service technicians on these aspects, prohibition of import of HCFC-22-based equipment by January 2027, training of customs and enforcement officers for effective control and monitoring of HCFCs and awareness raising and other activities for promoting stage II and low-GWP alternatives to HCFCs. The NOU and relevant partner agencies would build on the experience gained under stage I to implement activities planned under stage II. The Government, with support from national stakeholders and the implementing agencies, would continue to monitor availability of low-GWP alternatives to HCFCs and the implementation of the different activities to promote and ensure sustainable adoption of such alternatives while phasing out HCFCs, and report to the Executive Committee as a part of future tranche progress reports. Finally, when submitting its KIP, the Government would ensure coordination of activities planned under the KIP with those under stage II of the HPMP.

#### Co-financing

35. The Government of Côte d'Ivoire provides in-kind contribution including staff time, office space for the NOU, tax exemption and other government services.

#### 2024-2026 draft business plan of the Multilateral Fund

36. UNEP and UNIDO are requesting US \$2,870,000, plus agency support costs, for the implementation of stage II of the HPMP for Côte d'Ivoire. The total requested value of US \$1,524,287, including agency support costs for the period of 2024–2026, is US \$1,126,473 above the amount in the business plan.

#### Draft Agreement

37. A draft Agreement between the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and the Executive Committee for stage II of the HPMP is contained in annex I to the present document.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

38. The Executive Committee may wish to consider:

- (a) Approving, in principle, stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan (HPMP) for Côte d'Ivoire for the period from 2024 to 2030 for the complete phase-out of HCFC consumption, in the amount of US \$3,154,100, consisting of US \$1,830,000, plus agency support costs of US \$211,300, for UNEP and US \$1,040,000, plus agency support costs of US \$72,800, for UNIDO, on the understanding that no more funding from the Multilateral Fund will be provided for the phase-out of HCFCs;
- (b) Noting the commitment of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to completely phase out HCFCs by 1 January 2030, and that HCFCs will not be imported after that date, except for those allowed for a servicing tail between 2030 and 2040, where required, consistent with the provisions of the Montreal Protocol;
- (c) Deducting 41.47 ODP tonnes of HCFCs from the remaining HCFC consumption eligible for funding;
- (d) Approving the draft Agreement between the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and the Executive Committee for the reduction in consumption of HCFCs, in accordance with stage II of the HPMP, contained in annex I to the present document;

- (e) That, to allow for consideration of the final tranche of its HPMP, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire should submit:
  - (i) A detailed description of the regulatory and policy framework in place to implement measures to ensure that HCFC consumption was in compliance with paragraph 8 ter(e)(i) of Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol for the period 2030-2040;
  - (ii) If Côte d'Ivoire were intending to have consumption during the period 2030–2040, in line with paragraph 8 ter(e)(i) of Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol, proposed modifications to its Agreement with the Executive Committee covering the period beyond 2030; and
- (f) Approving the first tranche of stage II of the HPMP for Côte d'Ivoire, and the corresponding tranche implementation plan, in the amount of US \$1,524,287, consisting of US \$790,000, plus agency support costs of US \$91,217 for UNEP, and US \$601,000, plus agency support costs of US \$42,070 for UNIDO.

## Annex I

### **DRAFT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MULTILATERAL FUND FOR THE REDUCTION IN CONSUMPTION OF HYDROCHLOROFLUOROCARBONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STAGE II OF THE HCFC PHASE-OUT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

#### **Purpose**

1. This Agreement represents the understanding of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire (the "Country") and the Executive Committee with respect to the reduction of controlled use of the ozone-depleting substances (ODS) set out in Appendix 1-A ("The Substances") to a sustained level of zero ODP tonnes by 1 January 2030 in compliance with Montreal Protocol schedule.
2. The Country agrees to meet the annual consumption limits of the Substances as set out in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A ("The Targets, and Funding") in this Agreement as well as in the Montreal Protocol reduction schedule for all Substances mentioned in Appendix 1-A. The Country accepts that, by its acceptance of this Agreement and performance by the Executive Committee of its funding obligations described in paragraph 3, it is precluded from applying for or receiving further funding from the Multilateral Fund in respect to any consumption of the Substances that exceeds the level defined in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A as the final reduction step under this Agreement for all of the Substances specified in Appendix 1-A, and in respect to any consumption of each of the Substances that exceeds the level defined in row 4.1.3 (remaining consumption eligible for funding).
3. Subject to compliance by the Country with its obligations set out in this Agreement, the Executive Committee agrees, in principle, to provide the funding set out in row 3.1 of Appendix 2-A to the Country. The Executive Committee will, in principle, provide this funding at the Executive Committee meetings specified in Appendix 3-A ("Funding Approval Schedule").
4. The Country agrees to implement this Agreement in accordance with the stage II of the HCFC phase-out management plan approved ("the Plan"). In accordance with subparagraph 5(b) of this Agreement, the Country will accept independent verification of the achievement of the annual consumption limits of the Substances as set out in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A of this Agreement. The aforementioned verification will be commissioned by the relevant bilateral or implementing agency.

#### **Conditions for funding release**

5. The Executive Committee will only provide the Funding in accordance with the Funding Approval Schedule when the Country satisfies the following conditions at least eight weeks in advance of the applicable Executive Committee meeting set out in the Funding Approval Schedule:
  - (a) That the Country has met the Targets set out in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A for all relevant years. Relevant years are all years since the year in which this Agreement was approved. Years for which there are no due country programme implementation reports at the date of the Executive Committee meeting at which the funding request is being presented are exempted;
  - (b) That the meeting of these Targets has been independently verified for all relevant years, unless the Executive Committee decided that such verification would not be required;
  - (c) That the Country had submitted a Tranche Implementation Report in the form of Appendix 4-A ("Format of Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans") covering each previous calendar year; that it had achieved a significant level of implementation of

activities initiated with previously approved tranches; and that the rate of disbursement of funding available from the previously approved tranche was more than 20 per cent; and

- (d) That the Country has submitted a Tranche Implementation Plan in the form of Appendix 4-A covering each calendar year until and including the year for which the funding schedule foresees the submission of the next tranche or, in case of the final tranche, until completion of all activities foreseen.

### **Monitoring**

6. The Country will ensure that it conducts accurate monitoring of its activities under this Agreement. The institutions set out in Appendix 5-A (“Monitoring Institutions and Roles”) will monitor and report on implementation of the activities in the previous Tranche Implementation Plans in accordance with their roles and responsibilities set out in the same Appendix.

### **Flexibility in the reallocation of funds**

7. The Executive Committee agrees that the Country may have the flexibility to reallocate part or all of the approved funds, according to the evolving circumstances to achieve the smoothest reduction of consumption and phase-out of the Substances specified in Appendix 1-A:

- (a) Reallocations categorized as major changes must be documented in advance either in a Tranche Implementation Plan as foreseen in subparagraph 5(d) above, or as a revision to an existing Tranche Implementation Plan to be submitted eight weeks prior to any meeting of the Executive Committee, for its approval. Major changes would relate to:
  - (i) Issues potentially concerning the rules and policies of the Multilateral Fund;
  - (ii) Changes which would modify any clause of this Agreement;
  - (iii) Changes in the annual levels of funding allocated to individual bilateral or implementing agencies for the different tranches;
  - (iv) Provision of funding for activities not included in the current endorsed Tranche Implementation Plan, or removal of an activity in the Tranche Implementation Plan, with a cost greater than 30 per cent of the total cost of the last approved tranche;
  - (v) Changes in alternative technologies, on the understanding that any submission for such a request would identify the associated incremental costs, the potential impact to the climate, and any differences in ODP tonnes to be phased out if applicable, as well as confirm that the Country agrees that potential savings related to the change of technology would decrease the overall funding level under this Agreement accordingly;
- (b) Reallocations not categorized as major changes may be incorporated in the approved Tranche Implementation Plan, under implementation at the time, and reported to the Executive Committee in the subsequent Tranche Implementation Report; and
- (c) Any remaining funds held by the bilateral or implementing agencies or the Country under the Plan will be returned to the Multilateral Fund upon completion of the last tranche foreseen under this Agreement.

### **Considerations for the refrigeration servicing sector**

8. Specific attention will be paid to the execution of the activities in the refrigeration servicing sector included in the Plan, in particular:

- (a) The Country would use the flexibility available under this Agreement to address specific needs that might arise during project implementation; and
- (b) The Country and relevant bilateral and/or implementing agencies would take into consideration relevant decisions on the refrigeration servicing sector during the implementation of the Plan.

### **Bilateral and implementing agencies**

9. The Country agrees to assume overall responsibility for the management and implementation of this Agreement and of all activities undertaken by it or on its behalf to fulfil the obligations under this Agreement. UNEP has agreed to be the lead implementing agency (the “Lead IA”) and UNIDO has agreed to be the cooperating implementing agency (the “Cooperating IA”) under the lead of the Lead IA in respect of the Country’s activities under this Agreement. The Country agrees to evaluations, which might be carried out under the monitoring and evaluation work programmes of the Multilateral Fund or under the evaluation programme of the Lead IA and/or Cooperating IA taking part in this Agreement.

10. The Lead IA will be responsible for ensuring coordinated planning, implementation and reporting of all activities under this Agreement, including but not limited to independent verification as per subparagraph 5(b). The Cooperating IA will support the Lead IA by implementing the Plan under the overall coordination of the Lead IA. The roles of the Lead IA and Cooperating IA are contained in Appendix 6-A and Appendix 6-B, respectively. The Executive Committee agrees, in principle, to provide the Lead IA and the Cooperating IA with the fees set out in rows 2.2 and 2.4 of Appendix 2-A.

### **Non-compliance with the Agreement**

11. Should the Country, for any reason, not meet the Targets for the elimination of the Substances set out in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A or otherwise does not comply with this Agreement, then the Country agrees that it will not be entitled to the Funding in accordance with the Funding Approval Schedule. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, funding will be reinstated according to a revised Funding Approval Schedule determined by the Executive Committee after the Country has demonstrated that it has satisfied all of its obligations that were due to be met prior to receipt of the next tranche of funding under the Funding Approval Schedule. The Country acknowledges that the Executive Committee may reduce the amount of the Funding by the amount set out in Appendix 7-A (“Reductions in Funding for Failure to Comply”) in respect of each ODP kg of reductions in consumption not achieved in any one year. The Executive Committee will discuss each specific case in which the Country did not comply with this Agreement, and take related decisions. Once decisions are taken, the specific case of non-compliance with this Agreement will not be an impediment for the provision of funding for future tranches as per paragraph 5 above.

12. The Funding of this Agreement will not be modified on the basis of any future Executive Committee decisions that may affect the funding of any other consumption sector projects or any other related activities in the Country.

13. The Country will comply with any reasonable request of the Executive Committee, the Lead IA and the Cooperating IA to facilitate implementation of this Agreement. In particular, it will provide the Lead IA and the Cooperating IA with access to the information necessary to verify compliance with this Agreement.

### Date of completion

14. The completion of the Plan and the associated Agreement will take place at the end of the year following the last year for which a maximum allowable total consumption level has been specified in Appendix 2-A. Should at that time there still be activities that are outstanding, and which were foreseen in the last Tranche Implementation Plan and its subsequent revisions as per subparagraph 5(d) and paragraph 7, the completion of the Plan will be delayed until the end of the year following the implementation of the remaining activities. The reporting requirements as per subparagraphs 1(a), 1(b), 1(d), and 1(e) of Appendix 4-A will continue until the time of the completion of the Plan unless otherwise specified by the Executive Committee.

### Validity

15. All of the conditions set out in this Agreement are undertaken solely within the context of the Montreal Protocol and as specified in this Agreement. All terms used in this Agreement have the meaning ascribed to them in the Montreal Protocol unless otherwise defined herein.

16. This Agreement may be modified or terminated only by mutual written agreement between the Government of the Country and the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund.

## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1-A: THE SUBSTANCES

Substance	Annex	Group	Starting point for aggregate reductions in consumption (ODP tonnes)
HCFC-22	C	I	63.80

### APPENDIX 2-A: THE TARGETS, AND FUNDING

Row	Particulars	2024	2025-2026	2027	2028-2029	2030	Total
1.1	Montreal Protocol reduction schedule of Annex C, Group I substances (ODP tonnes)	41.47	20.74	20.74	20.74	0.00	n/a
1.2	Maximum allowable total consumption of Annex C, Group I substances (ODP tonnes)	33.00	20.74	20.74	20.74	0.00	n/a
2.1	Lead IA (UNEP) agreed funding (US \$)	790,000	0	753,000	0	287,000	1,830,000
2.2	Support costs for Lead IA (US \$)	91,217	0	86,945	0	33,138	211,300
2.3	Cooperating IA (UNIDO) agreed funding (US \$)	601,000	0	439,000	0	0	1,040,000
2.4	Support costs for Cooperating IA (US \$)	42,070	0	30,730	0	0	72,800
3.1	Total agreed funding (US \$)	1,391,000	0	1,192,000	0	287,000	2,870,000
3.2	Total support costs (US \$)	133,287	0	117,675	0	33,138	284,100
3.3	Total agreed costs (US \$)	1,524,287	0	1,309,675	0	320,138	3,154,100
4.1.1	Total phase-out of HCFC-22 agreed to be achieved under this Agreement (ODP tonnes)						41.47
4.1.2	Phase-out of HCFC-22 to be achieved in the previous stage (ODP tonnes)						22.33
4.1.3	Remaining eligible consumption for HCFC-22 (ODP tonnes)						0.00

\*Date of completion of stage I as per decision 90/32(a): 31 December 2022

### **APPENDIX 3-A: FUNDING APPROVAL SCHEDULE**

1. Funding for the future tranches will be considered for approval at the first meeting of the year specified in Appendix 2-A.

### **APPENDIX 4-A: FORMAT OF TRANCHE IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS AND PLANS**

1. The submission of the Tranche Implementation Report and Plans for each tranche request will consist of five parts:

- (a) A narrative report, with data provided by tranche, describing the progress achieved since the previous report, reflecting the situation of the Country in regard to phase out of the Substances, how the different activities contribute to it, and how they relate to each other. The report should include the amount of ODS phased out as a direct result from the implementation of activities, by substance, and the alternative technology used and the related phase-in of alternatives, to allow the Secretariat to provide to the Executive Committee information about the resulting change in climate relevant emissions. The report should further highlight successes, experiences, and challenges related to the different activities included in the Plan, reflecting any changes in the circumstances in the Country, and providing other relevant information. The report should also include information on and justification for any changes vis-à-vis the previously submitted Tranche Implementation Plan(s), such as delays, uses of the flexibility for reallocation of funds during implementation of a tranche, as provided for in paragraph 7 of this Agreement, or other changes;
- (b) An independent verification report of the Plan results and the consumption of the Substances, as per subparagraph 5(b) of the Agreement. If not decided otherwise by the Executive Committee, such a verification has to be provided together with each tranche request and will have to provide verification of the consumption for all relevant years as specified in subparagraph 5(a) of the Agreement for which a verification report has not yet been acknowledged by the Committee;
- (c) A written description of the activities to be undertaken during the period covered by the requested tranche, highlighting implementation milestones, the time of completion and the interdependence of the activities, and taking into account experiences made and progress achieved in the implementation of earlier tranches; the data in the plan will be provided by calendar year. The description should also include a reference to the overall Plan and progress achieved, as well as any possible changes to the overall Plan that are foreseen. The description should also specify and explain in detail such changes to the overall plan. This description of future activities can be submitted as a part of the same document as the narrative report under subparagraph (b) above;
- (d) A set of quantitative information for all Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans, submitted through an online database; and
- (e) An Executive Summary of about five paragraphs, summarizing the information of the above subparagraphs 1(a) to 1(d).

2. In the event that in a particular year two stages of the Plan are being implemented in parallel, the following considerations should be taken in preparing the Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans:

- (a) The Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans referred to as part of this Agreement, will exclusively refer to activities and funds covered by this Agreement; and

- (b) If the stages under implementation have different HCFC consumption targets under Appendix 2-A of each Agreement in a particular year, the lower HCFC consumption target will be used as reference for compliance with these Agreements and will be the basis for the independent verification.

#### **APPENDIX 5-A: MONITORING INSTITUTIONS AND ROLES**

1. The Country will ensure that it conducts accurate monitoring of all activities under the Plan. The national ozone unit will submit annual progress reports on the status of implementation of activities to UNEP as the Lead IA. The verification of the achievement of the performance targets as per Executive Committee requirements will be assigned to an independent company or independent consultants selected by the Lead IA.

#### **APPENDIX 6-A: ROLE OF THE LEAD IMPLEMENTING AGENCY**

1. The Lead IA will be responsible for a range of activities, including at least the following:
  - (a) Ensuring performance and financial verification in accordance with this Agreement and with its specific internal procedures and requirements as set out in the Country's Plan;
  - (b) Assisting the Country in preparation of the Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans as per Appendix 4-A;
  - (c) Providing independent verification to the Executive Committee that the Targets have been met and associated tranche activities have been completed as indicated in the Tranche Implementation Plan consistent with Appendix 4-A;
  - (d) Ensuring that the experiences and progress is reflected in updates of the overall plan and in future Tranche Implementation Plans consistent with subparagraphs 1(c) and 1(d) of Appendix 4-A;
  - (e) Fulfilling the reporting requirements for the Tranche Implementation Reports and Plans and the overall plan as specified in Appendix 4-A for submission to the Executive Committee, and should include the activities implemented by the Cooperating IA;
  - (f) In the event that the last funding tranche is requested one or more years prior to the last year for which a consumption target had been established, annual tranche implementation reports and, where applicable, verification reports on the current stage of the Plan should be submitted until all activities foreseen had been completed and HCFC consumption targets had been met;
  - (g) Ensuring that appropriate independent technical experts carry out the technical reviews;
  - (h) Carrying out required supervision missions;
  - (i) Ensuring the presence of an operating mechanism to allow effective, transparent implementation of the Tranche Implementation Plan and accurate data reporting;
  - (j) Coordinating the activities of the Cooperating IA, and ensuring appropriate sequence of activities;
  - (k) In case of reductions in funding for failure to comply in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Agreement, to determine, in consultation with the Country and the Cooperating IA, the

allocation of the reductions to the different budget items and to the funding of the Lead IA and the Cooperating IA;

- (l) Ensuring that disbursements made to the Country are based on the use of the indicators;
- (m) Providing assistance with policy, management and technical support when required;
- (n) Reaching consensus with the Cooperating IA on any planning, coordination and reporting arrangements required to facilitate the implementation of the Plan; and
- (o) Timely releasing funds to the Country/participating enterprises for completing the activities related to the project.

2. After consultation with the Country and taking into account any views expressed, the Lead IA will select and mandate an independent entity to carry out the verification of the Plan's results and the consumption of the Substances mentioned in Appendix 1-A, as per subparagraph 5(b) of the Agreement and subparagraph 1(b) of Appendix 4-A.

#### **APPENDIX 6-B: ROLE OF THE COOPERATING IMPLEMENTING AGENCY**

1. The Cooperating IA will be responsible for a range of activities. These activities are specified in the Plan, including at least the following:

- (a) Providing assistance for policy development when required;
- (b) Assisting the Country in the implementation and assessment of the activities funded by the Cooperating IA, and refer to the Lead IA to ensure a coordinated sequence in the activities;
- (c) Providing reports to the Lead IA on these activities, for inclusion in the consolidated reports as per Appendix 4-A; and
- (d) Reaching consensus with the Lead IA on any planning, coordination and reporting arrangements required to facilitate the implementation of the Plan.

#### **APPENDIX 7-A: REDUCTIONS IN FUNDING FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY**

1. In accordance with paragraph 11 of the Agreement, the amount of funding provided may be reduced by US \$138.4 per ODP kg of consumption beyond the level defined in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A for each year in which the target specified in row 1.2 of Appendix 2-A has not been met, on the understanding that the maximum funding reduction would not exceed the funding level of the tranche being requested. Additional measures might be considered in cases where non-compliance extends for two consecutive years.

2. In the event that the penalty needs to be applied for a year in which there are two Agreements in force (two stages of the Plan being implemented in parallel) with different penalty levels, the application of the penalty will be determined on a case-by-case basis taking into consideration the specific sectors that lead to the non-compliance. If it is not possible to determine a sector, or both stages are addressing the same sector, the penalty level to be applied would be the largest.