

Decision relevant to Monitoring and Evaluation at 89th Executive Committee Meeting (extract from Final Report of the Meeting (Part I) [UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/89/15](#))

| DECISION | AGENDA ITEM | RELATED DOCUMENTS |
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| Decision 89/1 (b) | Item 3: Secretariat Activities | Final Report UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/89/15 See paragraphs 11 to 18 of UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/89/2/Add.1 related to MOPAN assessment of the evaluation function. |

AGENDA ITEM 3: SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES

13. Introducing the item, the Chair noted that the usual report on Secretariat activities would be combined with the report submitted at the 90th meeting, as indicated in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/89/2. At the present meeting, the Committee would consider only the report on Secretariat activities relating to the 2019 Assessment of the Multilateral Fund by MOPAN contained in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/89/2/Add.1. The Executive Committee had initiated discussion on the matter during the intersessional approval process for the 88th meeting.

14. The Chief Officer presented document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/89/2/Add.1, setting out the Secretariat's observations and suggestions in relation to the MOPAN assessment. The document reflected the discussion and the comments made by members during the intersessional approval process for the 88th meeting. After noting that the MOPAN assessment had identified many strengths for the Multilateral Fund, she provided a brief overview of the Secretariat's observations and suggestions relating to the five areas for improvement referred in the MOPAN assessment, namely the evaluation function; the results framework; the information and communications function; gender equality; and sustainability.

15. Members welcomed the Secretariat's revised response and broadly supported the way forward proposed in the document. They nevertheless cautioned that the measures taken to address the MOPAN recommendations, especially in relation to results management and the scorecard, should not place undue additional burden on either Article 5 Parties or the implementing agencies or stray into areas outside the mandate of the Montreal Protocol. Some members suggested that additional resources would be needed to implement the measures responding to the MOPAN recommendations and raised concerns as to whether those resources would be made available. Members also offered a number of specific suggestions and comments on the five areas for improvement identified in the MOPAN assessment, to be taken into consideration by the Secretariat in developing specific proposals to be considered by the Committee at future meetings.

16. With respect to the evaluation function, several members stressed the importance of an independent evaluation function while recognizing its ties to the Secretariat. Having a standalone annual report on monitoring and evaluation was viewed as a positive development. One member also mentioned the need to look at the organizational structure of the Secretariat in relation to the independence of the evaluation function. Another member took the view that the current two-phased approach, with a desk study and a full-fledged evaluation, had been simple and effective and said that the Committee should take care not to create an elaborate, overly burdensome structure. One member noted that in recent years the Committee had followed a practice of simply noting monitoring and evaluation reports and inviting implementing agencies to take the lessons learned and information in the report into consideration. He recalled, however, a practice that had been in place until 2010 whereby the Committee took decisions on relevant recommendations resulting from evaluation findings, which facilitated the follow-up of their implementation. He suggested that the Committee revert to the pre-2011 practice so that there could be follow-up with regard to how the evaluation recommendations and related decisions fed into the work of the Fund and its bilateral and implementing agencies, as recommended by MOPAN. It was stressed that the number of such recommendations should be limited and concentrate on the most essential findings to avoid cumbersome follow-up processes. The preparation of management responses by the Committee would

also contribute to enhancing the use of the evaluation results and strengthening the function's ties with the work of the Fund.

17. The Secretariat's proposal for a results framework demonstrating the wider impact of the Multilateral Fund and the use of a scorecard to communicate results was welcomed by members, although the feasibility of developing specific objectives, deliverables and indicators for the broader environmental, social and economics spheres, and the advisability of doing so given the mandate of the Montreal Protocol, was questioned. Several members also questioned whether such an undertaking would have cost implications in relation to data collection and reporting on indicators, but others noted that the goals of the results framework could largely be achieved by reorganizing the data already available. Several members suggested topics for indicators, including energy efficiency, ODP tonnes, CO₂-equivalent, assistance provided to achieve compliance, institutional strengthening and capacity-building. Overall, members recognized the need to limit the number of indicators and to take into account the indicator-related recommendations of MOPAN. They also expressed a desire to consider the results framework and the scorecard, ideally at the 91st meeting, with a view to their finalization at the 92nd meeting.

18. On the topic of communication, members expressed agreement with the ideas proposed by the Secretariat and noted with satisfaction that an updated information strategy would be presented at the 91st meeting. There was significant support for enhancement of the Multilateral Fund website to facilitate access to information, both for Parties and for a broader audience, and the Secretariat was encouraged to tap into the experience of the Ozone Secretariat in that regard. Communicating the success of the work done under the Montreal Protocol was also cited as important and the Secretariat was encouraged to produce at least one annual communications product on the Fund's key achievements.

19. Regarding gender equality, it was noted that the Committee would consider the Secretariat's report on the review of the implementation of the operational policy on gender mainstreaming at its 90th meeting and could further discuss the response to the MOPAN recommendations on gender equality in that context. One member said that the results reported by the implementing agencies should be incorporated into the global gender equality results for the Fund in the proposed results framework and scorecard.

20. With respect to the sustainability of the results of work supported by the Multilateral Fund, members suggested that the Secretariat explore opportunities to highlight how sustainability would be ensured but acknowledged that sustainability would also be discussed under various items during the upcoming in-person meetings. One member noted that the MOPAN assessment included observations about risk management that were not fully addressed in the Secretariat's report and asked that the Secretariat consider those observations further when formulating recommendations on sustainability for the Committee's consideration.

21. The Secretariat was also urged to prepare the management response to the MOPAN assessment as early as possible, ideally for consideration at the 91st meeting.

22. The representative of an implementing agency, responding to a query from a member, identified sustainability as the main issue. Pointing out that, particularly in the residential-air-conditioning sector, Article 5 Parties were being asked to move faster than non-Article-5 Parties in absorbing low-global-warming-potential technologies, he called for patience and understanding of the challenges facing Article 5 Parties.

23. Responding to members' comments and questions, the Chief Officer said that the information strategy would be aimed at addressing three issues related to the Fund's data: preservation of the existing data; provision of efficient and user-friendly access to existing data for all stakeholders; and presentation of information to various types of stakeholders. Examples of tools for achieving these goals, which included a revamped website, an online reporting tool for HFCs, a revamped inventory of data, a searchable online collection of the Multilateral Fund policies, guidelines and procedures, would all be covered in the comprehensive plan to be presented at the 91st meeting, which would also deal with funding needs and the

timeframe required. On the topic of indicators, the Chief Officer specified that, while the Montreal Protocol had a narrow scope, it had a wide-ranging impact on the ground and its implementation was changing people's lives at the national level; the social, economic and environmental indicators would be designed to demonstrate that broad impact. A lot of information already existed, and it was a question of framing it differently for it to be shared with the public.

24. The Executive Committee agreed that the Secretariat would revise the recommendation in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/89/2/Add.1 for consideration by the Committee later in the meeting.

25. Subsequently, the Executive Committee considered a revised recommendation prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the discussions at the present meeting.

26. The Executive Committee decided:

- (a) To note document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/89/2 and the report contained in document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/89/2/Add.1 which outlined observations and actions proposed by the Secretariat related to the five key areas of improvement identified in the 2019 Assessment of the Multilateral Fund by the Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN);
- (b) **To request the Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, taking into account the discussions on the matter at part I of the 89th meeting, to include, in the monitoring and evaluation work programme for the year 2023 for consideration by the Executive Committee at its 91st meeting, the actions to enhance the evaluation function outlined in paragraphs 13 to 18 of document UNEP/OzL.Pro/ExCom/89/2/Add.1;**
- (c) To request the Secretariat, taking into account the discussions on the matter at part I of the 89th meeting:
 - (i) To develop a results framework and a scorecard that fit the operations of the Multilateral Fund for consideration by the Executive Committee at its 92nd meeting;
 - (ii) To update the information strategy of the Multilateral Fund, to include a detailed plan for information and knowledge management, the website/information technology requirements, the resources needed and clear timelines for implementation and to submit the strategy for consideration by the Executive Committee at the 91st meeting;
 - (iii) To explore opportunities to further highlight how the sustainability of activities supported by the Multilateral Fund would be ensured, including by further clarifying in the documents submitted by the Secretariat how partner capacity, risks and critical assumptions were considered, and to report to the Executive Committee at its 91st meeting; and
 - (iv) To prepare, for consideration by the Executive Committee at its 91st meeting, a draft management response from the Executive Committee to the Secretariat of MOPAN in relation to its 2019 Assessment of the Multilateral Fund.

(Decision 89/1)