

VIETNAM CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL OZONE DAY 16/9/2019

In December 1994, the General Assembly of the United Nations issued Resolution No. 49/114 to take September 16th as the International Day for Protection of the Ozone Layer. Since then, the International Day for Protection of the Ozone Layer is considered an opportunity for countries around the world to increase awareness and take practical actions to protect the ozone layer and the environment for sustainable development. This year, Vietnam celebrated the World Ozone Day and held a Kick-off workshop for Vietnam's Phase-out Management Plan Phase II in Hanoi, Vietnam.

Attending the ceremony were more than 200 delegates from state management agencies, organizations, research institutes, mass organizations, businesses and experts in the field. Many news agencies came to film and report on the event such as VTV1, VTC, VOV,... and various newspapers.



Deputy Minister Le Cong Thanh delivering the opening speech at the Celebration

Speaking at the celebration, Mr. Le Cong Thanh - Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environment said, over the past 25 years, Vietnam has been proactively participating in the implementation of the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol, protecting the ozone layer and achieving many significant results recognized by the international community. Following the roadmap of the Montreal Protocol, Vietnam has completely eliminated the consumption of CFCs, Halons and CTCs since January 1, 2010; completely eliminated the consumption of pure HCFC-141b used in foam production and banned the use of Methyl Bromide for applications other than export quarantine purposes since January 1, 2015; thereby eliminated 10% of baseline consumption of HCFCs.



Director General Tang The Cuong speaking at the Celebration

At the celebration, Ms. Caitlin Wiesen, UN Resident Coordinator a.i, UNDP Resident Representative in Viet Nam and Ms. Stefanie Stallmeister, Operations Manager for Vietnam, the World Bank congratulated Vietnam for the achievements in fulfilling commitments to the Montreal Protocol. Ms. Caitlin Wiesen emphasized Vietnam on the ratification of the Kigali Amendment following recent Resolution no. 64/NQ-CP on 4th September 2019 and quoted the UN Secretary General António Guterres on the occasion of the international Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, 16 September 2019: “...*the Montreal Protocol is both an inspirational example of how humanity is capable of cooperating to address a global challenge and a key instrument for tackling today’s climate crisis.*”, and “*The Montreal Protocol can deliver an equally significant result on climate change through its Kigali Amendment which targets hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), powerful climate-heating gases still used in cooling systems. Phasing these out could reduce global warming by up to 0.4°C this century*”. Implementation of the Kigali Amendment, therefore, in the coming time will be front and center for climate action.

On this day, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment also held a kick-off workshop of Vietnam's Phase-out Management Plan Phase II (2018-2023). The project aims to eliminate 35% of the base consumption of HCFCs. The implementation of the project is expected to support more than 80 enterprises in technology transformation to achieve the goal of eliminating consumption of 1,000 tons of HCFC-22 and completely eliminating HCFC-141b in pre-blended polyol in the field of foam insulation production; strengthening the capacity of government agencies on management and elimination of HCFCs; raising awareness of industries, people and relevant stakeholders on HCFC elimination in Vietnam.

The task to protect the ozone layer will not end here, we will continue to join hands in effort to protect the ozone layer, fully implement the objectives of the Montreal Protocol, the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer.

17th September 2019.

Division for GhG Emission Reduction and Ozone Layer Protection, DCC.