

Inception Meeting of National Survey on Usage of HFCs

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At the Auditorium of National Science Foundation

Sri Lanka has been requested to conduct a national survey on usage of HFCs because there is no exact documentary evidence on how much HFCs are used in Sri Lanka. Reason for this situation is because HFCs are not controlled item under the Montreal Protocol and license are not required for the importation of HFCs. This survey will support the global initiative in recognizing the greatest threat to our global environment through curbing the growth of HFCs which is necessary to retard or mitigate climate change. In this context, National Ozone Unit (NOU) of the Ministry of Mahaweli Development & Environment which is the focal point in implementing of Montreal Protocol in Sri Lanka has decided to conduct a National Survey on usage of HFCs in all sectors in collaboration with UNDP.

The President as the Hon. Minister of Environment has recognized this survey has a national importance and included this activity in 100 day programme of the government. As a starting point, NOU has decided to convene a meeting with key stakeholders to elaborate more on the objectives of the proposed HFC Survey and to enlightening of importance of the same. This was an ideal forum to discuss issues on HFCs and climate change and to prepare for national commitments.

The main objective of this proposal is to conduct survey of HFC (Hydrofluorocarbons,) consumption in Sri Lanka. The survey would establish the current consumption of HFCs and provide future projections of growth patterns by substance. To the extent feasible, consumption and growth patterns by sectors, primarily in refrigeration and air-conditioning sector, will also be established. In addition, the surveys would present actions taken in the country for transition from HFCs to low-GWP (Global Warming Potential) alternatives and also identify opportunities and challenges for transition to low-GWP alternatives for various applications. The above activities would be carried out through engagement of suitable national and international industry experts, in close cooperation with the government and stakeholders. Stakeholder consultation meetings would need to be carried out to ensure their engagement. Documentation and reporting will also be needed to present the results, which should include the following;

- ☐ Establishing current consumption of HFCs by substance and sector,
- ☐ Establishing growth patterns in HFC consumption by substance and sector and
- ☐ Identification of challenges and opportunities for transition to low-GWP alternatives in Sri Lanka