



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة · 联合国环境规划署

PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT · PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE

ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

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Dear Heads of National Ozone Units,

2009 is a special year to celebrate our hard work in Ozone Layer protection. We would like to assist you in your planning to commemorate the forthcoming International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer on 16 September 2009.

This year's theme "**Universal participation: Ozone protection unifies the world,**" is appropriate as it signifies the importance of uniting in our fight against ozone depletion. We have done a formidable job so far – all the networks and regions are working hand in hand to proactively produce awareness raising materials and distribute them in various ways. Many people, but not all, have heard our message, and others may need to be re-sensitized to the importance of ozone layer protection.

This year's celebrations are particularly significant because of the upcoming milestone of 1 January 2010, by which time all Article 5 countries including yours must achieve the 100% phase out target for CFCs, halons and CTC.

Between 16 September 2009 and 1 January 2010 about 100 days are left to do any remaining work needed to achieve compliance. The Parties and Montreal Protocol family of institutions will be judged by the degree to which all countries meet these international obligations. For any country with remaining challenges, we are calling on you now to redouble our collective efforts to meet this all-important 2010 compliance target. UNEP OzonAction and the other Implementing Agencies are ready to provide extra assistance in this final stage leading up to 1 January 2010.

How will you celebrate Ozone Day this year so that you reach the multitude in your country? Below are some suggestions that may help to boost your activities:

1. **Video News Release:** This is a general awareness video on ozone layer protection and the Montreal Protocol produced for UNEP by DEV TV. We would like this video to be broadcasted on your local TV stations for Ozone Day. Further details on the dissemination strategy will be communicated to you through your Regional Network Coordinators (RNCs) in the coming weeks.
2. **Earth Report -Perfectly Cool:** Outreach of HCFC challenges is a major task. To start initiating the process of awareness, UNEP in collaboration with UNDP, UNIDO, World Bank, GTZ and INECE are working with TVE to produce a 22-minute Earth Report Programme for international broadcast on BBC World News between 11 and 16 September and for onward international broadcast and educational distribution. You are encouraged to consider how to outreach the broadcast schedule (to be communicated to you through the RNCs) to interested potential audience through your existing networks.

TVE will provide the final video in two formats: "with integrated voice and sound tracks" and "with separate voice and sound tracks" (for translation). Please inform your RNC if you would like to receive a copy of the videos.

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3. **MDI Awareness Package:** UNEP recently launched the Transition to CFC-free inhalers Awareness Package for National Ozone Units (NOUs) in developing countries during the Open-Ended Working Group of the Parties of the Montreal Protocol to assist NOUs in Article 5 countries raising awareness on CFC MDI phase out and facilitating seamless transition to CFC-free inhalers in their countries. This MDI awareness package was developed with the expectation that the NOUs in cooperation with health sector stakeholders will use them. In line with your national requirement you can adapt, translate and outreach the package within your country.
4. **Media Corner (Ozone2Climate Times):** This year we are putting emphasis on working with the media in order for journalists and the public at large to come to a better understanding of the interlinkages between ozone and climate change. Also with the 2010 compliance target we need to take the opportunity during ozone day to highlight the importance of this deadline to the media and the public at large. The media corner can be accessed at <http://www.unep.fr/ozonaction/ozone2climate/index.htm>.
5. **Journalists Competition:** UNEP DTIE OzonAction Programme in cooperation with UNEP Division of Communication and Public Information and UNEP's Regional Offices are organising a competition for young environmental journalists working in print media. The competition is open for entries in the form of published news stories and articles in newspapers - journals and periodicals published during the period from 1 September 2008 to 30 September 2009 - which have been authored by young journalists born and based in developing countries. Further details on the competition are available on the Ozone2Climate Times webpage <http://www.unep.fr/ozonaction/ozone2climate/index.htm>.
6. **HCFC Poster:** This poster was produced as a result of the agreement that was reached at the 19th Meeting of the Parties in September 2007 to adjust the Montreal Protocol's HCFC phase out schedule. As most people are not well versed on HCFCs, the poster may be appropriate to stir interest. The poster would be made available for download on the Ozone Day webpage (<http://www.unep.fr/ozonaction/events/ozoneday/2009.htm>). Information on HCFCs is available at the HCFC Help Centre website at <http://www.unep.fr/ozonaction/topics/hcfc.asp#intro>.
7. **Green Customs Guide:** This guide produced in August 2008 provides information and guidance to Customs and other border control officers to assist them in their efforts to monitor and facilitate the legal trade and to detect and prevent illegal trade in environmentally sensitive commodities such as ozone depleting substances, toxic chemicals, hazardous waste, endangered species and living modified organisms. The guide is available for download at <http://www.greencustoms.org/reports/guide.htm>.
8. **Engaging the Private Sector (Guidelines):** The Private sector has played a key role in developing and deploying ozone and climate friendly technologies. Many have benefitted from the Multilateral Fund and therefore will be very happy to join you in celebrating Ozone day. For this purpose we have developed guidelines to help you to engage the private sector in devising the ozone day activities. The guidelines will be made available on the Ozone Day webpage.
9. **Public Service Announcements (PSAs):** The UNEP CAP team from the Asia and Pacific Region developed "My Ozone Wish" – a compilation of four 30-45 second PSAs (Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, Beijing Olympic Mascots, Doraemon, and Tata Young) to raise public awareness about the state of the ozone layer and the remaining challenges of the Montreal Protocol, specifically the 2010 commitments. The PSAs display a variety of well-known individuals and cartoon characters from different countries in Asia and the Pacific who represent an assortment of perspectives on ozone-related issues. The PSA are available for download at <http://www.unep.fr/ozonaction/information/video/index.htm>.

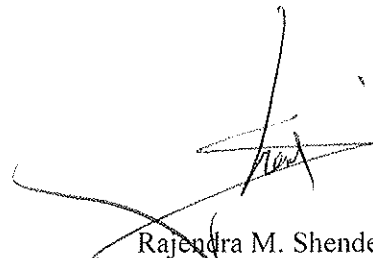
10. Last year many countries submitted reports on their ozone day activities; these may be viewed on the OzonAction website http://www.unep.fr/ozonaction/events/ozoneday/2008_events.htm. This webpage will provide you with other ideas on the type of activities you may organise in your country.

The 2009 International Ozone Day webpage is now visible at <http://www.unep.fr/ozonaction/events/ozoneday/2009.htm> and will hold most of the material mentioned above. We will be happy to receive your planned activities or ozone day reports for posting on the OzonAction website.

Let us pledge on the occasion of Ozone Day to UNite until we 'seal the hole!'

Should you need any assistance or material for your celebrations, please do not hesitate to contact us or the UNEP Compliance Assistance Programme teams in your region.

With best regards.



Rajendra M. Shende, Head
UNEP/DTIE OzonAction Branch