Workshop Report

Train the Customs Officers

On Monitoring & Control of ODS Imports & Exports

Funded by the
Multilateral Fund for the implementation of the
Montreal Protocol

Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology
Nepal

Kathmandu, Nepal, 30-31, December 2003
Executive Summary

The phase II training program for customs officers is part of Nepal's Refrigerant Management Plan (RMP) – a comprehensive and integrated strategy to phase-out the use of ozone –depleting substances (ODS) in the refrigeration and air-conditioning sector.

As the CFC phase-out progresses in other countries, used equipment is increasingly being dumped in Nepal, since there are no systems to regulate such imports. The Government is thus seeking to train its customs officers in order to control more efficiently the import of CFC and CFC using equipment into the country.

The main objective of the training program is to provide the customs officers and relevant stakeholders with the skills necessary to monitor and control the imports and exports of ODS and products (including equipment) containing them as well as detecting and preventing illegal trade. The main objectives are:

- Definition of the license/quota system for ODS imports and exports to achieve a better control of these substances;
- Enhanced surveillance of the entry of ODS and systems;
- Provide training to Customs Officers to enable them to identify imported equipment and products using CFCs and controlled substances under the Montreal Protocol;
- Database on consumption by importers, users and retailers,
- Provide CFC detection equipment for the major customs entry points.

The program consists of three phases, the train the customs trainer's phase (I), the train the customs officers phase (II) and the monitoring & evaluation phase (concurrent with phase I & II).

12 Customs officers representing customs offices of all regions of Nepal participated at the train the trainer's workshop held in Kathmandu on 9-11 October 2001 and they are now expected to further train 50 Customs officers in Nepal.

Training of customs officers on use of expanded Harmonized System customs code and identification of CFC and CFC containing equipment and with the ODS import/export...
licensing system and other national regulations related to the phase-out of ODS. This phase has been planned to implement in the following steps.

? Selected group of customs officers from the most important customs entry points will be trained by the local trainers who were trained during the first phase of the program;
? After finalization of Phase II, the results of the training will be monitored and evaluated.

The workshop covers various topics on the harmful effects of ozone layer depletion and the resulting increase of UV-B radiation, the Montreal Protocol and its Amendments as well as lectures on CFC, HCFC and HFC refrigerants. Theoretical and Practical Topics covered were following:

? Ozone Layer Science;
? International Response;
? National obligations and Response;
? National import export licensing system;
? Global and Regional Production;
? Problem of Illegal Trade;
? Identification of ODS and ODS containing products;
? Safety Requirements;
? Customs checklist and Checking papers, Forms, Permits
? Practical identification exercises;
? Case studies

The detailed workshop schedule is attached in Annex 1.

Target Group and Resource Persons

Mostly Officers of the Customs Department and Commerce Department as well as key stakeholders from National agency whose involvement and support will be necessary for the successful implementation of the import/export licensing system.
The trainings would be conducted in Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology with the help of experts trained in Phase I basically from National Ozone Unit, Department of Commerce, Department of Customs and Institute of Engineering.

**Participants**

Three days workshop was well attended. There were 23 participants in the workshop while the workshop was planned for 20 participants. The participants were invited mostly from Department of Commerce, Department of Customs and University. The list of participants is attached in Annex II.

**Methodology**

The UNEP customs training manual, the "Nepal Country Handbook" and other relevant resource documents including the background paper "Problem of illegal trade in ODS and means to solve it" were used as resource documents and handed out to the participants. The training material was further supplemented using the Hands Out Material developed by the experts during the training session. Practical demonstration of ODS identification using CFC12 detector and temperature pressure method was made at a special session. UNEP video film "Every Action Counts" presenting the threat of ozone depletion to the life on Earth was shown to the participants. The participants were also provided a copy of the Videos and xerox copy of the other relevant training material as per their request.
Annex I

Train the Customs Officers
On Monitoring & Control of ODS Imports & Exports
Organized by
Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology
&
Department of Customs
Nepal
Kathmandu, Nepal, 30-31, December 2003

Program

Tuesday, 30th December, 2003

10:00 - 10:30 Registration of Participants
10:30 - 12.00 Ozone Layer Depletion, National obligations and Response
Dr. Sita Ram Joshi, National Ozone Officer
12:00 - 1.00 Lunch
1.00 - 2:00 Identification of ODS and ODS containing equipment
Mr. Rabindra Nath Bhattarai, Pulchok Campus
2:00 - 4:00 Country Hand Book
Dr. Sita Ram Joshi, National Ozone Officer

Wednesday, 31st December 2003

10:15 –11:15 National Import/Export Licensing System
Mr. Hari Sharan Shrestha, Department of Commerce
11.15 – 12:15 Role of Customs Officers for phasing out ODS in Nepal
Mr. Madhusudan Pokharel, Director, Department of Customs
12:00 - 1.00 Lunch
1.00 - 2.30 Problem of illegal trade in ODS and possible means to solve it
Group Discussion
2.30 – 4.00 Practical Identification Exercises
Mr. Rabindra Nath Bhattarai, Pulchok Campus
## Annex II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department/Office</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Krishna Prasad Basyal</td>
<td>Department of Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Ganga Prasad Sharma</td>
<td>Biratnagar Customs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Shiva Prasad Bhandari</td>
<td>Mechi Customs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Yogendra Ojha</td>
<td>Bhairahawa Customs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Mahendra Baaniya</td>
<td>Tribhuvan Airport Customs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Surya Prasad Sedai</td>
<td>Nepalgunja Customs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Buddhi Bahadur Maharjan</td>
<td>Private Sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Rajendra Dhungana</td>
<td>Department of Customs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Hari Prasad Shrestha</td>
<td>Tatopani Customs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Dibya Raj Pokharel</td>
<td>Mechi Customs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Kedar Prasad Paneru</td>
<td>Tribhuvan Airport Customs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Janak Bahadur Chand</td>
<td>Birgunja Customs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Yoga Nath Poudel</td>
<td>Bhairawa Customs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Govinda Prasad Shrestha</td>
<td>Birgunja Customs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Ravi Raj Panta</td>
<td>Department of Customs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Krishna Prasad Adhikari</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Kul Raj Gyanwali</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Diwakar Raj Neupane</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Krishna Bahadur Shrestha</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Bhim Prasad Adhikari</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Suresh Paudel</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Dhurba Prasad Pant</td>
<td>Bhairawa Customs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Shiva Kumar Katwal</td>
<td>Tatopani Customs Office</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>