

Report on the 3rd Regional Thematic Meeting

For the Implementation
of the Montreal Protocol
in Pacific Islands
Countries

24 - 27 January 2006,
Suva, FIJI



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Executive Summary

- The 3rd Thematic Meeting for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol was held from 24-27 January 2006 at the New Southern Cross Hotel, Suva, Fiji. The workshop was attended by representatives from the Governments of the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Palau, Samoa, Tonga, and Tuvalu. An observer from the Government of New Caledonia also took part in the meeting.
- The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP-ROAP) were also represented.
- Apologies were received from the representatives from Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands, The Government of Australia and the Paris-based UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE).
- The purpose of this regional meeting was to review the activities of Pacific Island Countries (PICs) under the regional strategy three years after the launch of the phase-out programme to ensure these are on track. The meeting was also seen as an opportunity for all stakeholders to be able to identify any major hurdles and agree on a way forward.
- The meeting featured presentations from resource people on issues related to the implementation of the Montreal Protocol and presentations from PICs on the status of national implementation. Topics relevant to implementing the Protocol were also discussed, including an update on the status of the ozone layer, outcomes of the 17th Meeting of the Parties, progress of the Regional Strategy, refrigeration and customs training programmes, policy, reporting requirements to the Montreal Protocol, awareness raising, reporting procedures to SPREP, and other matters. The sessions included presentations from SPREP, UNEP, University of the South Pacific (USP) and PICs. Field visits were made to the USP's School of Chemical Science Ozone Monitoring Centre, and the Mechanical Services Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Company. The field visits provided a practical component by promoting awareness of USP's role on conducting ozone measurements across the Pacific and as practical demonstration of work in the refrigeration sector.

Key points from the workshop

- The workshop was very well attended with only two core countries not able to attend and with the addition of an observer from New Caledonia for the first time.
- There was little or no reported chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) consumption in any of the participant countries except PNG.
- The ever increasing import of second hand cars from Japan into almost all of the PICs are a major concern for the region as older vehicles use CFCs in their air-conditioning. Countries are concerned the increased import will increase demand for CFCs for servicing.
- The participants discussed their concerns that international funding agencies did not appreciate the lack of resources at the Government level. Although PICs had very small use of ozone depleting substances (ODS), it cost a similar amount to prepare regulations and to carry out public education campaigns in Pacific Island Countries (PICs) as it did in any other country.
- There was considerable discussion about how to maintain projects when the Regional Strategy funding runs out. The Montreal Protocol Multilateral Fund will be able to provide further financial assistance for several more years, but this may not stretch past 2010. Maintaining the import controls for HCFCs will be the responsibility of these countries after that time.
- There had been significant turnover in personnel working on ODS issues in the region since the last workshop. Only one participant had attended a previous workshop although the representative for Fiji had attended part of the previous workshop in Nadi in 2003. This turnover meant that many participants were relatively new to the area of Montreal Protocol and ozone depletion and many were not aware of past activities in their countries
- A lack of resources in other Government agencies - most noticeably in the Attorney General offices – is slowing the development of regulations. All participants reported that it was difficult to get their regulations to be considered a priority under the competing pressures for staff time.
- Waste-related issues, including the disposal of cylinders containing left over refrigerants were raised by many participants. SPREP said that would look at this as part of a wider waste strategy.
- In an example of inter-regional cooperation Fiji offered to share its Chinese language information materials with the other countries. This material had been prepared for Fiji as they have a large fleet of foreign fishing boats in their waters, many of which are operated by Chinese speaking crew. These vessels may be importing ODS without being aware of the local laws and they had good success in getting cooperation by providing information to vessels in Chinese and by placing advertisements in local Chinese language newspapers. Several other participants said that communication with Chinese businesses was an issue for them and the material would be useful.

- UNEP agreed to write a letter to senior Government officials in the region about the need for regulations and urging completion of the national regulations. The letter would mention the consequences of being in non-compliance.
- The participants expressed strong support for the development of a regional network, with annual meetings to enable them to share information. They also proposed other options, including video conferencing available through USP, to reduce costs. Participants agreed to write letters of support for the proposal and forward these to SPREP
- The participants were informed that the Assistant Project Officer, Ms Emma Sale-Mario who had been running the project from SPREP announced she was returning to her home country of Fiji and would not be continuing in the role. SPREP announced that Ms Nirupa Ram, the former Fijian ODS officer would be taking over from Emma in April. The participants extended their thanks to Ms Sale-Mario for her work and welcomed Nirupa to the role.

Acknowledgements

This project has been undertaken with financial assistance provided by United Nations Environment Programme Multilateral Fund Secretariat and the bilateral contribution from the Government of Australia. Our appreciation goes to all the participants of this meeting who were not only fully engaged in discussions during the meeting, but also provided the necessary information needed for implementing the Montreal Protocol in Pacific Island Countries.

Acronyms used and their explanation

CFCs	Chlorofluorocarbons
DTIE	Division of Technology, Industry, and Economics
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ExCom	Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund
GTZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Technische Zusammenarbeit (German Development Agency)
HCFCs	Hydrochlorofluorocarbons
HFCs	Hydrofluorocarbons
NCAP	National Compliance Action Plan
ODS	Ozone Depleting Substances
OEWG	Open Ended Working Group
PICs	Pacific Island Countries
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
ROAP	Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
SPREP	Pacific Regional Environment Programme (or: Secretariat of the ...)
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNON	United Nations Office at Nairobi

Opening

The meeting opened with a prayer given by John Talagi, the representative of Niue.

Mr. Bruce Chapman, Programme Manager, Pacific Futures Programme at SPREP then welcomed the participants on behalf of the Director of SPREP, Mr Asterio Takesy. He conveyed SPREP's appreciation to all participants for attending the 3rd Thematic Meeting.

Mr Cama Tuiloma, Chief Executive Officer of Fiji's Ministry of Local Government, Housing, Squatter Settlements and Environment gave the opening address on behalf of the host country. He welcomed the guests and acknowledged the participation and assistance of donors. He reiterated Fiji's offer of support to assist its Pacific neighbours with implementation of their strategy. He also discussed the need to ensure that in any project, countries did not spend too much time meeting reporting obligations, rather than doing the tasks they needed to do.

Dr Thanavat Junchaya gave a short address on behalf of Mr Rajendra Shende, Director of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE).

As well as welcoming the participants and encouraging them to get the maximum benefit from the workshop, he thanked Fiji for their support in hosting the meeting and in providing their expertise to the region.

Session 1

1.1 - Update on the Status of the Ozone Layer over the Pacific

Mr Anand Chandra of the University of the South Pacific (USP) began the main session of the workshop with a presentation on the state of the ozone layer with a particular focus on the work at USP on ozone levels over the Pacific. Among his comments he noted that globally, there appears to have been a slight recovery in the ozone layer. If countries complied with the Montreal Protocol the ozone layer was expected to return to pre-1980 levels by 2050.

Mr Chandra also spoke about the work USP is carrying out under the SHADOZ (Southern Hemispheric Additional Ozonesonde) programme. The work is collaboration between various US agencies and USP. It has been underway since 1997. Under the SHADOZ programme ozone levels are measured by devices attached to balloons (ozone-sondes) launched from sites in Fiji, Samoa, Tahiti and the Galapagos Islands. He said the programme had found a slight decline in average ozone levels over Fiji since monitoring began. They could not explain specifically why this might have occurred. He noted that the ozone layer is naturally thinnest at the equator as a result of natural processes.

On the final day of the workshop the participants visited USP to see the research facilities.

Discussions

Participants acknowledged the work of USP in measuring and monitoring atmospheric ozone levels and were keen to know if information was available for climate change. Mr Chandra informed the participants that USP does not collect data on climate change. However, he stated that USP was mindful of the relationship between climate change and ozone depletion phenomenon.

The participant from New Caledonia asked why ozone depletion was occurring over the North and South poles. Mr Anand said that this was due to special conditions (very, very low temperatures and wind patterns) at the poles. It was also due to polar stratospheric ice clouds that form in the winter months and trap harmful chlorine molecules, but then release them as the sun returns and the ice clouds melt. This allows the formation of more chlorine radicals and therefore more ozone depletion.

Participants were interested to know whether USP had information on ozone levels over other Pacific Island Countries (PICs), apart from the four countries mentioned in the presentation (Fiji, American Samoa, Tahiti and Galapagos Islands). USP informed that their project did not carry out measurements in the other islands. Participants were informed that the New Zealand scientific research body the National Institute of Water and Atmosphere (NIWA) had set up monitoring equipment in Kiribati in the past, but there were problems in trying to maintain the equipment due to the local conditions (salt spray) and these measurements had not been continued. Ozone measurements were also carried out in Hawaii for the northern part of the Pacific, but there were very few places atmospheric data of any kind was collected in the Pacific.

A further question was asked by the participant from New Caledonia about differentiating between natural and anthropogenic causes of ozone depletion, making particular reference to volcanic eruption as a natural cause of ozone depletion. Participants were informed that it is possible to isolate how much ozone depletion is caused by natural changes and how much is caused by anthropogenic changes because the natural sources have remained relatively constant over time. The significance of volcanic eruptions are that they eject “dust” high into the atmosphere rather than emissions of chlorine in the eruption causing ozone depletion. The dust that is emitted from the eruption provides a physical surface for reactions to take place on, which tends to speed the reactions.

1.2 - Key Outcomes of the 17th MOP

Dr Junchaya gave a short presentation on the decisions taken at the recent 17th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol that were relevant to the PICs. Mr Tukia Lepa of Tonga who also attended the Meeting gave a short verbal presentation as well.

Dr Junchaya discussed:

Decision XVII/13: Use of CTC for laboratory and analytical uses in A-5 Parties

Decision XVII/16: Preventing illegal trade in ODS

Decision XVII/17: Technical and financial implications of the environmentally sound destruction of concentrated and diluted sources of ODS

Decision XVII/20: Data and information provided by the Parties in accordance with Article 7 of the Montreal Protocol

Decision XVII/23: Report on the establishment of licensing systems under Article 4B

Decision XVII/32: Non-compliance with the Montreal Protocol by FSM

Decision XVII/33: Non-compliance with the Montreal Protocol by Fiji

Dr Junchaya noted that since the MOP all of the PICs who had been reported as being in non-compliance had addressed concerns through the submission of plan of action to return to compliance which would be regularly monitored by the Ozone Secretariat.

Mr Lepa added some further information on issues that had been discussed at the MOP that he felt were pertinent to PICs. He especially felt that PICs should consider the decisions on the issue of illegal trade as these could have impacts for them

Discussions

There was a lengthy discussion following this report. This focussed on the use of carbon tetrachloride (CTC) in the region and on the concerns with the imports of second hand cars that contain CFCs.

In response to a question, the participants were informed that CTCs were now primarily used commercially for making chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) although in the past (1950s) they had been used as dry-cleaning solvents. Its use was generally banned due to its toxicity and because it causes contamination to the ground water system. CTC is also still used in small quantities as a solvent for laboratory purposes where it is used in a number of standard analytical tests.

The participants from Fiji asked whether a definition for “laboratory use” existed under the Montreal Protocol. The reason was that CTCs were found to be used in Fijian high schools and a tertiary institution.

Participants were informed that there is a decision of the Parties as to what uses of CTCs are exempted for laboratory and analytical uses and are therefore exempted in developed countries (Decision VII/11, Decision IX/17, Decision X/19, Decision XI/15 refer). However SPREP informed them that the use of CTC simply for educational training is not an exempted use.

During the discussions, it was highlighted that Fiji is an exporter of ODS to other PICs such as Kiribati and Tuvalu. It has also exported to other PICs. Export was sometimes done in small shipments (one or two cylinders) accompanying domestic goods. Although Fiji had not always reported these small exports in the past, there record keeping has improved and they are now recorded. Fiji indicated they were very keen to share their import and export data with other countries to assist with data reporting obligations.

With reference to decision XVII/16 on a possible requirements to track exports, Samoa supported this decision, and encouraged its inclusion in the Regional Strategy. Samoa also suggested the establishment of a formal tracking system to indicate where ODS have been exported among PICs. Further questions were posed on when a tracking system would be put in place, as this would be beneficial to each PIC.

Participants were informed that it would probably take another year before the Parties received a report on the feasibility of setting up such a global tracking system. Samoa added that in her experience, there has not been much information exchange between each PIC on exports. This concern highlighted the importance of setting up a more formal exercise in future for the PICs. Dr Junchaya indicated that ports such as Singapore that carry out a large amount of

transhipments and re-packaging may not support such a tracking system as it would be very difficult for them to collect such records.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) informed the participants that the concept note developed by SPREP and endorsed by PICs on “addressing waste refrigerants” would be submitted to the Technical and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) for further consideration as part of its discussions of “Decision XVII/17: Technical and financial implications of the environmentally sound destruction of concentrated and diluted sources of ozone-depleting substances”. UNEP noted that the international study was specifically looking at disposal of gases in finished products. While it was probably practical to recover unusable gases and send them to Australia for destruction, it was not likely to be practical to send the actual equipment such as refrigerators for destruction as the shipping costs would be too high compared to any environmental benefit.

The participant from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) raised a concern about the increasing number of second hand Japanese vehicles being imported into their country that contained CFCs in their air conditioning. When faulty, the system tends to leak and release CFCs into the atmosphere. FSM wondered whether a system was in place to ensure that exporting countries change the cooling gases to alternatives before exporting them. The participants were informed that in general the exporting countries are not interested in regulating this practice as exports (to Parties) are not controlled under the Montreal Protocol. However, the main problem with any restriction on imports lies in “what to do with the recovered unusable CFCs”. Any strategy to reduce imports of vehicles with CFC

air conditioning must ensure that it does not indirectly cause ODS to be released directly to the atmosphere. A range of options were discussed that could be used to limit the import. Countries could require the cars to be degassed at the time of arrival, and the owner pay for a retrofit (and for the destruction of the collected ODS) or countries could ban the import of cars older than (say) 1996 as all Japanese cars after 1996 were CFC-free. Countries could also make it illegal to refill imported cars with CFCs.

Participants were cautioned that importers of second hand cars are sometimes politicians or other important members of the community and they do not like the idea of their businesses being messed with.

Fiji informed that in order to reduce the number of cars imported with CFC-air-conditioning the government has held seminars and distributed notices informing importers to ensure that cars being brought into Fiji are to be CFC-free.

Fiji also informed that there is flexibility in their controls to allow cars that are imported, but contained CFCs to be retrofitted in Fiji at the owner’s expense rather than prosecute them.

Fiji said that an MOU has been signed between the Department of Environment, the Customs Department, Land Transport and the Ministry of Agriculture that would allow a Fijian officer to be based in Japan to ensure, among other responsibilities, that cars being imported to Fiji from Japan are CFC-free. The officer would also be responsible for ensuring vehicles did not have quarantine pests on it and that it complied with other relevant Fijian laws. Fiji also highlighted that the success of enforcing legislation is due to the good working relationship between the two departments.

Papua New Guinea informed that they have some stockpiles of CFCs that were removed from mining company equipment. They sought guidance on what to do with gases that could not be recycled and re-used. The participant was advised that as a matter of urgency, the mining company, GTZ (the development agency assisting PNG with its phase out) or other agencies possibly including SPREP, could be approached to assist with costs of destruction as currently the Montreal Protocol does not provide funds for destruction costs.

Some countries were concerned that communication from UNEP were not being passed down in a timely manner, as opposed to what other countries are experiencing. SPREP said it would explore whether communications could be sent electronically from the Ozone Secretariat.

1.3 - Progress with implementing the regional strategy

Ms Emma Sale-Mario gave a presentation on the status of the countries and which activities had been completed under the strategy. She said that all of the core countries except one (Vanuatu) had made good progress with implementation. However most countries now needed to implement their regulations in order to proceed with the rest of the strategy at a national level. The three new countries (Cook Is. Nauru and Niue) were also making progress in implementing their activities with several activities planned for early 2006.

Ms Sale-Mario also spoke of proposals to develop further projects to recover and destroy waste refrigerants and a separate “research and development” project to draw on the work of USP to look at the impacts of ozone depletion on PICs.

Discussions

Participants were concerned that the current Regional Strategy was focused on “banning imports” and suggested that “banning exports” be included in light of the discussion in the previous session about Fiji’s exports to some countries. Participants were informed that the Regional Strategy was developed for countries that only import ODS. Fiji is an exceptional case, since it does not come directly under the Regional Strategy and is an exporter. SPREP also noted that the model regulations do cover export but this is usually a more difficult area to control as Customs services are primarily focussed on controlling imports.

Participants were also concerned that the deadline to phase-out CFCs by the end of 2005 had passed. They asked about the implications for countries that had not met this deadline. Participants were informed that the 2005 deadline was a voluntary obligation by the PICs ahead of the Montreal Protocol deadline of 2010. Countries were encouraged to seek to implement the remaining elements of the project year, 2006. It was also noted that most countries have met the ban, but most do not have regulations yet to ensure ongoing compliance.

Questions were raised as to whether funding had been sought for the additional efforts by SPREP and the PICs to address “waste refrigerants” and “research and development” projects suggested by SPREP for activities after the end of the current Regional Strategy. Participants were informed that the Australian government was aware of the “waste refrigerants disposal” concept and is keen to assist. Participants were also informed that these two projects would be taken further once all countries had met their existing obligations

(establishment of ODS regulations and licensing systems).

With regards to the initiative on “research and development”, participants were informed that it is still at a conceptual stage and would probably be best to explore this under the Pacific Regional Network.

Session 2

National Compliance Action Plans

In this session countries were asked to discuss on the status of work as per National Compliance Action Plans (progress, delays, solutions) and on the status of compliance with reporting obligations to Ozone Secretariat and Multilateral Fund Secretariat. Most countries made presentations and these are attached to the meeting report.

The following notes have not sought to report on the presentations, unless participants only provided verbal reports. The notes primarily capture the discussions, which followed.

The key issues to emerge from the presentations were:

- Lack of staff resources and institutional support in the NCC. The turnover of staff since the last workshop was clearly apparent with only Fiji and Tonga having been to a previous workshop.
- Staff turnover meant current NCCs not always aware of their obligations or how to collect or report data.
- SPREP referred participants to a range of UNEP reports on data collection and reporting that were available online, or could be ordered in hard copy (<http://www.uneptie.org/ozonaction/>).
- SPREP said it could provide advice and assistance if requested.
- Lack of resources in agencies outside the NCC was delaying implementation of ODS regulations.

Many countries reported that they are currently reviewing existing or developing new Environment Acts and

that lack of legal resources in offices such as the Attorney General meant reviews were being delayed.

Some countries reported having difficulty getting cooperation from other agencies such as Customs to implement ODS controls under their regulations.

Discussions

Cook Islands

Discussions centred around the origin of halons currently in the Cook Is and the past use of methyl bromide. Participants were informed that the existing halons in the Cook Islands were stockpiles from imports from the early 1990s. Participants were also informed that methyl bromide had been used for fumigation, mainly to fumigate fruits for export purposes. Alternative treatments, generally using heat, had been developed to replace the methyl bromide.

Fiji

There were wide ranging discussions after the Fijian presentation.

Participants were informed that Fiji has various licenses and permits and that these had different charges. There is also a charge of F\$1 per kg of imported ODS. Revenue collected from these was directed towards the Environmental Trust Fund, which was set up in 2000 following the establishment of the ODS Act. This paid for many of the office's activities such as public education and for some staff. All expenditure had to be approved by their Minister.

Participants were keen to know about the difficulties experienced by the Fiji Ozone Office when conducting spot inspections. The Fiji delegate said that understandably companies were not usually willing to allow their workshops to be inspected at first, but usually co-operated once they were aware of the powers of the ODS

Inspector under the ODS Act; especially a F\$10,000 for not co-operating.

Several participants raised concerns about sustaining project staff at the end of the project lifetime. Most countries are facing problems with not being able to retain staff once project funds run out. The participants were informed that Fiji's Environmental Trust Fund provided for the salaries of Project Assistants, whereas funds from the Institutional Strengthening Project catered for the Project Officer's salary. Currently, Fiji's ODS Project staff are not categorized as "permanent staff". However, they are expecting to take up permanent posts established under the recently passed Environment Management Act, which will be funded by the Fiji Government.

Compliance with Fijian ODS laws is improving, but there are still some companies that are not aware of the controls and may not yet have appropriate licenses to operate. Carrying out audits on importing companies had helped identify many new, smaller users who were not previously known to the Ozone Unit. Most of these were now licensed.

Federated States of Micronesia

Participants were interested to know that FSM had continued its technician training following the training provided under the Regional Strategy. FSM informed participants that the Good Practices in Refrigeration course had been incorporated into the countries technical training programme. The ongoing cost of the courses was paid for from a general training budget.

Kiribati

Participants were interested in how Kiribati was able to arrange for the Customs Department to amend its

Customs Act to include prohibitions on ODS imports. Some participants indicated that it was difficult for them to persuade their Customs agencies to assist. The participants were informed that Kiribati had generally had good cooperation and support from the Customs. With the assistance of SPREP they had also held national consultations, which had helped to explain the issues to the Customs department, and encouraged them to assist.

Marshall Islands

The participant reported that he had been carrying out further training of technicians and general awareness raising in the outer islands of RMI. He said raising activities that the inhabitants of the islands were very interested in ozone issues and appreciated the training. He planned to carry out further training and awareness raising activities in other islands on his return.

Nauru

Nauru has not yet received any funding from the project so had not carried out any activities yet. The delay in reporting Nauru's 2004 data was discussed. The participants were informed that the data forms have now been completed and it was a matter of signing off on the forms and submitting them to the Ozone Secretariat. This was to be done shortly

Niue

Niue, being a new Party to the Montreal Protocol (and the Regional Strategy), expressed concern about the due dates for reporting obligations. The proper reporting procedures were discussed.

SPREP informed the participants that all recipients of financial assistance from the Multilateral Fund (i.e. all of the PICs) had to report annual consumption data to the Multilateral

Fund Secretariat by 1 May each year. All Parties, whether they received assistance or not, had to report consumption data to the Ozone Secretariat by 30 September. The only difference in the data to be reported was that the data for the MLFS had to be reported by sector of use. However, as all consumption in the Pacific was in the refrigeration-servicing sector, this was not difficult to provide. Failure to provide both sets of data by the due dates could, in worse case scenario, see the countries not receive any further assistance and be declared a non-Party. SPREP said it was happy to assist countries to complete the forms and to transmit them to the relevant Secretariats if countries had difficulties.

Participants were also encouraged to consult the "Handbook on Data Reporting under the Montreal Protocol" which can be downloaded from UNEP's website at: <http://hq.unep.org/ozone/pdfs/Handbook-on-Data-Report-from-UNEP-TIE.pdf> or it can be ordered from them at no cost. The Handbook contains a lot of simple information about data collection processes and what must be submitted to which agencies and when.

Palau

Activities on Palau have been stalled as there is currently no ODS officer. Palau informed the participants that the Environmental Quality and Protection Board hope to re-recruit the former officer who has returned to the country to provide continuity in the job.

Papua New Guinea

The participant's presentation contained information on the use of ODS by different sectors in PNG. SPREP observed that the table indicated that 50% of CFCs were used for domestic refrigeration. He said this was unusually high and it was nearer 5-10% in most countries. The absolute

amounts of CFCs being used reported seemed reasonable. SPREP said that any error with PNG's sector data was not likely to affect their strategy, as the phase-out strategies would remain the same. PNG indicated it intended to carry out a further sector survey.

Samoa

In response to a comment about communication difficulties with faxes to Nairobi, participants were informed that the Ozone Secretariat accepts data submitted electronically in excel spreadsheet form.

In response to the concern raised by Samoa with regards to Fiji's exportation of ODS to Samoa, Fiji informed that it had only exported hydro chlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) since 2001, which would not affect their level of CFC consumption.

The participants were informed that Samoa's Department of Environment had worked in collaboration with the Ministry of Works to only allow vehicles that were made after 1996 to be imported. This would not only address the problem of vehicles that contained CFC as refrigerants (pre-1996) but would also serve as a safety measure as cars built after 1996 were generally safer than older cars.

The participants were also informed that once a country puts in place its licensing system, it was able to apply for additional funding of US\$30,000 for renewal of Institutional Strengthening. The procedure for obtaining this additional funding was dealt with in detail during Session 3.1 the next day.

Tonga

There was discussion on the changing practice in the refrigeration sector where the imports of CFC-12, which was prevalent from 1995-1999, had stopped in 2000. Since then, only HCFCs and non-ODS refrigerants have

been imported into Tonga. The participants noted that Tonga was in full compliance with all of its reporting obligations.

Tuvalu

There were no specific questions about the presentation by Tuvalu. There was a further discussion about the trade in finished products containing CFCs in response to the mention of CFCs still in imported cars which was mentioned by the participant

General comments

The delegate from New Caledonia, an observer to the meeting, commented that although New Caledonia is not a Party to the Protocol, France is and New Caledonia is covered by France's signature. New Caledonia does not have any specific legislation in place to implement the Montreal Protocol. However, through the use of Environmentally Friendly Facilities Requests, a system had been put in place to restrict ODS that are controlled under the Montreal Protocol for large facilities that require such permits.

Session 3

Renewal of Institutional Strengthening

Dr Junchaya gave a presentation on the renewal of institutional strengthening (IS) projects for the countries. A copy of his presentation is attached.

IS projects are the component of the strategy that pay for the staff time and resources in the NCC, as opposed to specific projects such as the refrigeration training. He said that the Article 5 countries were eligible for further IS funding up to US\$30,000 per year if it met the necessary conditions under Decision 43/37, namely, it assigned a full-time officer to manage the ozone unit and the ODS import licensing system was in place. Dr Junchaya then circulated copies of the required forms and explained in detail how countries should complete them and what information they would need to gather once they returned home.

He said that the main reason that the Thematic Meeting was being held in January was so that participants could submit their proposals for further funding in time for consideration as the next meeting of the Multilateral Fund in April 2006.

After his presentation Dr Junchaya and the participants from the core countries worked to complete the necessary reports. Participants from countries which already had renewed their IS projects and the SPREP resource people assisted their counterparts to complete their reports during the session.

Discussions

Before the participants began work on their funding applications there was a lengthy discussion on funding issues in general and how the funding was made

available under the Montreal Protocol's Multilateral Fund. Their comments are recorded here.

The representative of Tonga sought clarification on the renewal of Institutional Strengthening project for the PICs. UNEP and SPREP clarified that the eight core countries (and three additional countries) have been given three years funding under the current Regional Strategy. This would be renewed for a further two years.

A question was asked about whether PICs collectively have any opportunity to influence the decisions of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund (ExCom). UNEP informed the participants that the ExCom comprises 14 members, seven from developed and seven from developing countries. Australia is currently on the ExCom (for two years), and the countries could contact Australia ozone unit to consider making an intervention on behalf of the PICs. UNEP informed that as an implementing agency for the PICs it could also provide information on the PICs to ExCom if it was asked to do so.

SPREP asked whether the Meeting of the Parties set the rules by which Multilateral Fund works. UNEP replied that the Meeting of the Parties (MOP) could make guiding direction for the ExCom but it would be up to ExCom to decide on the implementation.

A query was raised as to whether there are any issues that the PICs would like to take forward to the ExCom. It may be possible to raise these through the Australian delegate or through UNEP. The participants noted that other conventions have specific recognition of the situation of small island states. In some treaties, such as climate change this is because of their vulnerability, but also because of their lack of resources. The participants noted that, for example, that it takes a

similar amount of work to create regulations in any country, regardless of size. However, PICs had received a relatively small amount of funds for preparation of regulations and such activities.

UNEP indicated that if PICs have concerns, the first channel is to go through the MLFS. SPREP may therefore wish to raise the participants concerns directly with the MLFS during the current discussions on the IS projects.

In sharing their experience on dealing with international bodies, Fiji informed that it had just recently submitted a Terminal Phase-out Management Plan (TPMP). Towards the end of the process, Fiji was advised to approach Australia to lobby for support at the ExCom. Fiji highlighted that most PICs are not aware of this arrangements. On this note, Fiji added that the face-to-face assistance that had been provided by Australia to assist with the preparation of the TPMP for submission was very effective. He felt it was more effective than correspondence.

SPREP responded that one of the key reasons for the regional approach was so that one person could do the necessary lobbying for all of the PICs. This approach had secured much higher funding than was likely if countries had approached the ExCom individually. As an example of using SPREP as a central contact, SPREP referred to the assistance given with the development of NCAPs for the three additional countries and the effective collaboration between PICs, UNEP and Australia that had secured funding.

The representative of Tonga also highlighted the role of SPREP in dealing with donors.

UNEP informed the participants that the annual consumption of is one of the main factors the MLFS considers when

determining funding entitlements. On this basis PICs were not likely to receive a high priority for funding because their consumption was so low. SPREP noted that although the consumption of the PICs is small, the obligations are the same for all Parties and so are many of the costs.

The representative of Samoa noted that at MOP meetings, people that are involved in the Regional Strategy should network with donors and with representatives of the MLFS. SPREP responded that unlike Climate Change where PICs are directly affected, PICs' voice has generally not been heard under the Montreal Protocol. The encouraging news is recently, the PICs had been heard over the past two years especially in terms of exploring the possibility of funding the disposal of waste refrigerants. This had been highlighted at two OEWGs (2004 and 2005). As a result, UNEP noted that the concept note would be considered as part of a feasibility study of disposal options by the Technical and Economic Assistance Panel (TEAP).

With regards to completing of renewal of IS forms, SPREP was concerned with the accuracy of figures to be estimated for the budget component. There was much discussion about how to determine the value of any "in-kind" contribution in particular. Tonga was concerned that a high value for the in-kind contribution from the Government may imply that the government had sufficient funds to complete the project. This may have a negative impact on the amount of funds granted by the ExCom. UNEP advised that the important point was to show that a certain amount has been given by the government to support the Montreal Protocol work as this demonstrated commitment.

Tonga sought clarification for Tonga's situation, since their licensing system is not in place and was informed that

depending on what is listed in the budget, Tonga would only receive close to 50% of \$30,000. Tonga again highlighted the issue of sustaining staff when funding runs out. UNEP advised that NCCs without regulations in place ought to apply for one year's funding and make sure that money is used within the timeframe. They could then apply for further, and possibly higher funding when they had met the requirements (e.g. licensing scheme in place) in subsequent years.

Session 4

ODS regulations and status of implementation

Mr Iain McGlinchy gave a presentation about the elements that needed to be included in national ODS regulations. This covered the general framework found in the model regulations provided by SPREP.

Dr Thanavat Junchaya then gave a short presentation on how regulations had been put in place in other countries. In preparing his presentation he said that he drew on a UNEP report: Regulations to Control Ozone Depleting Substances: A Guidebook this provided details on over 100 countries regulations, what they contained and under what Acts they had been made. Dr Junchaya said the in the Asia Pacific region that along with purpose designed ozone acts, there had been examples of regulations being made under hazardous substances regulations and under Customs Acts.

During the discussions following the presentation on licensing systems, participants were informed that Fiji has a central storage area for storing the CFCs that are removed from imported vehicles. These are still in storage, as Fiji has not determined who would bear the cost of destruction of the recovered gases.

The representative from Tonga enquired whether New Zealand's Act banned the import of vehicles that contain CFCs. SPREP informed that the New Zealand government did not see the need to ban the import of vehicles with CFCs, as their import had not led to an increase in demand for CFCs to service those vehicles. However, there is a ban on the import

of refrigerators containing CFCs: this ban was introduced as much by concerns over waste management issues rather than with the concern over increased need for CFCs to service the appliances.

UNEP added that in some Asian countries, vehicle inspectors usually test for the type of refrigerant gas in each vehicle while conducting inspections. Those that have the incorrect gas are required to convert it to the correct one. Other countries ban the import of second hand vehicles older than certain dates, such as 1996, to ensure that imports were at least designed to use HFC-134a rather than CFCs.

Responding to Niue's query whether licenses and permits are the same, SPREP clarified that although there is a slight legal difference between the two terms, there is not much difference in the context of the Montreal Protocol. Therefore, the two could be considered the same. SPREP also provided a template of an import license, based on the Tonga model to all participants upon Niue's request.

During the discussions, Niue commented on the importance of conducting "national consultation" on ODS regulations with stakeholders. SPREP agreed with this citing the example of the customs training in the Marshall Islands where representatives from importing companies participated in the training workshop. SPREP also highlighted the importance of obtaining raw data (in ASHRAE format e.g. R404A or R507B) from importers, rather than to ask importers to identify the components separately and for each ODS officer to look up what the components of the blend corresponding to the ASHRAE number are.

Nauru raised a concern about ships off-loading refrigerants into countries without Customs being aware. SPREP

explained that if refrigerants end up in a country then it should be treated as an import by that particular country. If refrigerants remain on ships, then these are not considered as imports. If ships buy refrigerants from Nauru, then these are still considered as Nauru's consumption as ships are not countries so they are not exports.

Status of ODS regulations in countries

In this session countries were asked to make presentations on the status of their national regulations, and on any issues they had had with their development and implementation.

Copies of the presentations from those that made them are attached to the meeting report.

The key issues to emerge from these discussions were:

- Only two countries of the eight core countries have ODS regulations and only RMI's regulations are in place and being enforced.
- Fiji, PNG and Samoa all have regulations in place and experience with enforcing them.
- As noted in the previous sessions in those countries that do not yet have regulations, there is a lack of resources to develop controls in both the NCCs and in other agencies. There were also difficulties getting cooperation from other agencies to make ozone issues a priority.
- The participants were very interested in issues related to the enforcement of the regulations such as the roles of the different agencies. They were also interested in the costs that enforcement, including court cases, might incur.
- Participants were also interested in the various fees for permits and the fines that were possible under different countries' controls as

these varied widely between countries.

- UNEP agreed to assist with developing a letter to be sent to all countries encouraging the completion of regulations and pointing out the risks of being in non-compliance.

Palau

The representative informed that Palau had established their ODS regulations in August 2005, under Palau's Environmental Regulation. However, the implementation of Palau's ODS regulations and licensing system would only take place once Customs training has been conducted. This is planned for May 2006.

The representative said that Palau's Environmental Quality Protection Board (EQPB) would issue licenses while the Customs Department would enforce the border control elements of the regulations. Fines under the regulations are as high as US\$10,000 and permits are charged on an annual basis costing \$US100. The permit fees were similar to conditions under the Pesticide Regulations. Any revenue collected goes to a general Fund and not to EQPB.

Samoa

The representative from Tonga asked whether Samoa has had carried out any prosecutions under Samoa's ODS regulations. In particular he was keen to know about the costs involved, as well as any lessons learned from implementing licensing systems. To this Samoa responded that each country operated differently and were at different stages of implementing regulations and licensing systems so any examples may not be applicable to other countries. However, they had not had any prosecutions yet.

SPREP added that although New Zealand has had Ozone legislations

since 1990 it has not made any prosecution yet. New Zealand had made confiscations and disposed of gases or other confiscated goods, rather than go to the expense of prosecution. This is a much cheaper option than prosecution.

Fiji spoke about their experience with taking a prosecution. He said that it had cost a great deal of money especially for the laboratory testing of the gases. It had also taken a great deal of staff time. The representative said that the high costs meant that the NCC would prefer to opt for settlement in the form of confiscation and payment for safe disposal, instead of prosecution. SPREP added that whilst prosecution could be beneficial to make a point that the Government was serious about the controls, it could be very costly and the decision to opt for prosecution or settlement would depend on each government.

Papua New Guinea informed that their NCC had made some confiscation in the past and settled arrangements with the companies at fault to meet the transport and storage costs instead of taking them to court.

In response to Nauru's query, SPREP clarified that it is practical to remove and destroy CFCs from vehicles containing them instead of taking out the whole car.

Tonga

The representative from Tonga informed that the delays in establishing ODS regulations were outside of his office's control. He mentioned that there had been government reforms and recently, a government strike that lasted almost two months. He said that he was trying to get the Government to consider their ODS Bill as soon as possible.

The participant from Tonga asked for assistance from SPREP to increase the profile of the Montreal Protocol at a

regional level. He said such support would be useful to ensure regulations were passed. SPREP said that in order to raise the profile of the Montreal Protocol it had already held “high level consultation” at the margins of the SPREP Annual Meeting in 2003 that had targeted Environment Ministers. However, the turnout at a working breakfast was disappointing as only one Environment Minister (Tuvalu) attended. If the participants wanted to raise the profile of the Montreal Protocol they needed to work with their own Government participants at SPREP council meetings.

SPREP suggested that a letter from a senior UNEP official, such as UNEP’s regional manager in Bangkok, setting out the issues risks with non-compliance could be useful to raise awareness with senior officials. The participant from Tonga and others supported this. SPREP will follow up with participants and UNEP on this.

Fiji

Participants were informed that in Fiji, before applying for an import permit, each applicant has to provide a 30-year plan to reduce HCFC imports. This is seen as beneficial as it pre-warns importers of the country’s obligations to phase-out HCFCs by 2031.

Fiji highlighted the importance of awareness that refrigerants cannot be sent out of the country as personal goods. These must be taken through the appropriate official channel so that they were recorded as imports by the receiving country. This situation particularly applied to exports to neighbouring countries such as Tuvalu and Kiribati.

During Fiji’s presentations, the importance of educating enforcement officers from other agencies such as the police force and prosecutors on the technical aspects of ozone depletion was raised. This was especially

important if they were involved in a prosecution.

Tonga enquired whether “refrigerant identifiers” are sufficient to be used for prosecuting cases. Fiji informed that refrigerant identifiers are diagnostic tools for the use of Customs officers. For a prosecution, any equipment used for any analysis has to be a certified as accurate to an international Standard according to government procedures. In Fiji’s case, any equipment had to be certified according to the “Department of Weights and Measures” (Commerce Ministry) in Fiji. Unfortunately, Fiji’s refrigerant identifiers had not undergone this certification and therefore all testing had to be done offshore in Australia.

It was highlighted that Fiji’s ozone prosecution was not only the first successful environmental case in Fiji, but in the Pacific region as well. Fiji highlighted the importance for them of having a testing laboratory in Fiji. They were looking at locating a suitable and certified testing facility at the University of the South Pacific (USP). Fiji also informed that Fiji’s ODS regulations would be amended this year to clarify the role and powers of inspectors, prosecutors and police officers, and on-the-spot fines. Fiji also noted that the certification of analysis equipment is costly as it involves sending the equipment back to the country of origin for re-calibration on an annual basis.

The participant from Tonga asked how many companies in Tonga import gases from Fiji. He was informed that only one company (BOC Gases) was importing refrigerants from Fiji at this time. Fiji added that BOC gases Fiji is currently trying to re-export ODS to other PICs, but to date, the NCC has not increased BOC’s import quota.

Fiji informed that they have trained customs to detain vehicle through

following means of physical identification:

Check for the year of manufacture (seat belt labels or Japanese vehicle cancellation/deregistration documents).

If the vehicle is from 1992 or earlier the inspector opens the bonnet and checks for an R12 label. Normally vehicles from Japan have a yellow sticker stating the type of refrigerant. The Customs inspector then checks the air-conditioning system's valve fitting. HFC-134a has a thick/wide valve with a blue cap while CFC-12 has a narrow and thin valve with a grey/ black cap).

If the Customs inspector finds the three signs in the vehicle this gives sufficient evidence to detain the vehicle. Once the vehicle is detained the importer then gets one of the Fiji Ozone Unit's inspectors to verify the Customs detention. The Ozone Unit's inspector performs a test using their refrigerant identifier. If the test shows CFC-12 in the system the importer is asked to retrofit the system to an alternative. All of the costs of the inspection and conversion are borne by the importer. This procedure is covered as part of the Fiji Customs training.

Kiribati

Kiribati has been fortunate to have an Australian lawyer, Marcus Hipkins (through the Australian Youth Ambassador (AYA) programme) in the office to help review Kiribati's Environment Act. He was able to assist with adapting the draft ODS regulations to suit Kiribati.

Fiji added that all PICs have AYAs, or may be able to work with one. If they are available, it may be helpful to use their expertise in assisting with drafting the regulations. He added that the Fiji Government currently has two AYAs, one of whom would be assisting the NCC in amending Fiji's ODS regulations.

FSM

The representative from the FSM informed that FSM's ODS Regulations are still with the office of the Attorney General. FSM aims to complete the regulations in either February or March 2006. One of the reasons for the delay in finalising the regulations was staff turnover in the Attorney General's (AG) office, as the AG position had been left vacant for a while. The NCC is trying their best to follow-up on the ODS regulations.

SPREP asked whether there had been any "national consultation" on the draft regulations. The participant did not know. SPREP added that in his experience, the American system of Government, used in Micronesia, was different from the British based system used in most of the rest of Pacific countries. It was therefore necessary to be more reliant on national lawyers to ensure that the language of the regulations was appropriate for their national situation.

The FSM representative was not in a position to say whether FSM needed external assistance with national consultation on the regulations.

Samoa informed that in her experience, the bottleneck in getting regulations developed was often with the AG's office. In order to speed the passage of their regulations, Samoa's NCC had written a series of letters requesting the AG's office work on their ODS regulations and also highlighted the negative implications the delay was causing the Project. The action was successful and the regulations have since been completed.

Marshall Islands

The RMI EPA participant said that their office had begun issuing imports permits on 1 January 2006. Permits cost \$200 each. Only one company had applied for an import permit before the participant left for this workshop.

He expected more applications on his return. A copy of their import permit was circulated to the participants.

He said the maximum penalty under their ODS regulations is \$US500 per day.

Cook Islands

The representative of the Cook Islands informed the workshop that the Cook Islands had not established any ODS regulations or any licensing systems. The Cook Islands are receiving assistance to establish ODS regulations from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Technical Assistance Team as part of a wider programme to assist with the development of environmental controls in the Cook Islands. The ADB project aims to combine regulations that covered other chemicals and other international treaties such as the Basel convention on Hazardous Waste all in one control. The representative informed the workshop that in house discussions have been conducted on the issue of combining chemical-related conventions. This has been led by a consultant who is an Environmental lawyer. The Cook Islands hope to begin national consultations on ODS regulations soon and establish the regulations by July 2006.

SPREP raised a concern on the possibility of running into problems when establishing a regulation that would cover all chemicals because of the added complexity. Although it combining the various controls seems practical, the actual work in drafting such a regulation may be more difficult. He hoped that the process would not delay the progress with controls on ODS.

Niue

Niue is currently working to establish ODS regulations. The latest development is that the legal officer

had made initial comments on the draft regulations supplied by SPREP. They will liaise with SPREP to finalize the regulations. Some initial changes made included changes to the names of agencies and to penalty charges.

Since Niue imports almost all goods directly from New Zealand, the NCC foresees that there would not be much problem in enforcing regulations once established. The NCC hopes to start with a national consultation and establish ODS regulations by July 2006.

Nauru

Nauru hopes to establish ODS regulations and licensing systems sometimes this year and would probably consider amending the Customs Act to incorporate prohibitions on ODS.

Tuvalu

Tuvalu's ODS regulations are still in draft form and are with their AG's office. The representative from Tuvalu said her office intended to make their ODS regulations under the Environment Act. However, the Environment Act is also in the process of being reviewed and the ODS regulations cannot be put in place until the review of the Environment Act is completed. Tuvalu briefly highlighted the process that they had to go through, which involved the initial drafting process, discussions by steering committee and being passed through certain levels of meetings, then on to Cabinet.

Tuvalu informed that the delays they are facing in getting their regulations finalised are mainly due to the many reviews that had to be conducted. There was also a problem with staff turnover at their AG's office. Tuvalu requested help from SPREP to conduct a workshop on ODS regulations to

assist with the development of their regulations and to familiarize other agencies, including their AG's office with the Project.

PNG

The representative commented that situation with the development of regulations was similar in all of the PICs. He said that the PNG had some regulations already, to require import permits, but that further regulations mentioned were needed to implement further controls such as the licensing of technicians. Draft regulations were prepared several years ago, but are still not in force. They would soon be submitted to the AG's office and then circulated to industries for review. He said that there were some difficulties getting co-operation with other departments to deal with the ODS issue.

The participant from PNG noted a specific concern that in their experience, Customs officers do not always have time to inspect all imported goods. This was why they encourage companies to clearly label products that were CFC free or "ozone friendly".

PNG informed that although they have some import controls already under their Environment Act and have found some illegal imports, they have not sought prosecution yet. Instead imports caught have been required to surrender their goods and to pay for the costs to transport them to the NCC in Port Moresby. The NCC will arrange future safe disposal.

PNG informed that permits are currently being enforced and the condition is for companies to apply for an import permit four weeks in advance. A permit fee costs Kina\$150 (Approx US\$50) and all revenue is given to their Treasury, not the NCC. The representative said he was encouraged by Fiji in being able to

retain the revenue from their permits in an Environment Trust Fund and would explore this option further.

PNG also informed that the NCC is working to send an existing stockpile of halons to the destruction facility in Melbourne and would seek financial assistance from GTZ.

General comments

SPREP highlighted the importance of establishing ODS regulations as a means of sustaining the zero consumption of CFCs and prohibitions of other ODS.

4.1 - Customs training

Mr Iain McGlinchy the international consultant from SPREP gave a presentation on the successful Customs training in Marshall Islands that had been held in 2005. He discussed what the training covered and what input and resources were needed. He stressed that it was important for the local ozone officer to be actively involved in the discussions on the national controls, as they would have to work with Customs on the implementation. A copy of the presentation is attached.

As part of the presentation, participants were taken through a short exercise to identify whether the refrigerant in photographed cylinders contained ozone-depleting substances or not. Mr McGlinchy said that the trick is to remember that the refrigerants with identification numbers starting with 400 or 500 are mixtures. It is necessary to refer to a list, such as the one provided to the participants and attached to this report, to identify the components and so to identify what it contains and whether or not it is ozone depleting.

In this context, he said, the letter R stands for refrigerant.

In response to a query raised by Niue, SPREP clarified that HCFCs are still an ODS, but less ozone depleting than CFCs. SPREP added that Niue would still be able to continue to import HCFCs until 2040. SPREP also informed that modern freezers, cars and domestic refrigerators now generally use HFCs, which are not ozone depleting. However, most air-conditioning equipment still used HCFCs, although even this use was being converted to new non-ODS in new products.

The representative from New Caledonia sought clarification whether domestic fridges are included in the Montreal Protocol. SPREP clarified that the Montreal Protocol, with some minor exceptions, only controls the trade of bulk substances (gases) that are in pressure vessels (i.e. containers designed for transportation or storage). It did not deal with finished products that contained them. SPREP also informed that the intention of the Montreal Protocol was to stop the production of gases. It did not try to regulate the trade in finished products, although more recent thinking suggested this might be useful. Many countries have chosen to control trade in finished products to avoid imports of junk technology and to reduce demand for ODS for servicing in the future.

The representative from Nauru asked if all controlled substances (such as CFCs) are replaceable. SPREP clarified that almost all uses of CFCs now have commercially viable alternatives. SPREP was not aware of any use of CFCs in the Pacific where an alternative was not available. SPREP also added that there are many blends that are being developed as replacement gases for CFCs.

During the discussions, Fiji stated that their Customs Department uses the eight-digit harmonised system (HS)

code to classify all its imports in the Fiji Tariff Code. This is unlike most other PICs that only classify ODS at the "four digit" level under which all ODS refrigerants and many non-ODS are lumped under one code (2903). The Fijian delegate said that their use of eight digit codes allows the use of internationally recognised HS codes for all pure bulk substances. However, SPREP noted that even at the eight-digit level, the HS codes do not allow the accurate classification of mixtures. This was why it was still necessary to carry out a survey of importers to determine imports of mixtures.

The representative from Tonga asked if there was an organized system for identifying imports of ODS. SPREP informed that work had been done internationally involving UNEP and the World Customs Organisation (WCO) to provide internationally agreed eight digit HS codes for all ODS and some ODS mixtures. However, the response of most Customs agencies in the PICs was they did not consider it was necessary to amend national codes to include eight digit codes for ODS refrigerants when other imports are not broken down to that level of detail.

Tonga sought clarification about the provision of a refrigerant identifier for the Customs training. They were informed that this would be purchased before the Custom training by SPREP on behalf of the country.

The representative from Fiji sought clarification on permits for mixtures and cited the situation in Fiji where companies are charged a levy of \$FJD 1 for every kilogram of HCFC-22 being imported. The representative enquired as to how one would go about charging mixtures containing only a percentage of HCFC-22. SPREP suggested that it would be appropriate to charge the levy if a refrigerant contained any amount of ODS

refrigerant. The idea is even if a gas is in a mixture, if it is taken for destruction, the whole gas will be destroyed and not just the portion that is ozone depleting.

There was a discussion about the presence of Chinese-made one-pound cans containing CFCs that have been found in Micronesia. SPREP explained that the one-pound cans were once cans widely used in the USA where people would use them to top up their own a/c systems. They are now banned and are relatively rare. They are considered bulk substances, so their import should be prohibited. SPREP added these cans were covered as part of the Customs training.

As part of the discussions SPREP circulated a model form for collection of data on import of ODS refrigerants', including mixtures. A copy of this is attached. Tonga sought clarification on the survey form as to why it states that companies should not to report components of blends separately. SPREP clarified that this list was developed in New Zealand and there some companies had been splitting mixtures into their pure substances. However, it was more useful for the ODS officer to know the names of the mixtures being imported as then they would know what refrigerants were being used. With the aid of a refrigeration technician they could determine if the substances were being used for air-conditioning, low temperature refrigeration or domestic refrigeration. It was also better to leave the calculation of the components to each ODS officer as then the accuracy of the calculations could be known.

Niue enquired whether Customs training was seen as an added responsibility to Customs officers. The representative from the Fiji Customs Department clarified that the responsibility falls under the Customs

Act and the activities to implement the controls are therefore within their roles. Fiji also clarified that after the first phase of Customs training (train the trainers), there was a delay in conducting further training of Customs officers. Fiji added that their phase 2 training (which used those who were trained in phase 1) could only commence once an MOU was signed between the Department of Environment and Customs to clarify the roles of the two agencies. They added that in general, Customs officers were very interested in the training workshop since the work was doing something positive for the environment. Fiji agreed that while the training part is very interesting, the implementation is challenging.

4.2 - Country experiences with Customs training

Following the presentation by Mr McGlinchy, country delegates that had carried out customs training also made presentations. There presentations focussed on how they had carried out the training and how they had continued to work with their Customs services to maintain the level of training. A representative from the Fiji Customs Service also assisted with the discussions.

Fiji

The representative from Fiji highlighted that Fiji's NOU usually assisted with the ongoing training of Customs officers. This was because Customs officials were not comfortable training on the issues of the Montreal Protocol and ozone science. Customs, however, were able to carry out the other components of the training.

The representative from Fiji cited a case recently where HCFCs were confiscated from a company that did

not have any license to import them. The confiscated goods are now with the Department of Environment, who is looking at ways to dispose of them. Because they are HCFCs and therefore not yet controlled under the Montreal Protocol for Fiji, they may sell them on the local market, but the Office has not yet decided. Fiji also cited a case of fishing vessels from China bringing in R22 and planning to offload this for their own use in Fiji without first obtaining an import permit. This led to a lengthy discussion among the participants about how to control the import of HCFCs and other ODS used by fishing boats.

Fiji's NOU said they had carried out a lot of work to inform their fishing industry as they had found that some of the problem was that the boat operators did not speak English so were not aware of the local laws. He said they had therefore made sure that the fishing vessel's office based in China was informed of Fiji's laws and requested them to comply with these. Fiji had also created a new type of import permit specifically for the import of HCFC for use on fishing boats.

The representative from Fiji's Customs Department added that most of the seizures for illegal imports of ODS in Fiji so far were from the fishing vessels. As a result Fiji has spent a lot of time translating information into Chinese and publishing this in Chinese language newspapers in Fiji and also distributing information to shipping companies and their agents. They have since had much greater cooperation and compliance with Fiji's laws. The Environment unit offered to share their Chinese language publicity material with the participants.

The representative from Samoa congratulated Fiji for the work being done so far and sought clarification on implementation of the controls. Fiji

informed that certain aspects of Fiji's Customs Act had to be amended to include a list of restricted substances listed under the ODS Act. SPREP added that there is a need to work with the each country's Customs service to discuss with them how to go about amending their Customs Acts. The representative from Samoa acknowledged the usefulness and informative presentation by Fiji. She said that in her experience it was not possible to amend Samoa's Customs Act to include prohibitions on ODS imports while they were awaiting the review of their Environment Act to be completed.

The representative from Tonga reported that the Tongan Customs Department found that Chinese companies and fishing vessels were importing refrigerants in the same shipments as other domestic goods. This required careful inspection by Customs to identify.

The representative from Kiribati acknowledged that the implementation of ODS legislation in Fiji has been effective. He enquired about the feedback from the Fiji Customs particularly where participants said they needed refresher courses and whether these would be provided by the Department of Environment. Fiji clarified that once they implement their Terminal Phase Out Management Plan (TPMP), under which Fiji received its funding they would ask the Customs Department to take on board the costs of conducting these "refresher courses" as these course use a lot of the NOU's funds, especially were they have to travel to other islands to carry out the training.

Niue sought clarification on the hand-over of refrigeration identification equipment to the Customs department. Fiji explained that the NOU would

bear the cost of maintenance due to financial constraints of the Customs department. The two departments had agreed this to.

Niue asked about whether the responsibility of enforcing ODS Act lies with the Customs department, to which SPREP agreed. Once an Act or regulations have been passed by Parliament, it means that Parliament is giving responsibility for the Customs department to implement. If the Customs has concerns about its own resources or ability to implement any controls, these have to be raised before any legislation is put in place.

The representative from the Fiji Customs Department stressed that the enforcement of Fiji's Ozone Act falls under the Customs department's responsibilities.

With regards to conducting chemical analyses at USP for use in any future trial, Fiji informed of the plans to build up USP's capacity so they could test for ODSs. He informed that the Chemistry Department has the equipment to test ODSs, but it needs reference materials to calibrate the testing equipment. It also needs to obtain independent certification from an overseas body and this is the relatively expensive for them.

Marshall Islands

The representative from the Marshall Islands said that Marshall Islands Customs Department and RMIEPA are working together to inspect and test imported goods. The participant said that he had carried out the actual inspections on the shipments that had arrived since the regulations came into force. So far, no CFC-12 has been reportedly brought into the country since enforcement of their regulations began

General discussions

Disposal of waste cylinders after use

In response to Tonga's query on how to deal with empty gas cylinders, some participants advised that the best way is to recycle the steel. Others cited possible ways to re-use the cylinders including as fishing floats and stoves.

A representative from Fiji informed that currently, Fijian recycling centres are not accepting empty refrigerant cylinders. He also shared the experience faced two years ago when HCFCs were offloaded from a shipping vessel. About 200 cylinders were confiscated, but went missing and were suspected to be at the Lami Dump.

During the discussions, the participants requested that SPREP's Waste Management section address the management of waste cylinders (as well as cars, refrigerators and whiteware goods).

Session 5

Overview of Refrigeration Servicing Sector in each country

In this session participants were asked to discuss the impact of refrigeration training on the phase-out of ODS and whether further activities were needed. Each country made a report. Where presentations were made these are attached.

Tonga

The representative from Tonga informed that the Deputy Prime Minister opened their “good practices in refrigeration” (GPR) training workshop. The involvement of the government at the highest level was seen as important to raise the awareness of the politicians. It was hoped this would assist with passing the ODS Bill. The Deputy PM was a member of Cabinet, Privy Council and parliament so his involvement was expected to be beneficial. Unfortunately it was reported that the Deputy PM lost that position shortly after the workshop and the Tongan Ozone Bill has still not been passed.

Samoa

The representative from Samoa said that the GPR training had a positive impact and hoped to have more courses in future. Samoa highlighted that now that the ODS regulations are in place, accreditation of technicians would be needed before technicians could carry out servicing work. Samoa also informed that it has one recycling and recovery machine and that this is stationed at the Samoa Polytechnical Institute.

Samoa highlighted that the imports of CFCs have been maintained at zero

levels. Records of imports of HCFC-22 began in 1998 and imports of this and the non-ODS refrigerants are increasing.

Fiji

The representative informed that until 2004, the training of technicians was covered by the ODS Project funds. From mid-2004 to 2005, a technical institute (Training and Productivity Authority of Fiji (TPAF) has taken over the costs of training due to funding limitations of Fiji’s ODS Project.

On some occasions, training was done on Saturdays as this suited the availability of technicians, especially those in small companies who often found it difficult to get off work during the week to attend a training course

Fiji discussed their experiences with enforcing their ODS controls and spoke of attempts at interference with their work in detaining vehicles and cylinders from non-complying companies. He said that in rare cases there had even been physical intimidation. However, the NOU stood their ground and managed to get the companies to pay the penalty costs.

Fiji also shared that in 2003, the Department of Environment confiscated cylinders of refrigerant (HCFC--22) and cars from more than 60 companies. Currently, Fiji’s concern is that despite training so many technicians, many new small-businesses are being started. It is proving difficult to ensure that they are all suitably trained and licensed. Some are carrying out illegal activities, such as opening their own businesses and using stolen licenses.

Fiji informed the participants that it has customised their “good Practices in refrigeration (GPR) training materials to suit the local workshops and included sections of Fiji’s ODS Act. Fiji has written a “code of practice”

and incorporated “must-know” areas to be used at the Fiji Institute of Technology and the TPAF that teach refrigeration courses.

Kiribati noted Fiji’s concern regarding the new workshops that are not licensed and asked whether there is any link with the authority that issues business licenses. Fiji informed that there is a procedure in place where business licenses are given out however the NOU does not have any control over them. Fiji was pleased to inform that improved collaboration with the relevant authority is in the pipeline.

Fiji cited a case where NOU was called upon for advice on awarding tenders and advised that the tender be awarded to a licensed company. The NOU was looking at advertising companies that are licensed to conduct refrigeration work in order to promote compliance with their Act. As well, Fiji’s NOU has also requested their Finance Ministry to waive fiscal duty if a licensed refrigeration workshop purchases any refrigerant recovery and recycling (R&R) equipment.

The representative from PNG enquired as to who is responsible for maintaining/ servicing/retrofitting the a/c systems of government departments. In Fiji, this is the responsibility of the Fiji Government since the ODS Act is binding to all government departments.

Palau enquired whether company branches have to apply for licenses. In Fiji, this is the case. As well, each technician handling ODS will have to have a “license to handle”, and each company has to have a “license to store” controlled substances. SPREP informed that the model ODS regulations used in the other PICs do not include these licenses for technicians (i.e. licence to handle) or for storage since the model was built for small countries that would only

have a small number of technicians and no large training facilities to carry out ongoing training of new technicians.

Palau

Palau informed that there is ten servicing w/shops that carry out refrigeration work in Palau. During the discussions, SPREP informed all participants of the need to actually use the refrigeration equipment that had been purchased for the training. He said the ozone layer was not going to benefit if the equipment remained in cupboard at the Government’s office or at a training facility where it was not used most of the year.

To date, Palau has not purchased any post-training equipment.

Kiribati

Kiribati informed that there are ten refrigeration servicing workshops and informed that Kiribati’s imports of HCFCs are less than 0.01 metric tonnes. Kiribati informed that most companies have ceased their CFC imports.

Kiribati informed that the usefulness of GPR training is indicated by the demand for R&R equipment and increase in use of ozone-friendly alternatives. As well, stakeholders are contacting the Department of Environment for contact details of companies of ozone-friendly suppliers now that they have a basic understanding of the protection of the ozone layer. The training has also encouraged stakeholders to inform the Department of Environment of suspected imports of CFCs by other companies.

Kiribati highlighted a request for refresher courses for refrigeration training due to the increase in the number of workshops since the last training in 2003. Kiribati requested SPREP to assist and explore the possibility of collaborating with other

regional organizations such as the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and the South Pacific Commission (SPC) that have conducted similar training workshops for funding refresher courses especially for countries that do not have technical institutes. Kiribati added that it still has not bought the post-training equipment.

FSM

The representative from the FSM informed that there are four refrigeration-servicing workshops in Pohnpei Sate, but he did not have figures for the other three States. He informed the workshop that most trained technicians have set up their own business since the training.

On the status of ODS consumption, the representative informed that in 2005, FSM has recorded zero imports of CFCs. There are some CFCs still in stockpile. FSM informed that the training on GPR has been effective and has resulted in more technicians being certified and allowed them to set up their own business. The representative stressed the need for more R&R equipment, as currently the other three states do not have any.

Marshall Islands

The representative informed the meeting that since the training carried out by the consultant in 2003, he had carried out further training on Jalut, one of the outer islands and had plans to carry out training in several other of the islands including Ebeye, which is the second largest population centre.

He reported that there were no imports of CFCs in 2005, but HCFCs were very common. He also highlighted the need for more recovery and recycling equipment, but had not yet purchased their equipment from their funds released for the second tranche.

There was a discussion about the ability of SPREP to co-ordinate the

purchase of equipment in order to get a larger discount for bulk sales. It was noted that SPREP had negotiated a discounted price for the equipment used in the training. SPREP said it might be able to assist countries if more than one wanted to place an order, and countries should take this up directly with SPREP.

Cook Islands

The representative from the Cook Islands informed that the Cook Islands plans to conduct its training on GPR training in April 2006 and would need to submit information on what is needed for the training workshop as soon as possible.

Niue

The representative of Niue said they hoped to conduct the training in March 2006. However, Niue's NCC needs to resolve funding issues with SPREP before this can commence. Niue sought clarification on the definition of "servicing sector" which SPREP explained referred to the people who fix the refrigeration equipment. It is to separate them from the manufacturing sector, which in larger countries generally uses more ODS, and in different applications than the service sector. Niue informed that there is currently only one technician on the island and he is self-taught. There are others who would be interested to attend GPR training and are also self-taught.

Niue hopes that the GPR training would enhance the Government's awareness of and commitment to its obligations to the Montreal Protocol.

Tuvalu

Tuvalu informed the workshop that the NCC has received its second instalment of funds and would be purchasing the post-training equipment soon.

Nauru

The representative of Nauru informed the workshop that the NCC has been dealing with the GPR trainers from New Zealand and SPREP on the GPR training workshop. Nauru highlighted the challenges of trying to involve small workshops that are run by Chinese technicians. Although the workshop had originally been scheduled for late 2005, the workshop was postponed to early 2006 due to other commitments by the training provider during December 2005.

PNG

The representative informed that the training of technicians began in 2004 after their TPMP was signed. The representative briefly outlined the processes involved to engage companies located in the Port Moresby area. He also informed that the initial train-the-trainers course was on stationary and domestic refrigerators, etc. Overall, the GPR course was useful where more than 300 service technicians have been trained in “good practices” so far. The representative added that the refrigeration training in PNG has been done back-to-back with the customs training, as this is cost-effective.

PNG has already purchased around 20 recovery only machines and three recovery and recycling machines along with other equipment needed for the work of technicians. The equipment has been provided to servicing companies. He also outlined some of the challenges faced during the training course, which include the high internal travel costs and the difficulty in teaching technical issues to new technicians who are self-taught and sometimes illiterate.

The representative reported that PNG has a scheme to pay up to 60% of the costs of retrofitting existing refrigeration and air-conditioning

equipment to ozone friendly alternatives. They have so far converted the equipment at two large hotels. They also have a fund to provide assistance to government agencies that otherwise would not have the funds to maintain their refrigeration or air-conditioning equipment.

The PNG representative concluded by saying that he looked forward to conducting the second phase of training workshop.

Session 6

PIC Regional Network

Dr Junchaya made a presentation on a proposal to develop a network for PICs. He explained that virtually all developing countries belonged to one of the many regional networks that already existed though the PICs did not yet belong to one. He said that the very high travel costs in the Pacific meant that it would be quite expensive to operate a network for PICs. He said the high travel costs meant that meetings could take place once, rather than twice a year as is the case with most existing networks.

He indicated that Australia would like to be a bilateral donor for the proposed Regional Network. UNEP also explained that funds from Australia would come under its 20% contribution to the MLFS.

Following the presentation, participants were split into small groups to discuss the Regional Network proposal further. Participants were asked to discuss whether they wanted further meetings, if they did, what they wanted these to cover, and also whether there were other options to improve networking in the region other than with meetings.

Group Discussions

The participants came up with the following list of points for the Regional Network:

- Agreed that a network was important and the annual meetings should continue.

Acknowledged that the purpose of the meetings was to share experience and to assist countries to comply with the Montreal Protocol.

Recognised the benefits of Network: sharing information, problems, etc. Cited the example of reports on Fiji's experience being very helpful, especially for the ongoing work of implementing ODS regulations.

Network would also facilitate the exchange of data and information on imports and exports around the region, which would aid data reporting.

Suggested utilizing other cost-effective ways to network in addition to annual meetings, such as e-mail, teleconferencing, video conferencing (using USP's facilities), while being mindful of costs. Phone-conferencing could be done more frequently

Timing of annual meeting to be closer to OEWG, MOP; but the next meeting should be in April/May as delay till late 2007 to coincide with the next MOP would be too long

Annual meetings to be held back-to-back with other Projects such as Climate Change, Pacific National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (NBSAP), and the International Waters Project (IWP)).

- Annual meetings to be held in countries that are producers of ODS and manufacture vehicles (subject to budget being available).
- Meeting venue to be alternated to other countries for the benefit of raising profile of ozone work in the country (subject to budget being available).
- Participants to provide information to determine the agenda

Agenda to include a half-day session to train new ODS officers. This could include an introduction session on the Montreal Protocol, ozone science and obligations. This could also cover the management of Project at a national level.

Agenda of annual meetings to include practical sessions for customs/hands-on mechanical experience (subject to budget being available).

Recognize that the Network could provide an opportunity to develop “exchange programmes” between PICs or other countries in the region, to allow them to work for one or two weeks in another country’s Customs agency.

To invite customs officers to take part in a network meeting (subject to budget being available).

Network could include linkage with USP work on monitoring of ozone layer and allow their participation (subject to budget being available).

Network could assist countries with reporting obligations issues of illegal trade.

Network to be expanded to include participation of relevant institutions such as University of the South Pacific, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Oceania Customs Organisation (subject to budget being available).

Network to produce a database of the PICs import and export data and to be centrally located.

UNEP informed the participants that it would incorporate input from this meeting and revise the proposal for funding of the network accordingly. The proposal would be submitted to the 48th ExCom in April 2006. UNEP highlighted the need for support letters from each government to accompany the Proposal. SPREP said it could coordinate this.

UNEP also gave an update on the HCFC-survey saying that the Multilateral Fund Secretariat would prefer to defer the survey to next year in 2007. UNEP also highlighted that the survey would involve the condition that it should set the baseline for controlling the amount of imports of HCFCs.

In relation to the Network, UNEP informed that there was an understanding is that all Article 5 countries (developing countries especially) should have access to a network. However, the very low consumption of ODS and the very high travel costs within the region mean that funding cannot be guaranteed.

Session 7

Regional Strategy administration and future outlook

The final sessions of the workshop included presentations from Mr. Bruce Chapman, Programme Manager, Pacific Futures Programme at SRPEP and Ms Emma Sale-Mario, the Assistant Project Officer.

Mr Chapman gave a presentation on the future direction of the Project and SPREP's role in that. He acknowledged the work of UNEP ROAP to sustain the work in the Pacific region on ODS issues. He also re-affirmed SPREP's commitment to see the completion of the project as set out in the Regional Strategy and noted there were still unfinished tasks.

Mr Chapman officially informed the participants that the Assistant Project Officer, Ms Emma Sale-Mario who had been working on the project from SPREP for the past two years had announced that she was returning to her home country of Fiji and would not be continuing in the role of APO. SPREP announced that Ms Nirupa Ram, the former Fijian ODS officer would be taking over from Emma in April. The participants extended their thanks to Ms Sale-Mario for her work. They also welcomed Ms Ram to her new role.

Mr Chapman also mentioned the proposals raised earlier for projects to investigate disposal of ODS and working with USP on matters relating to ozone science. He said that SPREP would consider these and that he saw links between the disposal of waste ODS and the disposal of the cylinders that might be able to be worked on at the same time.

Ms Sale-Mario then made a presentation on the administrative reporting requirements under the project and discussed which countries were and were not up to date with their reporting. Auditing of accounts was one of the important tasks that a number of countries needed to complete before they could receive the next tranche of funding.

SPREP stressed the importance of completing the matrix of activities by end of 2006 and also informed that the proposed Network would bridge the gap by providing funds for the Project after the current funds are used.

With regards to new initiatives of SPREP, discussion was on the need for all PICs to conduct ozone and UV-B measurements. Participants were informed that there is a Trust set up under the Vienna Convention to fund such research, but it was not known if the fund was available.

SPREP was asked a question about the costs of auditing. They replied that most had cost on US\$100 – 200 as the projects were very small compared with others, such as International Waters.

SPREP was also asked about the frequency of reporting to SPREP. SPREP explained that it was required to report 6 monthly and if countries wished to report to SPREP on a 6 monthly basis and not quarterly, then this could be discussed with SPREP.

One of the participants said that they frequently did not receive messages from the Ozone Secretariat or they received them late. This caused difficulties for them. SPREP said they would ask the Ozone Secretariat whether official communications could be sent electronically, or whether SPREP could assist with distribution.

Conclusion

The session concluded with comments from SPREP and UNEP thanking the participants for their active involvement in the workshop and over the past years. All speakers in particular thanked the representatives from the Fiji Ozone Office who had taken a great deal of time and effort to prepare presentations for the workshop. These had all been warmly received.

The participants presented Ms Emma Sale-Mario with and, at the end of the workshop, presented her with a gift of a carving and flowers as a sign of their appreciation. Other resource people were also presented with gifts to acknowledge their input.

The meeting closed with a prayer by Mr John Talagi from Niue.

Field visits

Following the official closure participants visited the USP campus to see the Ozone Research Unit at the School of Chemical Sciences. Participants were shown the facility and the equipment used. Unfortunately the weather conditions prevented the viewing of the launch of a balloon.

Annexes

Annex I: List of participants

Annex II: Workshop Agenda

Annex III: Workshop Presentations

Annex I: List of participants



3rd Regional Thematic Meeting on Implementation of the Montreal Protocol in the Pacific Region

23 – 27 January 2005
Southern Cross Hotel
Suva-Fiji Islands

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Annex II: Workshop Agenda



3rd Regional Thematic Meeting on Implementation of the Montreal Protocol in the Pacific region, 24 – 27 January 2005, Southern Cross Hotel, Suva, FIJI

AGENDA

DATE	TIME	TOPICS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE / PRESENTER
TUESDAY, 24 th January 2006	0830 – 0900	Registration	Ms Saunoa Matau [SPREP]
	0900 – 0930	(i) Opening Address (ii) Keynote & Official Opening Address (iii) Address by donors (iv) Housekeeping matters	Mr Bruce Chapman [SPREP] Mr Cama Tuiloma [CEO, Ministry for Local Government, Housing, Squatter Settlement & Environment (Fiji)] Mr Thanavat Junchaya [UNEP ROAP] Ms Emma Sale-Mario [SPREP]
	0930 – 1000	MORNING TEA	
	1000 – 1030	1.1 Update on Ozone Layer – latest report from the Scientific Assessment Panel. Ozone measurements over the Pacific region. Session 1 Facilitator: Mr Iain McGlinchy [SPREP]	Dr Kanayathu Koshy/Mr Anand Chandra [USP]
	1030 – 1045	1.2 Outcomes of 17th Meeting of the Parties (MOP) and 7 th Conference of the Parties (COP)	Mr Thanavat Junchaya [UNEP ROAP]
	1045 – 1100	1.3 Progress of Regional Strategy	Ms Emma Sale-Mario [SPREP]
	1100 - 1200	2.0 National Compliance Centres (NCCs) ▪ Status of work as per National Compliance Action Plans (progress, delays, solutions) ▪ Reporting obligations to Ozone Secretariat and Multilateral Fund Secretariat	Country Representatives (Cooks, Fiji, FSM)
	1200 – 1300	LUNCH	
	1300 – 1500	2.0 National Compliance Centres (NCCs) <i>Session 2 continued</i>	Country Representatives (Kiribati, Marshalls, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea)
	1500 – 1530	AFTERNOON TEA	
	1530 – 1710	2.0 National Compliance Centres (NCCs) <i>Session 2 continued</i>	Country Representatives (Samoa, Solomons, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu)

WEDNESDAY, 25th January 2006

0830 – 0930 Facilitator: Mr Bruce Chapman [SPREP]	Endorsement of discussion points for Sessions 1 and 2	All participants
0930 – 1000	MORNING TEA	
1000 - 1030 Session 3 Facilitator: Dr Suresh Raj	3.0 Renewal of Institutional Strengthening (IS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Criteria ▪ Requirements ▪ Submission of IS renewals from PICs (update on which countries have submitted requests for renewals) ▪ What needs to be done between now and 48th ExCoM ▪ Comparison between PICs and other Article 5 countries/ countries in the SEAP network 	Mr Thanavat Junchaya [UNEP ROAP]
1030 – 1120 <i>Session 3 continued</i> 1120 - 1200	Renewal of Institutional Strengthening (IS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working group discussion on submission of requests for renewal. Compare country experience and identify areas where external (SPREP) assistance is needed to meet the requirements. ▪ Presentations by working groups 	Country Representatives (Cooks, Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, Marshalls, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomons, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu)
1200 - 1300	LUNCH	
1300 – 1340 Session 4	4.0 Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The importance of ODS regulations and licensing systems ▪ What ODS regulations and licensing systems need to cover ▪ Comparison between PICs and other Article 5 countries/ countries in the SEAP network 	Mr Iain M^cGlinchy [SPREP] Mr Thanavat Junchaya [UNEP ROAP]
1340 – 1540	4.1 Establishment of ODS regulations and licensing systems in PICs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Status ▪ Processes ▪ Progress (delays, problems encountered, solutions) ▪ Ways to accelerate the establishment of regulations and licensing systems 	Country Representatives (Cooks, Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, Marshalls, Nauru, Niue, Palau)
1540 – 1610	AFTERNOON TEA	
1610 – 1740 <i>Session 4 continued</i>	4.1 Establishment of ODS regulations and licensing systems in PICs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Status ▪ Processes ▪ Progress (delays, problems encountered, solutions) ▪ Ways to accelerate the establishment of regulations and licensing systems 	Country Representatives (Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomons, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu)

THURSDAY, 26th January 2006	0830 – 0930 Facilitator: Mr Bruce Chapman [SPREP]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Endorsement of discussion points for Sessions 3 and 4 	All participants
	0930 – 1000	MORNING TEA	
	1000 – 1020 <i>Session 4 continued</i>	4.5 Control of ODS imports into PICs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Customs Officials Training Programme 	Mr Iain M^cGlinchy [SPREP]
	1020 – 1200 <i>Session 4 continued</i>	4.6 Overview of Customs training in PICs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Status ▪ Progress ▪ Impacts of training of customs officers and additional needs 	Country Representatives (Cooks, Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, Marshalls, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomons, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu)
	1200 - 1300	LUNCH	
	1300 - 1530 <i>Session 5</i> Facilitator: Mr Thanavat Junchaya [UNEP ROAP]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 5.0 Overview of Refrigeration Servicing Sector in each country ▪ 5.1 Quantity of servicing workshops ▪ 5.2 Status of ODS-consumption ▪ 5.3 Impacts of training on Good Practices in Refrigeration and additional needs 	Country Representatives (Cooks, Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, Marshalls, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa)
	1530 – 1600	AFTERNOON TEA	
	1600 – 1720 <i>Session 5 continued</i>	5.0 Overview of Refrigeration Servicing Sector in PICs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 5.1 Quantity of servicing workshops ▪ 5.2 Status of ODS-consumption ▪ 5.3 Impacts of training on Good Practices in Refrigeration and additional needs 	Country Representatives (Solomons, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu)

FRIDAY, 27th January 2006

0830 – 0930 Facilitator: Mr Bruce Chapman [SPREP]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Endorsement of discussion points for Sessions 4 and 5 	All participants
0930 – 1000	MORNING TEA	
1000 – 1040 <i>Session 6</i> Facilitator: Dr Suresh Raj [UNEP DTIE]	6.0 Pacific Regional Network Proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The concept of a Pacific Regional Network ▪ Importance of a regional network ▪ Role of the Network ▪ Status of proposal and progress 	Mr Thanavat Junchaya [UNEP ROAP]
1040 – 1120 <i>Session 7</i> Facilitator: Mr Iain M ^c Glinchy [SPREP]	7.1 Regional Strategy Administration Aspect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project Coordinator – temporary arrangements ▪ Reporting obligations to SPREP 7.2 Future Outlook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Where to from here ▪ Waste-refrigerants Disposal Project ▪ Possible collaboration with USP 	Mr Bruce Chapman Mr Thanavat Junchaya [UNEP ROAP] Ms Emma Sale-Mario [SPREP] Dr Kanayathu Koshy/Mr Anand Chandra [USP]
1120 - 1200	Break	
1200 - 1300	LUNCH	
1300 - 1330	Endorsement of discussion points for Sessions 6 and 7	All participants
1330 - 1430	Conclusion and Recommendation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Statement of Outcomes 	All participants
1430 - 1630	Field visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ozone Research Unit, School of Chemical Sciences, USP (demonstration of atmospheric research) ▪ Mechanical Services, Licensed Refrigeration & Air-conditioning Company (on storage of ODS, record-keeping and documentation, demonstration of Recovery & Recycling equipment) 	Dr Kanayathu Koshy/Mr Anand Chandra [USP] Mr Shakil Kumar [National ODS Officer, Fiji]
1900 - 2100	RECEPTION	

Annex III: Workshop Presentations

Day One

Anand P. Chandra (USP) – Current State of the Ozone Layer and Ozone Measurements over the Pacific Stratosphere

Thanavat Junchaya (UNEP ROAP) - Key outcomes of the 17th Meeting of the Parties

Emma Mario (SPREP) - Progress of “Regional Strategy to Implement the Montreal Protocol in the Pacific Region

Antoine Nia (Cook Islands Environment Service) -3rd Regional Thematic Meeting on Implementation of the Montreal Protocol in the Pacific Region

Shakil Kumar (ODS Unit, Department of Environment, Fiji) - 3rd Regional Thematic Meeting on Implementation of the Montreal Protocol in the Pacific Region

Riibeta Abeta (Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development, Kiribati) - UPDATE ON NATIONAL COMPLIANCE CENTER-KIRIBATI PERSPECTIVE

Milton Clarence (Environment Protection Authority, Marshall Islands)

John Tiegmai (Department of Health, Education and Social Affairs) - Federated States of Micronesia -National Compliance Centers

John Talagi (Niue Ozone Focal Point, Department of Environment)

Groover Nakamoto (Palau Environmental Quality Protection (Palau – National Compliance Centers)

Bernard Suruman (Ozone Unit, Department of Environment and Conservation) PNG Save Lukautim Ozone Layer -3rd Regional Thematic Meeting on Montreal Protocol

Reima Leleimalefaga (Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Meteorology, Samoa) - NATIONAL COMPLIANCE CENTER

Sione Tukia Lepa, (Ozone Unit, Department of Environment, Tonga) - Report The 3rd Thematic Meeting on Implementation of the Montreal Protocol Monday 23rd – Friday 27th January, 2006, Suva Fiji

Meleata Mahafe (Department of Environment) - Update of Tuvalu National Compliance Centre

Day two

Thanavat Junchaya (UNEP ROAP) - Renewal of Institutional Strengthening Project

Shakil Kumar (ODS Unit, Department of Environment, Fiji) - ODS REGULATIONS & LICENSING SYSTEM OF FIJI

Iain McGlinchy (International Consultant) - ODS Regulations

Riibeta Abeta (Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development, Kiribati) - Establishment of ODS Regulations KIRIBATI PERSPECTIVE

Reima Leleimalefaga - (Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Meteorology, Samoa) ODS Regulations and Licensing System
Thanavat Junchaya (UNEP ROAP) - Licensing System Models from SEAP Network

Day three

Shakil Kumar (ODS Unit, Department of Environment, Fiji) - Overview of Refrigeration Servicing Sector in Fiji

Iain McGlinchy (International Consultant) - The Montreal Protocol an Introduction

Iain McGlinchy (International Consultant) Customs Training - A brief overview of what is covered and what is needed

Shakil Kumar (ODS Unit, Department of Environment, Fiji) - OVERVIEW OF CUSTOMS TRAINING IN FIJI

Bernard Suruman (Ozone Unit, Department of Environment and Conservation) PNG Save Lukautim Ozone Layer -3rd Regional Thematic Meeting on Montreal Protocol

Sione Tukia Lepa, (Ozone Unit, Department of Environment, Tonga) - Report The 3rd Thematic Meeting on Implementation of the Montreal Protocol Monday 23rd – Friday 27th January, 2006, Suva Fiji

Day Four

Bruce Chapman (SPREP) Administration of Regional Strategy - 3rd Regional Thematic Meeting Suva, January 2006

Thanavat Junchaya (UNEP ROAP) - Pacific Regional Network Proposal

Other Documents

Developed Country Customs Info
Draft Tongan ODS import forms Dec 04
Survey Form for ODS data May 05

Tukia Workplan _ 2006

RMI import certificate

Concept note - Regional Strategy to Destroy Waste ODS in PICs (FINAL 2)

PIC Network Project Proposal rev 060127