

Ref: Oz.Sec./Decision XXXVI/9/Illegal trade and licensing systems

24 January 2025

Reminder: Reporting of cases of illegal trade in controlled substances and sharing information on export-import licensing systems

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of decision XXXVI/9 on further strengthening Montreal Protocol institutions adopted at the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (MOP36), specifically to paragraphs 1 to 4 concerning the prevention of illegal trade in controlled substances and licensing systems. These, together with other actionable parts of the decisions adopted during that meeting, was communicated to all parties in a [letter](#) dated 20 December 2024.

Prevention of Illegal Trade in Controlled Substances

In paragraph 3 of decision XXXVI/9, the Ozone Secretariat is requested to provide, before the forty-seventh meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (OEWG47), a compilation of the information shared by the parties pursuant to decision XXXV/12 (see below), synthesizing best practices for preventing illegal trade in controlled substances, for consideration by MOP37. In paragraph 5 of decision XXXVI/9, parties are invited to provide the Ozone Secretariat with information on how they address the disposition of detained substances.

In paragraph 1 of [decision XXXV/12](#), parties are encouraged to facilitate the exchange of information on best practices to prevent the illegal trade of controlled substances and to report to the Secretariat practices used by entities attempting unauthorized imports. In paragraph 2 of the same decision, the Secretariat is requested to provide on an annual basis a compilation of such information provided by parties. The note containing such information provided for consideration at OEWG46 can be viewed [here](#).

Similar requests encouraging parties to take action to discover and prevent the illegal production, import, export and consumption of controlled substances and facilitate the exchange of information are made in [decision XXXIV/8](#), [decision XXXI/3](#), and [decision XIV/7](#).

Consequently, we would encourage your Government to share **any relevant information in line with these decisions. To assist with your submission, please find attached reporting forms (Annexes I and/or II). Additionally, any other pertinent information related to illegal trade practices or situations in your country is most welcome.** All the reports received by the Secretariat pursuant to these decisions have been made available on the [online database](#) of illegal trade cases.

Licensing Systems

Paragraph 1 of decision XXXVI/9 requests the Secretariat to update its response to [decision XXXIV/8, paragraph 4 \(b\)](#) on identifying common features of licensing systems, and to prepare a compilation of such features, including examples of licensing systems as implemented under various circumstances for consideration at OEWG47. In paragraph 2, parties that have not done so are invited to provide such information on their licensing systems to the Ozone Secretariat. The note containing the Ozone Secretariat's response to decision XXXIV/8 can be viewed [here](#).

Consequently, we would appreciate if your Government could share **information relevant to your export-import licensing system for substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol. This could include the text of the relevant regulation, standard operating procedures, or any document describing the operation of the system. This could also include relevant parts of the project documentation submitted for consideration of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol. Alternatively, the party could allow the Secretariat of the Multilateral Fund to extract available information on licensing systems from relevant project documents and verification reports and share these with the Ozone Secretariat.** Any such information will be used for internal review purposes and remain confidential. No details will be attributed to any specific party without that party's consent.

The Ozone Secretariat looks forward to receiving a response from your Government in relation to these subject matters to assist in preparation of the relevant documents requested in decision XXXVI/9. Please communicate your response by email to Liazzat Rabbiosi (rabbiosi@un.org) with a copy to MEA-ozoneinfo@un.org preferably before 31 March 2025 to ensure that the documents prepared by the Secretariat are made available to parties in a timely fashion before OEWG47.

We look forward to continuing our collaboration with your Government to implement the provisions of the Montreal Protocol.

Yours sincerely,



Megumi Seki Nakamura
Executive Secretary