
**Vienna Convention
for the Protection
of the Ozone Layer**

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**Bureau of the twelfth meeting of the
Conference of the Parties to the
Vienna Convention for the
Protection of the Ozone Layer**

Third meeting

Geneva, 24 and 26 April 2024

**Report of the third meeting of the Bureau of the twelfth meeting of the
Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection
of the Ozone Layer**

I. Introduction

1. In accordance with subparagraph (a) (i) of decision I/6, the third meeting of the Bureau of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer was convened in conjunction with the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the Vienna Convention, which took place from 24 to 26 April 2024 at the headquarters of the World Meteorological Organization in Geneva.

2. The meeting of the Bureau comprised two sessions. The first session was convened in the margins of the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers on 24 April 2024, to discuss all items set out in the agenda of the meeting. The second session was held on 26 April 2024 after the conclusion of the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers, involving also its co-chairs, to discuss its final outcomes.

II. Opening of the meeting

3. The meeting was opened by the Executive Secretary of the Ozone Secretariat, Megumi Seki. It was attended by the following three Bureau members, constituting a quorum:

Vice-Presidents: Luis Bedoya Jaramillo (Ecuador) (Latin American and Caribbean States)
Laksmi Dhewanthi (Indonesia) (Asian and Pacific States)
Tapio Reinkainen (representing Sweden) (Western European and other States)

4. The President of the Bureau, Cheikh Ndiaye Sylla (Senegal) (Africa), and a Vice-President Claudia Dumitru (Romania) (Eastern European States), were unable to attend the meeting. As representatives of Sweden informed the Secretariat in writing that Ulrika Raab (Sweden), Vice-President representing Western European and other States, was no longer able to perform her functions as Rapporteur, Tapio Reinkainen of Finland was nominated by Sweden to replace Ms. Raab.
5. A full list of participants is set out in the annex to the present report.

III. Adoption of the agenda

6. The provisional agenda of the meeting, set out in document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12/Bur.3/1, was adopted as follows:
 1. Opening of the meeting.
 2. Adoption of the agenda.
 3. Action taken and progress made on the decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its twelfth meeting, including on the work of the advisory committee of the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention.
 4. Overview of the expected recommendations of the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention.
 5. Other matters.
 6. Adoption of the report.
 7. Closure of the meeting.

IV. Action taken and progress made on the decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at its twelfth meeting, including on the work of the advisory committee of the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention

7. The Executive Secretary introduced agenda item 3, making reference to the note by the Secretariat (document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12/Bur.3/2), which provided information on the status of implementation of the four decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention taken during the second part of its twelfth meeting, held online from 23 to 29 October 2021.
8. She reminded the Bureau members that, owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the eleventh meeting of the Ozone Research Managers had been held online in two parts. The first part of that meeting took place in October 2020 to allow presentation and initial discussion of issues related to gaps in the global coverage of atmospheric monitoring of controlled substances, given the parties' interest in those issues. The second part of the meeting was held from 19 to 23 July 2021 and covered all issues of relevance to the work of the Ozone Research Managers. The recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers at their eleventh meeting were considered by the Conference of Parties to the Vienna Convention at the second part of its twelfth meeting, held online and combined with the Thirty-Third Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol from 23 to 29 October 2021. The Conference of the Parties subsequently adopted four decisions, and the progress made in their implementation was the subject of the current meeting.

A. Decision XII(II)/1: Recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention at their twelfth meeting

9. Referring to decision XII(II)/1, the Executive Secretary recalled that parties were encouraged, among other things, to implement the recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers made at their eleventh meeting, on the topics of research needs, systematic observations, gaps in the global coverage of atmospheric monitoring of controlled substances and options for enhancing such monitoring, data archiving and stewardship, and capacity-building. She noted that those topics would be discussed during the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers.

10. The Executive Secretary suggested that the current Bureau or its members might wish to consider putting forward a draft decision, taking into consideration the outcomes and recommendations of ORM12, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting to be held jointly with the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol from 28 October to 1 November 2024 in Bangkok.

B. Decision XII(II)/2: General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention

11. Addressing issues related to the Trust Fund, the Executive Secretary highlighted the importance of the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations, which was established by decision VI/2 of the Conference of Parties to the Vienna Convention at its sixth meeting in 2002. The primary aim of the Trust Fund was to provide complementary support for continued maintenance and calibration of the existing World Meteorological Organization Global Atmosphere Watch ground-based stations for monitoring column ozone, ozone profiles and ultraviolet radiation in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition, to address balanced global coverage. Furthermore, the decision provided that consideration should be given to supporting other activities identified by the Ozone Research Managers, in consultation with the co-chairs of the Scientific Assessment and Environmental Effects Assessment Panels, for the improvement of the observation network and relevant research. A summary of all the activities supported by the Trust Fund was outlined in the document UNEP/OzL.Conv.12/Bur.3/2.

12. She underscored that decision X/3 on the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations established an advisory committee of the Trust Fund with a specific mandate, including the development of a long-term strategy and implementation of objectives and priorities under the Trust Fund, to ensure the continuation and enhance the effectiveness of the Trust Fund. An outline of the committee's work had been presented by its Chair, Sophie Godin-Beekmann, during the first day of the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers.

13. Subsequently, the Senior Environmental Affairs Officer of the Secretariat, Sophia Mylona, provided an overview of the status of the Trust Fund, noting that: the total income of the Trust Fund from its inception in 2003 until 29 February 2024 had been \$869,372, out of which \$537,422 had been disbursed to seventeen completed and two ongoing activities. On the basis of those figures, the available balance for implementation of future activities was \$233,946. She also noted that in response to the Ozone Secretariat's call in November 2023 inviting all developing countries and countries with economies in transition to submit project proposals for support under the Trust Fund, by 15 March 2024, 11 parties had submitted 14 proposals to the Secretariat requesting a total of approximately \$4.6 million.¹ It was therefore clear that the funds available were not sufficient to support the submitted proposals.

14. Turning to the life of the Trust Fund, she recalled that, in response to decision XI/2, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting in 2017, it had been extended until 31 December 2026 by United Nations Environment Assembly decision 3/3.² She also informed the Bureau that the Environment Assembly, at its sixth session, held from 26 February to 1 March 2024 in Nairobi, had

¹ The amounts requested in each project proposal were in the vicinity of \$50,000, with the exception of a proposal from one party which requested funding of \$4 million.

² https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/31029/management_of_trust_funds_and_earmarked_contributions.pdf?sequence=3&isAllowed=y.

blanket-approved in decision 6/6³ the extension of many trust funds under the United Nations Environment Programme, including that of the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations relevant to the Vienna Convention until 31 December 2030. The Bureau could therefore consider including in a draft decision that the parties note the Environment Assembly decision.

C. Decision XII(II)/3: Thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention

15. The Executive Secretary informed the Bureau about the status of the organization of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention, combined with the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, due to be held from 28 October to 1 November 2024 in Bangkok while an alternative location was also being considered.

16. The Bureau took note of that information.

D. Decision XII(II)/4: Financial reports and budgets for the Vienna Convention

17. The attention of the Bureau was drawn to the information on the status of the Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention for the years 2020–2024, as contained in the note by the Secretariat. The Executive Secretary informed the Bureau of the status of the operational reserve of the Vienna Convention Trust Fund and noted that the budget for 2024 amounted to \$1,477,235. She informed the Bureau that the Secretariat would prepare the budget documents and financial reports for the trust funds of the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol in time for their consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting and the Thirty-Sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol later in the year.

18. The Bureau took note of the status of the Trust Fund.

V. Overview of the expected recommendations of the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers of the Parties to the Vienna Convention

19. The Co-Chairs of the twelfth meeting of the Ozone Research Managers, María Del Carmen Cazorla Andrade (Ecuador) and Wolfgang Steinbrecht (Germany), participated in the second session of the Bureau meeting, chaired by one of the Vice-Presidents of the Bureau, Mr. Bedoya Jaramillo. They reported to the Bureau on the recommendations that had been adopted at the twelfth meeting on five key areas: research needs, systematic observations, gaps in the global coverage of atmospheric monitoring of controlled substances and options for enhancing such monitoring, data archiving and stewardship, and capacity-building.

20. After hearing the report, the Bureau thanked the Co-Chairs for successfully steering the Ozone Research Managers meeting and discussed the work anticipated in preparation for the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The recommendations and the meeting report were to be posted on the portal of the meeting on the Ozone Secretariat website in due course (link: <https://ozone.unep.org/meetings/12th-meeting-ozone-research-managers>).

21. The Bureau agreed that, nearer the time of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, it would work on proposals (draft decisions) on the recommendations of the Ozone Research Managers and the General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observations Relevant to the Vienna Convention. The Vice-President of the Bureau requested the assistance of the Secretariat in the preparation of such draft proposals.

³ <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/45578/Decision6UNEA6.pdf>.

VI. Other matters

22. The Secretariat informed the Bureau that its next meeting would be combined with the first meeting of the Bureau of the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on 25 October 2024 in Bangkok.

VII. Adoption of the report

23. The Bureau agreed to entrust the Secretariat with the preparation of a draft report for circulation to the Bureau members for their comments and subsequent approval.

VIII. Closure of the meeting

24. The Vice-President declared the meeting closed at 19.00 pm.

ANNEX: List of Participants

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