

Myanmar

1. INTRODUCTION (Country's Review)

Myanmar ratified Vienna Convention for the protection of Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on 24 November, 1993. Country Programme preparation was approved in 1994.

Previously, the national lead agency that took responsibility for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol related activities was the National Commission for Environmental Affairs (NCEA). NCEA was established in 1990 and the National Ozone Unit (NOU) was established under NCEA since 2004. The NOU is the key to successful implementation of Montreal Protocol activities and Environmental Conservation Department (ECD) under Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation plays as leading agency in current condition. After ratification of Montreal Protocol, Myanmar phased out CFCs, Halons, Carbon tetrachloride in 2010 and methyl chloroform and methyl bromide in 2015.

Myanmar started HCFCs Phased out Management Plan in 2012 and the quota system of HCFCs has been implemented since 2015. The current licensing system in Myanmar is implementing through the Ozone Order 2014. The Ozone Order 2014 is to be promulgated under the Environmental Conservation Rule, which is regulated under the Environmental Conservation Law. The Ozone Order 2014 empowered the Environment Conservation Department (ECD) to control the import and export of ODSs including HCFCs. Myanmar is now trying to ban the import of HCFC-based room air-conditioners with cooling capacity less than 2.5 HP and continuously will ban the import of all types of HCFC-based RAC equipment from January 2021.

In current situation, Myanmar developed in using non- ODS such as HFCs as the cooling reagents in air-conditioning and refrigeration sectors and also starting to develop the environmental friendly substances such as hydrocarbons (HCs) and blended HFCs.

2. OBSERVATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Even though Myanmar has National Ozone Unit, we do not have any OBSERVATIONAL ACTIVITIES for UV measurement, Column measurement and Profile measurement of ozone and other gases/variables relevant to ozone loss. NOU has been organized with participants from Department of Trade, the Custom Department, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Ministry of Industry, City Development Committees (CDCs). NOU has not yet technical capacity related with UV measurement and also not yet equipped with Narrowband filter instruments or Spectroradiometers and other necessary instruments for measurement of UV through Broadband.

For the meteorological observation and monitoring, Independent Burma Meteorological Department (BMD) was established on 1 April 1937 and Myanmar became the member of International Meteorological Organization since 1938. BMD was re-organized on 23 October 1972 and renamed as Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) in the year 1974. Myanmar Daily Weather Report was issued by DMH.

Although DMH was issued Daily Weather Report and Weather forecast, it is still trying for UV measurement in time series.

3. PROJECTS, COLLABORATION, TWINNING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Myanmar has no research projects or collaboration programme for ozone research and monitoring activities in current condition.

4. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 9th OZONE RESEARCH MANAGERS MEETING

Myanmar still needs the capacity on the research and monitoring to measurements of meteorological parameters that are critical to the interpretation of country ozone and ozone-relevant data. Therefore, technical capacity, financial requirement for supporting equipment and technical build up programme become the needs and challenges for Myanmar to implement the recommendations of the 9th ozone research manager meeting.

5. FUTURE PLAN

Although NOU leads to implement the Montreal Protocol activities, DMH is the focal and authorized department for weather and meteorological monitoring and measurement. NOU has been trying to organize the technical unit for more effective and encouraging technical capacities to control Ozone Depleting and monitoring system. DMH will become the main participant of this technical unit and enhance observational capacities for research and monitoring activities through the future national or international support projects.

6. IMMEDIATE NEEDS

As Myanmar is very initial stage on UV measurements, Column measurement and Profile measurement of ozone and other gases/variables relevant to ozone loss, technical capacity development, budget requirement for instrument and infrastructure and cooperation between international organizations are immediate needs to develop the research and monitoring activities.