

**COUNTRY STATEMENT: PHILIPPINES
27TH MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE
MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEplete THE
OZONE LAYER (27 MOP)
DUBAI, UAE
04-05 NOVEMBER 2014 (HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT)**

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**

OFICERS OF THE BUREAU, EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, GOOD MORNING!

THE PHILIPPINE DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO COMMEND THE OZONE SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP) HEADED BY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, MS. TINA BIRMPILI, FOR THE EXCELLENT ORGANIZATION OF THIS MEETING. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXTEND OUR DEEP APPRECIATION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES FOR THE EXCELLENT HOSTING OF THIS MEETING.

HIGHLY ACKNOWLEDGED IS THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE MULTILATERAL FUND (MLF) AND ITS IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES: THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP); THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO); AND THE WORLDBANK IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ODS PHASE-OUT PROJECTS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE PARTIES TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON THE CREATION OF A CONTACT GROUP ON FEASIBILITY AND WAYS OF MANAGING HFCs. INDEED THIS IS A MANIFESTATION OF THE PARTIES' COLLECTIVE ASPIRATION TO MOVE OUT OF THE "OZONE" BOX AFTER SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES (ODS) HAVE BEEN PHASED OUT AND FOCUS ON THE MORE PRESSING ISSUE OF REALIZING CLIMATE BENEFITS FROM THE PHASEDOWN OF THE MAIN ALTERNATIVES TO HCFCs.

ALLOW ME TO PRESENT TO THE BODY THE ACTIVITIES OF MY COUNTRY RELATIVE TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL:

- (1) THE PHILIPPINES IS CURRENTLY IMPLEMENTING STAGE 1 OF ITS HCFC PHASE-OUT MANAGEMENT PLAN OR HPMP. AFTER HAVING ALMOST COMPLETED HCFC-141B PHASE OUT IN THE FOAM SECTOR, FOCUS IS

NOW PLACED ON THE PHASE-OUT OF HCFC-141B IN THE SOLVENTS AND AIR CONDITIONING LINE FLUSHING APPLICATIONS. PHASE-OUT OF THE REMAINING HCFC-141B IN SOLVENTS USE ENABLE US TO ASSIST SMALL- AND MEDIUM-SIZED COMPANIES DO THEIR SHARE IN ODS REDUCTION.

- (2) BY 2017 THE PHILIPPINES IS EXPECTED TO IMPLEMENT STAGE 2 OF ITS HPMP, THIS TIME DEALING WITH HCFC-22 PHASE-OUT IN THE AIRCONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION SECTORS.
- (3) THE PHILIPPINES IS ALSO ONE THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU) -SUPPORTED PROJECT, THROUGH UNEP, ON THE ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT AND DESTRUCTION OF ODS BANKS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THROUGH THIS PROJECT, WE EXPECT TO DEVELOP LOCAL CAPABILITY FOR THE SUSTAINABLE COLLECTION, TRANSPORT AND DESTRUCTION OF ODS.
- (4) FINALLY, WE ARE WORKING ON THE DETAILS OF THE PHILIPPINES' INTENDED NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS (INDC) FOR PRESENTATION DURING THE CONFERENCE OF PARTIES OF THE UNFCCC IN PARIS IN DECEMBER 2015. OF RELEVANCE ARE ODS AND ODS ALTERNATIVES IN THE TRANSPORT AND INDUSTRIAL SECTORS.

WE HAVE HURDLED THE FIRST PHASE OF HCFC PHASE-OUT, THAT IS, THE FREEZE IN HCFC IMPORTATION IN 2013 RECKONED FROM THE BASELINE.

HOWEVER, WE ARE STILL FACED WITH CHALLENGES IN TERMS OF (1) THE POTENTIAL LEAKAGE OF HCFC-141B FROM OTHER USES TO FOAM BLOWING APPLICATIONS, AND (2) POTENTIAL LEAKAGE OF METHYL BROMIDE FROM QUARANTINE PRE-SHIPMENT (QPS) APPLICATIONS TO NON-QPS APPLICATIONS. THIS CALLS FOR MORE EFFORT IN TRAINING AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

TO BOTH SERVICE PROVIDERS AND END USERS. IN ADDITION, MORE SURVEILLANCE AND MONITORING ACTIVITIES ARE NECESSARY.

ANOTHER CHALLENGE IS THE AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATE ALTERNATIVES TO HCFC-22. THE CURRENT ALTERNATIVES HAVE ISSUES ON GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL AND SAFETY CONCERNS. WE HOPE THAT WITH GUIDANCE AND ASSISTANCE FROM THE MLF AND ITS IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES, THE COUNTRY WILL BE ABLE TO ARRIVE AT THE OPTIMUM MIX OF DECISION CRITERIA THAT WILL FAVORABLY AFFECT THE OZONE LAYER, THE CLIMATE, AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AGENDA.

THANK YOU!