Mr. President,

Your Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to express, special thanks to the Ozone Secretariat, for its support to the Parties and ensuring the smooth and efficient running of this meeting, and the United Arab Emirates for its hospitality in hosting the 27th Meeting of the Parties.

We enter into the High Level segment of this meeting encouraged by the open dialogue and constructive atmosphere that we found among parties at the recent discussions, and in particular we strongly welcome the formation of a Contact Group on the feasibility and ways of managing HFCs.

In this regard, Romania, together with the other EU Member States, believes the Montreal Protocol is the appropriate instrument to address HFCs. We supported proposals to amend the Montreal Protocol to that respect and we welcome the growing consensus to take action on HFCs under the Montreal Protocol. We very much expect that the Dubai meeting will convey a strong signal to other UN Conventions, market place and policy makers around the world that the Montreal Protocol is engaging in yet another positive chapter of its almost 40 years of success story.

We very well understand the struggle that some Parties may face in making additional commitments and, based on our own experience, we may respectfully assure them that the process is not easy, but definitely not impossible. With knowledge and scientific data, plus the willingness to achieve good results for the environment and human health, every Party can contribute to the process and have the best results possible. Indeed, having the right financial and technical support is an essential element for a successful outcome, and from that perspective we praise once again the example provided by the Montreal Protocol.

Thanks to these financial and technical mechanisms, our country had the chance to make some very good projects areas such as replacement of chillers, technology replacement by state owned companies and use of alternatives for methyl bromide in our agricultural sector. Thanks to these projects, Romania has been able not only to comply with the EU obligations under the Montreal Protocol provisions, but has allowed Romania to gather expertise in managing such projects that we have been sharing with other parties in our region.

Comforted by this very positive experience for our country, we now enthusiastically urge our colleagues to continue with the spirit of cooperation and solidarity that underlies every Protocol undertaking and make a significant step forward by taking measures to avoid a massive future use of high GWP HFCs.

We wish all the parties a productive and successful High Level segment discussion.

Thank you very much for your attention.