

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
National Environmental Protection Agency
National Ozone Unit

**Policy on Import and Production Ban of
HCFC-based Equipment and Promotions of
Alternatives Equipment and Technologies in
Afghanistan**

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Acronyms

ANSA	Afghanistan National Standards Authority
CFC	Chlorofluorocarbons
GWP	Global Warming Potential
HCFC	Hydrochlorofluorocarbons
HPMP	HCFC Phase-out Management Plan
MP	Montreal Protocol
NEPA	National Environmental Protection Agency
NOU	National Ozone Unit
ODSA	Ozone Depleting Substance Alternative
ODS	Ozone Depleting Substance
ODP	Ozone Depleting Potential
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Program
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WB	World Bank

1 Definitions

A) Consumption of HCFC

Consumption of HCFC is defined as the quantities produced plus the quantities imported minus the quantities exported in a given year.

B) Alternative Substances

Alternative substances are those substances (such as natural refrigerants or refrigerants with lower global warming potential (GWP) in refrigerators, freezers, air conditioning systems as well as insulative foams) the use of which reduce, eliminate or avoid adverse effects on the Ozone Layer.

C) Ozone Layer

Ozone layer is formed from ozone molecules (O₃) and located at the stratosphere layer. The main function of ozone layer for the human health is to prevent Ultraviolet Radiation-B from reaching to the earth surface. Ultraviolet Radiation-B has adverse effect on the human health (causes skin cancer), marine ecology and some agricultural products

D) Alternative Equipment and Technologies

Alternative Equipment and Technologies are those goods the use of which makes it possible to reduce or effectively eliminate emissions of substances which have or are likely to have adverse effects on the Ozone Layer.

E) Adverse Effects

Adverse effects mean changes in the physical environment or biota, including changes in climate, which have significant deleterious effects on human health or the composition, resilience and productivity of natural and managed ecosystems, or on materials useful to mankind.

F) Ozone Depleting Substances

Synthetic chlorinated and brominated chemicals used in aerosol cans, plastic foams, refrigeration and certain solvents. These substances undergo decomposition in the higher reach of atmosphere (stratosphere) due to sunlight, resulting chlorine and bromine atoms catalyze the composition of the ozone molecules causing destruction of the protective ozone layer.

G) Ozone Depleting Potential

Ozone depleting potential (ODP) refers to the ability of a substance or chemical to destroy stratospheric ozone. It refers to the percentage of chlorine and bromine atoms in the molecule of a substance and the lifetime of the substance in the atmosphere.

H) Global Warming Potential

Global warming potential is an index comparing climate impact of a specific chemical with impact of the same quantity of CO₂ emitted into the atmosphere over a fixed period of time.

I) Freezing HCFC Consumption

Freeze is a base level calculated as the average of 2009-2010 consumption levels of HCFC. The HCFC phase-out schedule was introduced in 1992 for both developed and developing countries, the latter with a freeze in 2015 and a final phase-out by 2030 in developed countries and by 2040 in developing countries. In 2007, the Parties to the Montreal Protocol decided to accelerate notably the HCFC phase-out schedule both for developed and for developing countries.

J) HCFCs

Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) is another commonly used class of ozone-depleting substances, and the largest by number of individual chemicals. However, only about six HCFCs are commonly used, with HCFC-22 being the one most used. These chemicals are also known as transitional substances, because they have been used as a replacement for CFCs in some applications.

K) New Installations

New Installations refers to not-existing structures and equipment at the date the ban enters into force.

L) Installations

An Installation is a stationary structure constructed and equipped for a particular industrial and commercial purpose. It covers all stationary commercial and industrial refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment as well as industrial plants and other production lines.

M) Multilateral Fund

The Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol provides funds to help developing countries comply with their obligations under the Protocol to phase out the use of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) at an agreed schedule.

2 Introduction

The scientific confirmation of the depletion of the ozone layer in 1974 prompted the international community to establish a mechanism for cooperation to take action for protecting the ozone layer. This was formalized by a treaty called the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, which was adopted and signed on 22nd March 1985 in Vienna.

In addition, the international community took further measures in September 1987 to draft the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. The Protocol was signed and entered into force on 1st January 1989. The treaty states that the Parties to the Montreal Protocol recognize that worldwide emissions of ozone-depleting substances (ODSs) significantly deplete and otherwise modify the ozone layer in a manner that is likely to result in adverse effects on human health and the environment.

In 2001 and after the establishment of new government, Afghanistan moved quickly to rebuild its relation with the international community by means of complying with international obligations.

The government of Afghanistan ratified the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol with four of its amendments in 2004.

The Government of Afghanistan also introduced its first Environment Law in 2007, which indirectly touches upon the control, among others, of the Ozone Depleting Substance. The Environment Law has articulated the obligation of implementing international environmental agreements. Moreover, NEPA, in close cooperation with UNEP and GIZ, has developed HCFC Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) to further strengthen Afghanistan's commitments to protect the ozone layer and meet its obligation as a signatory to Montreal Protocol. Furthermore, the HPMP has enabled the government of Afghanistan to accelerate on its HCFC phase-out target as specified by the Montreal Protocol.

Afghanistan is neither producing nor exporting any ODS and ODS alternatives to other countries. This translates to the fact that annual consumption of ODSs and ODSAs is equal to the total import in the country. Afghanistan, as an Article 5 country to the Montreal Protocol, is obligated to phase-out 35% of HCFC baseline level consumption by 2020 and 67.5% by 2025. Therefore, this policy will pave the way for effective management of meeting HCFCs phase-out plan.

3 Purpose

This policy effectively bans the import and production of HCFC-based equipment by November 22, 2018 and encourages consumption of non-ODS alternative equipment and technologies. It aims to facilitate a smooth and sustainable transition from HCFC-based equipment and technologies to non-ODS equipment and technologies without creating market distortions or increasing social costs

resulting from ban costs being passed on to the consumers. The policy also aims to achieve its objectives through a planned and coordinated approach at the national level.

4 Objectives

- a) To ban import and production of HCFC-based equipment.
- b) To introduce and encourage consumption of non-ODS alternative equipment and technologies in accordance with the provisions of Vienna Convention and Montreal Protocol.
- c) To regulate consumption of HCFC substances and use of current HCFC-dependent/reliant equipment.
- d) To fill legislative gaps and amend current legislations with regards to HCFC consumption in Afghanistan.
- e) To ban new HCFC-based installations in the industry sector.
- f) To control transit and illegal trade of HCFC.
- g) To standardize servicing sector of HCFC-based equipment.
- h) To build capacity of key stakeholders with regards to alternatives to HCFC-based equipment.
- i) To generate awareness among all stakeholders with regards to adverse effects of HCFC-based equipment.

5 Scope

This policy should be applied to importers, producers, dealers, servicing sector, end users as well as competent government authorities trading and/or dealing the HCFCs and HCFC-based equipment across Afghanistan.

6 Related Legislation and Legal Basis for the Policy

6.1 Vienna Convention for Protection of the Ozone Layer

In Accordance with Vienna Convention, “the Parties shall take appropriate measures in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and of those protocols in force to which they are party to protect human health and the environment against adverse effects resulting or likely to result from human activities which modify or are likely to modify the ozone layer.”

Furthermore, Vienna Convention encourages all parties to, in accordance with the means at their disposal and their capabilities “adopt appropriate legislative or administrative measures and co-operate in harmonizing appropriate policies to control, limit, reduce or prevent human activities under their jurisdiction or control should it be found that these activities have or are

likely to have adverse effects resulting from modification or likely modification of the ozone layer.”

6.2 Decision XIX/6 of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol

In September 2007, at the Nineteenth Meeting, in Montreal, the Parties agreed to accelerate the phase-out of production and consumption of HCFCs. This decision led to the revision of HCFCs phase-out schedule for Article 5 countries. (Refer to the table below)

Table 1: Revised Phase-Out Schedule for HCFCs in Article 5 Countries

Step	Year
Baseline	2009-2010
Freeze	2013
10% reduction	2015
35% reduction	2020
67.5% reduction	2025
97.5% reduction	2030
Average 2.5% for servicing tail only	2030-2039
100%	2040

6.3 Afghanistan as a signatory to the Montreal Protocol

After the establishment of the new government in 2001 which was backed by international community, Afghanistan became a signatory to the Montreal Protocol and all its amendments in 2004, except for Kigali Amendment. (See the table below)

Table 2: International Frameworks for ODSs and Signatory Status of Afghanistan

Convention/Protocol/Amendments	Date of entry into force	Afghanistan status	Date of ratification by Afghanistan
Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer	September 16, 1987	Signatory	June 17, 2004
Montreal Protocol on Substance that Deplete the Ozone Layer	January 1, 1989	Signatory	June 17, 2004
London Amendment to the Montreal Protocol	August 10, 1992	Signatory	June 17, 2004
Copenhagen Amendment to the Montreal Protocol	June 14, 1994	Signatory	June 17, 2004
Montreal Amendment to the Montreal	November 10,	Signatory	June 17, 2004

Protocol	1999		
Beijing Amendment to the Montreal Protocol	February 25, 2002	Signatory	June 17, 2004
Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol	January 1, 2019	In the process	N/A

6.4 Environment Law of Afghanistan

The Environment Law of Afghanistan, which first came into force in Dec 2005 and then was amended in Jan 2007, gives the “sovereign rights” to the government of Afghanistan “over all its biological and other natural resources in areas within the limits of its national jurisdiction.” (Clause 1; Article 6)

This clause interprets into authority of the Afghan government to devise appropriate regulatory and safeguard measures in order to protect the environment, including the Ozone Layer.

The National Environment Protection Agency of Afghanistan (NEPA) is the main responsible agency for the implementation of the Environment Law of Afghanistan. Therefore, it has the authority to develop and implement policies, strategies, regulations, procedures and guidelines in order to protect the environment. Article 32 of the Environment Law of Afghanistan indicates that “the National Environmental Protection Agency, in order to improve, control and prevent all forms of pollutions, can devise regulations, guidelines and procedures.”

6.5 ODS Regulation

In accordance with article 78 of Environment Law, a regulation for managing and controlling of the production, import and export of new, used and recycled Ozone Depleting Substances was developed and came into force in 2006. The main focus of this regulation is on managing and controlling of CFCs, however it can be considered as basis for regulating other ODSs as well.

6.6 Decision No. 4 (dated May 23, 2018) of the Cabinet of the Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

The cabinet of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan under clause 7 of directive no. 4, dated May 23, 2018, decided to:

- “Approve National Environment Protection Agency’s report on the implementation of Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and NEPA’s requisition on banning of import of HCFC-based equipment within next six months.”

Moreover, the Cabinet assigned NEPA to:

- “Develop a clear policy for alternative to HCFC-based equipment in close coordination with private sector and other stakeholders in order to decrease greenhouse gases, protect ozone layer and safeguard the environment.”
- “Generate awareness among Afghan people regarding adverse effects of HCFC-based equipment on Ozone Layer.”

7 Policy Statements

7.1 Ban on Import of HCFC-based Equipment and Technologies

7.1.1 National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) should amend the current ODS regulation with specific reference to banning import and production of HCFC-based equipment and technologies.

Banning import and production of HCFC-based equipment and technologies must be backed by a thorough legislation. Given that currently there is an ODS regulation in place, such a document must be amended which would provide, among others, the legal basis for an effective ban on import and production of HCFC-based equipment and technologies.

7.1.2 NEPA, in coordination and collaboration with Afghanistan National Standards Authority (ANSA) should develop a comprehensive national nomenclature with clear coding and labelling for alternatives to HCFC-based equipment and technologies.

The implementation of this option helps the Afghan Customs Department to differentiate between HCFC-containing equipment and non-ODS containing equipment.

7.1.3 Afghan Customs Department should effectively ban the import and production of HCFC-based equipment and technologies starting from November 22, 2018.

The implementation of this option will help the Afghan government to establish ban on imports/placing on the market of equipment and technologies dependent/reliant on HCFCs. Such a measure would facilitate diminishing demand for HCFCs. Furthermore, Afghanistan as an Article 5 party to the Montreal Protocol must meet the 2020 phase-out target for HCFCs consumption (35% of baseline level). Therefore, this option will help the Afghan government

to meet its obligations under HCFC Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) in an accelerated manner. Meanwhile, Afghanistan, as member of World Trade Organization (WTO), has the right to impose restriction on the import of products which are hazardous to human and environmental health.

7.1.4 The importers and traders of HCFC-based equipment may present and register the guaranteed sales list for the last 2.5 years as well as current guaranteed stock records of equipment containing (or relying on) HCFCs with NEPA/NOU. NEPA, based on the importer requisition must issue a 5% ban exemption certificate for the import of guaranteed HCFC containing components of a system or equipment (such as compressors) until six months after the enforcement of the ban.

During the consultation meeting with the importers and traders, it was argued that most of the HCFC-based equipment, especially refrigerators and air-conditioning systems, come with at least 5 year guarantee on compressor replacement. Such a ban would affect customer relations as well as market trust if importer and dealers were unable to deliver on their guarantee promises.

Therefore, an exemption provision is considered, in order to enable the importers and traders to deliver on those guarantee promises. The average guarantee period is calculated, based on the current market assessment, at a 2.5 years rate. Moreover, the replacement rate is considered to be 5% of the total guaranteed sales based on the market assessment.

NEPA must develop an effective control mechanism for import and placing on the market of exempted compressors for guaranteed sales and stocks.

7.1.5 Importers and traders should register with NEPA/NOU their current shipments and purchase orders of HCFC-based equipment and technologies before the enforcement of the ban. Consequently, NEPA must issue ban exemption certificate for the import of registered shipments and purchase orders.

The enforcement of the ban on import of HCFC-based equipment and technologies is likely to affect purchase orders already placed as well as shipments currently en-route to Afghanistan. Therefore, all traders and importers should register their existing purchase orders and shipments with NEPA/NOU in order to avoid incurring losses.

7.2 Introduce and encourage consumption of non-ODS alternative equipment and technologies in accordance with the provisions of Vienna Convention and Montreal Protocol.

7.2.1 *NEPA in coordination with the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Industry & Commerce, Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry as well as other stakeholders should review its current tariff mechanism to make alternative equipment and technologies affordable in the market.*

NEPA, together with concerned stakeholders, should reassess import tariffs for non-ODS alternative equipment and technologies every six months in different regions inside the country in order to encourage their consumption. The implementation of this option should be organized based on a comprehensively defined approach.

7.2.2 *NEPA/NOU should promote HFC-based alternative equipment and technologies as it is currently available in the market, relatively more affordable and technically feasible than any other non-ODS alternatives. Meanwhile, NEPA/NOU should develop a clear strategy in order to encourage consumption of equipment based on natural substances such as HCs, Ammonia and CO₂ by making them economically more affordable as well as technically more feasible.*

Although HFCs and its blends have no ODP, their GWP values are still high and are considered powerful greenhouse gases. However, HFC-based equipment and technologies are available and more affordable in the market. Afghanistan as an Article 5 Party to the Montreal Protocol and based on Protocol's new amendment (Kigali Amendment), which ratification of NEPA has already initiated is supposed to phase down of HFCs starting from 2024. Therefore, current promotion of HFC-based equipment and technologies as alternative to HCFC-based equipment, in those areas in which natural substances are not sufficiently available, affordable and feasible, is the most practicable option.

7.2.3 *NEPA/NOU, in collaboration with other main stakeholder, should develop an incentive mechanism (such as import tariff cut) in order to encourage import and production of energy efficient equipment and technologies.*

Energy consumption of the system before and after import ban on HCFC-based equipment and technologies must be taken into consideration as an indirect impact to the climate. If a system becomes more energy efficient, then it will result in less CO₂ emission from power generation. Considering the fact that HFCs has high GWP if they are directly released into the atmosphere, promoting energy efficient HFC-based equipment and technologies is likely to reduce its indirect global warming potential.

Furthermore, Energy efficient equipment can be introduced as more affordable appliances for the end users despite higher price; because they reduce energy cost.

7.2.4 NEPA/NOU must raise public awareness about adverse effects of HCFC-based equipment and advantages of non-ODS alternatives.

Raising awareness among importers, dealers, consumers and other related stakeholders about adverse effects of HCFC-based equipment to the human health, marine ecology and some of agricultural products can encourage and promote the import and use of alternative products which has no/less adverse effects.

7.2.5 NEPA/NOU in close coordination and collaboration with all related stakeholder should introduce tariff relaxation for import of non-ODS substances and servicing tools of non-ODS equipment in order to make them more cost-effective and competitive in the servicing market.

This policy option, on the one hand, assures consumers that servicing and maintenance of new equipment and technologies are available and affordable in the market and on the other hand accelerates HCFC phase-out as well as promote the use of non-ODS gases in the market.

7.2.6 NEPA/NOU, together with concerned stakeholders, should develop a recovery system for currently used HCFC-based equipment and provide appropriate incentive for conversion to alternative technologies.

Given that more than 90% of the HCFCs consumption in Afghanistan is in refrigeration and air-conditioning sectors, introduction of viable substitute technologies require a range of incentives. Therefore, NAPA/NOU should introduce conversion incentives for the currently used HCFC-based equipment and technologies in order to meet its specific phase-out schedule for HCFCs. At the same time, this option allows competent authorities to recover, recycle and destroy, in a controlled manner, products and equipment containing HCFCs.

7.3 Ban on new HCFC-based installations, specifically in industry sector.

7.3.1 National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) should amend the current ODS regulation with specific reference to banning of new HCFC-based installations, specifically in industry sector.

Banning of new HCFC-based installations must be backed by a thorough legislation. Given that the current ODS regulation in place has not accommodated sufficient provisions, revising

the document would provide, among others, the legal basis for an effective ban of new HCFC-based installation, especially in the industrial sector.

7.3.2 *Ministry of Industry and Trade, in close coordination with NEPA/NOU, should effectively ban the new HCFC-based installations for production, processing or transportation purposes, starting from November 22, 2018.*

The ban on new HCFC-based installations would complement the import ban on HCFC-based equipment as it would reduce dependency on and demand for HCFCs. The ban on new installation, however, does not affect the operation of existing installations and allows controlled use of it.

7.4 Control Transit and Illegal Trade of HCFCs and HCFC-based Equipment

7.4.1 *NEPA/NOU should, in close coordination and collaboration with Afghan Customs Department, start issuing permits for transit of HCFCs as well as HCFC-based equipment.*

Transit permits for HCFCs and HCFC-based equipment are an important means to combat illegal trade in circumstances like Afghanistan's. A significant portion of illegal HCFCs and HCFC-based equipment shipments occur because of the lack of control of these goods moving from one country to another. The main reason that goods in transit enter local markets illegally is that these goods do not undergo the standard customs procedure and therefore remain outside of customs control.

7.4.2 *Afghanistan Customs Department, in collaboration with NEPA and the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, should issue specific labelling for HCFC containers as well as HCFC-based equipment to be transited from Afghanistan.*

Specific labelling of HCFC containers as well as HCFC-based equipment in transit from Afghanistan is a measure that allows customs departments and environmental inspectors to make a quick preliminary identification of the contents of HCFC containers and HCFC-based equipment shipments. This option also facilitates registration and book keeping of transited shipments at the customs office.

7.4.3 *NEPA/NOU and Afghanistan Customs Department should compare, every six months, the transit data of HCFCs and HCFC-based equipment from different ports in order to check for any irregularities. If found any, such irregularities must be reported to law enforcement agencies.*

This option allows the monitoring of customs procedures and standards and facilitates effective transit control measures on flow of transited goods within the country.

7.4.4 *NEPA, in collaboration with Afghan Customs Department and the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, should issue specific labelling for import of HCFCs at the time of issuing import quota licence.*

Specific labelling of containers of HCFCs is a measure that allows custom, NOU and environmental inspectors to make a quick, preliminary identification of the contents of related shipments. Complete information of product should be placed on HCFC containers.

7.4.5 *NEPA/NOU should develop a mechanism to produce HCFC logbooks for importers, dealers and servicing sectors. Subsequently, NEPA/NOU, in cooperation with related stakeholders, compare, every six months, the three abovementioned logbooks with custom data in order to make best estimates of quantities of HCFCs import and consumption. This option will also allow NEPA/NOU to make estimates of quantities recovered and recycled for controlled destruction.*

The implementation of this policy option will allow NEPA to appropriately manage HCFCs flow in the market and effectively execute the plan to meet HCFC phase out target by 2020.

7.4.6 *NEPA/NOU should develop a comprehensive mechanism for reporting of illegal trade of HCFC, inspection of illegal flow of HCFC in the market and impose penalties for violators. The mechanism must be backed by a legal framework which will be reflected in ODS regulation.*

Certified importers and dealers of HCFCs regularly face with illegal flow of HCFCs in the market. Implementation of such a mechanism will, on the one hand, helps importers and dealers to overcome negative market competition. While on the other hand, it will allow NEPA/NOU and other competent authorities to have an effective oversight on the flow of HCFCs in the market.

7.5 Standardize servicing sector of HCFC-based equipment.

7.5.1 *ANSA to gather with NEPA/NOU should develop servicing safety standards and guideline for alternatives to HCFC.*

Since there is wide variety of alternatives available to replace the use of HCFCs, safety requirement associated with HCFC alternatives provide operational challenges for servicing sector. Therefore, it is an important measure to develop regulation and code of practices as

well as suitable training manual and certification for certain technologies that will be used in the service sector.

7.5.2 *NEPA/NOU with financial and technical collaboration of donors and implementing agencies (Multilateral Funds, UNEP and UNIDO as implementing agencies in Afghanistan under Montreal Protocol or other multilateral development agencies) should provide certified servicing agencies with newly required servicing technologies.*

Some servicing technologies for alternatives to HCFC-based equipment may be unavailable and costly in the Afghan market. Therefore, delivery of those technologies to certified servicing agencies will not only incentivize smooth adoption of the alternatives in the market, but also make them more technically feasible.

7.6 Capacity building of key stakeholders regarding HCFCs and alternatives to HCFC-based equipment as well as certification of qualified technicians

7.6.1 *NEPA/NOU should conduct training programs for customs officers and environmental inspectors with the focus on monitoring and control of HCFCs and HCFC-based equipment. Moreover, NEPA/NOU should, in collaboration with National Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority as well as the Ministry of Labour, conduct training programs for technicians on the use new alternative technologies in servicing sector.*

The training program will be designed in order to train environmental inspectors and customs officers to monitor and control HCFCs and HCFC-based equipment including detection of HCFC consignments at the border checkpoints. In addition, customs officers and environmental inspectors need to be aware of the new technologies requirements, certification and licencing systems and ban related to HCFC containing equipment. Specific trainings will be conducted for technicians in servicing sector in order to enable them to work with new servicing technologies.

7.6.2 *NEPA/NOU should, in collaboration with National Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority as well as the Ministry of Labour, develop and implement a certification mechanism for servicing sector technicians.*

Implementation of this option will improve and enhance the professionalism and technicality in the servicing sector. Trained technicians who have successfully passed the examination at the end of training will be registered and receive a certificate.

8 Stakeholders to this Policy

NEPA/NOU, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Afghan Custom Department, Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Trading Bodies, Afghanistan National Standard Authority, Implementing Agencies (particularly UNEP and UNIDO), servicing sectors and consumers are the main stakeholders to this policy.

9 Implementation & Coordination Mechanism

Primarily, it is the responsibility of NEPA/NOU to follow through the implementation of this policy. For the purpose of smooth and successful implementation of this policy, however, a comprehensive strategy should be developed. Moreover, an inter-ministerial committee for facilitating the coordination of policy implementation should be formed. The details on how to form such a committee and who should be its members will also be reflected in the strategy.

10 Financial Source to Implement this Policy

Considering the difficulties faced by developing countries in terms of the cost of phase-out and availability of suitable alternative technologies, a multilateral fund was established to assist Article 5 countries to the Montreal Protocol to comply with the control measures of the Protocol. Furthermore, the criteria for assessing the eligibility of a country for technical and financial assistance are set out in Article 5 of the Montreal Protocol. According to Article 5 of Montreal Protocol, developing countries whose annual per capita consumption and production of ODSs is less than 0.3 kg are deemed eligible for the financial and technical assistance.

Therefore, a significant portion of funding for the implementation of this policy should come from the Multilateral Fund. Moreover, giving that the Multilateral Fund can allocate annually a meagre amount, the government of Afghanistan should also take appropriate measure to allocate additional required funds from internal as well as other international sources.

11 Monitoring and Evaluation

The overall responsibility of monitoring and evaluating effective implementation of this policy falls in the hands of NEPA, specifically its Environmental Monitoring and Inspection Directorate. However, effective monitoring and evaluation of this policy also requires improved coordination and collaboration between environmental authorities and other key stakeholders.

12 Policy Revision

This policy should be reviewed, modified and adjusted to situational requirements every three years by NEPA/NOU.

13 Result of Policy Implementation

Implementation of this policy ensures import and production ban of HCFC-based equipment in Afghanistan by November 22, 2018 and encourages consumption of non-ODS alternative equipment

and technologies. This policy facilitates a smooth and sustainable transition from HCFC-based equipment and technologies to non-ODS equipment and technologies through which Afghanistan contribution in producing and emitting ODS will decrease dramatically.