



Global Environment Facility

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APPLICATION FOR TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY BY SOUTH AFRICA



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

SECRETARIAT FOR THE VIENNA CONVENTION AND ITS MONTREAL PROTOCOL – THE OZONE SECRETARIAT

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TELEFAX TRANSMISSION

To:	Mr. Leonard Good Chief Executive Officer and Chairman GEF Secretariat 1818 H Street, NW Washington, DC 20433 U.S.A.	Date:	19 November 2003
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From:	Marco González Executive Secretary Ozone Secretariat	Drafter:	MAG/lm
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		File ref:	OzL./GEF
Subject:			

Dear Mr. Good,

Please find attached the decision taken at the 15th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol regarding the Application for Technical and Financial Assistance from the Global Environmental Facility.

Please also find attached a summary of the historical antecedents leading to South Africa's current situation.

Yours sincerely,

Marco González
Executive Secretary
Ozone Secretariat

Decision XV/49: Application for technical and financial assistance from the Global Environment Facility by South Africa

Recalling decision IX/27, in which South Africa was classified as a developing country,

Recognizing that the controlled substance in annex E, methyl bromide, was included as a controlled substance for article 5 countries in 1997 and that, in the same year, South Africa was also classified as an article 5 country,

Noting that South Africa was not to request financial assistance from the Multilateral Fund for fulfilling commitments undertaken by developed countries prior to the Ninth Meeting of the Parties,

Noting also that South Africa expressed the need to apply for technical and financial assistance from the Multilateral Fund to phase out the controlled substance in Annex E at the twenty-second meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol,

Noting further that, during the twenty-second meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, South Africa was advised to negotiate for bilateral or multilateral assistance from sources other than the Multilateral Fund,

To request the Council of the Global Environment Facility to consider, on an exceptional basis, project proposals from South Africa on phasing out the controlled substance in Annex E for funding as per the conditions and eligibility criteria applicable to all countries eligible for such assistance under the Facility;

REQUEST OF SOUTH AFRICA FOR ASSISTANCE

The Montreal Protocol recognized, in 1989, all countries of G-77, Albania and China as developing countries. Of these countries only those whose per-capita consumption of ODS is less than the limits specified in Article 5 of the Protocol (classified as operating under Article 5) are eligible for a grace period assistance from the Multilateral Fund. Some of the developing countries had consumption higher than specified and could not receive assistance. The 6th Meeting of the Parties decided in 1994 that such countries (developing countries initially classified as not operating under Article 5 but subsequently so classified) are urged not to request assistance from the Multilateral Fund even if they reduce their consumption subsequently to the levels specified in Article 5.

In the classification of developing countries in 1989, South Africa was not included in the list of developing countries (since it was not a part of G-77) and hence was classified as not operating under Article 5. In 1997, on a request by South Africa, it was recognized as a developing country noting that:

- UNDP and OECD recognize South Africa as developing country.
- South Africa is regarded as a developing country by all other international environmental agreements where this distinction is made.
- South Africa's consumption of ODS is less than the limits specified in Article 5.
- South Africa has undertaken not to request financial assistance from the Multilateral Fund for fulfilling commitments undertaken by developed countries prior to the ninth meeting of the Parties in 1997. These commitments include phasing out all the specified Ozone Depleting Substances in the Protocol, including Methyl Bromide, which is mainly used as a soil fumigant and pesticide in agriculture.

South Africa requested assistance for a research project to establish the viability of alternatives to Methyl Bromide for various crops in various soil types and agro-climatic regions.

- South Africa has to phase out about 1000 tonnes by the year 2015, beginning with a freeze in 2002 and a 20% reduction in 2005. About 7500 tonnes are used as soil fumigant and pesticide in agriculture.
- South Africa is not requesting assistance for phasing out other ODS but only Methyl Bromide.
- The alternatives to other ODS used in industrial processes by the developed countries do not have to be tested for viability in developing countries. What works in the industries of USA, for example, will also work in the industries of developing countries. Alternatives to Methyl Bromide in soil fumigation and pesticide for agriculture, however, have to be tested in each soil type and agro-climatic region.
- South Africa is not eligible for Multilateral Fund Assistance but fulfills the criteria for GEF assistance and, indeed, is receiving GEF assistance for other focal areas of GEF.
- Ozone depletion is one of the focal areas of GEF and GEF has assisted many other countries, not eligible for Multilateral Fund assistance, for phasing out ODS.