

512/E1

Trends in ozone depleting substances (ODS) consumption in Sri Lanka

W L Sumathipala* and I P Safinas

National Ozone Unit, Ministry of Environment & Natural Resources.

Ozone layer depletion, and global warming and associated climate change are the two most important global problems in the environmental sector today. Sri Lanka has ratified international conventions and protocols related to these problems. Obligations under the Montreal protocol on substances that deplete the ozone layer is to eliminate consumption of Ozone Depleting Substances on given date as stated in the protocol.

Since signatory to the Montreal protocol in 1989, Sri Lanka has put in place national regulations and policies to fulfill its obligations. Analysis of consumption and import of all ODS shows a declining trend except MeBr and HCFC. Of the total ODS consumption in Sri Lanka, CFC amounts to nearly 86% and has reduced gradually. With this trend Sri Lanka has achieved zero consumption of CFC and Halons by 1st of January 2008, two years in advance of the Montreal Protocol targets. All other ODSs have shown a systematic reduction which has fulfilled the protocol obligations.

The consumption of MeBr has increased and it is attributed to increase demand for Quarantine and Pre shipment usage which is exempted as essential use by the Protocol. There is increase in usage of HCFC due to industrial development of the country and will be controlled in the future in advance with the protocol.

Note: Consumption of any ODS is the amount of virgin ODS used in that country during the particular year. Sri Lanka does not export any ODSs and only depends on import. Sri Lanka has banned import of CFC (including CFC 12) by 1st of January 2008. As same the consumption of CFC is zero from 2008 onwards.

*ozone@noulanka.lk

Tel: 011-2811417