

THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL: CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS - OZONE LAYER AND CLIMATE PROTECTION



Edited by Donald Kaniaru

Special Price for the 19th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol: US\$45.00 (list price: US\$ 100.00)

The progress to date, 20 years after the Montreal Protocol was signed, demonstrates what can be achieved when countries act together, and in a concerted way, to resolve global environmental problems. ... However, countries have yet to completely eliminate their use. ... Maintaining momentum and funding for the final phase-out and for monitoring the ozone layer is crucial to a happy conclusion to this unprecedented international success story.

United Nations, The Millennium Development Goals Report (2007)

The passing of two decades since the inception of the Montreal Protocol has provided scientific proof of the treaty's effectiveness and truly deserves the title of the most successful environmental treaty to date. Having phased out 95 percent of the ozone-depleting substances covered in the treaty, the Montreal Protocol has not only allowed the ozone hole to begin the healing process, but as scientists have recently discovered, the treaty has also been an incredibly effective measure in mitigating climate change. Phasing out harmful ozone substances that double as deadly greenhouse gases has delayed climate forcing by 35-41 years.

These ozone and climate benefits however, did not come easy. It took the work and partnership of many to build the strong, but flexible structure that is the Montreal Protocol today. The dedicated team of ozone officers from 191 countries and a critical funding mechanism developed to assist developing countries have been great contributors to its success.

This book aims to take a comprehensive look at the Montreal Protocol from its very beginnings to the present, looking toward the future. *Section I: Early History: Science, Diplomacy, and Leadership* is comprised of articles that focus on the events leading up to the creation of the treaty and its early years. *Section II: Dynamic Evolution: Technology, Assessment, and Funding* lays out the structure of the Montreal Protocol, including the development of the Multilateral Fund which has made possible the involvement of developing countries in the phase-outs of ozone-depleting substances. The readings in *Section III: New Challenges: Following Through with Ozone and Joining the Climate Battle*, address the issue of climate change, and note that while it is appropriate to commend the Montreal Protocol and the ozone team for past successes, we cannot stop there. The authors speak to a proposed adjustment to the treaty: an accelerated phase-out of HCFCs which would bring enormous climate benefits – much more than the emissions reductions expected from the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. Sherwood Rowland and Mario Molina, Guus Velders, K. Madhava Sarma, Durwood Zaelke, Rajendra Shende, Donald Kaniaru, Romina Picolotti, Steve O. Anderson, Mostafa Tolba, and Richard Elliot Benedick are among the contributors to this book.

The secret to the success of the Montreal Protocol has been to "start and strengthen", and with this as a guiding principle, the treaty has continuously evolved over its 20-year life to become the crown jewel of the world's environmental treaties. This book captures the Protocol's extraordinary success. It also forcefully demonstrates that the Protocol still has much still to do for the ozone layer, and even more for the world's climate system.

Mostafa K. Tolba, former Executive Director, UNEP

The Montreal Protocol has been widely praised as the most successful multilateral environmental agreement. One of the secrets of its success is its inclusion of provisions that steadily strengthen "one-step-at-a-time." Each step was designed to protect the ozone layer better than the last and to reach a pragmatic consensus acceptable to all the parties.

K. Madhava Sarma, former Executive Secretary, Montreal Protocol Secretariat

The history of the Montreal Protocol demonstrates how the international community can unite to successfully solve critical environmental problems. We must learn from our past successes, tackle current and future challenges, and remember that what is at stake in the battle against climate is our existence.

Romina Picolotti, Secretary of State for Environment, Argentina

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Donald Kaniaru is a lawyer and advocate in Kenya. Kaniaru formerly served as the Director of the Division of Environmental Policy and Implementation and the Division on Environmental Conventions during a 28-year career with the United Nations Environment Programme.

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If Not Us, Who? If Not Now, When?

Dr. Mario J. Molina

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