



Publication Launch

**Protecting the Ozone Layer:
Malaysia Implementing the Montreal Protocol**

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Putrajaya

Yang Berhormat Datuk Seri Azmi Khalid, Honourable Minister of Natural Resources and Environment,

Yang Berbahagia, Dato' Suboh, Director General,
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

Yang Berbahagia, Dato Hajjah Rosnani, Director General,
Department of Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

Excellencies, Distinguished guests,

Members of the media

Selamat petang dan selamat sejahtera kepada para hadirin. Saya berasa sangat gembira dan berbesar hati kerana diberi peluang memberi sepatah dua kata sempena pelancaran buku "*Protecting the Ozone Layer: Malaysia Implementing the Montreal Protocol*".

On behalf of UNDP, I would like to thank most sincerely, the Honourable Minister, Dato' Seri Azmi Khalid, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, for giving up his valuable time to join us this afternoon at the launching of the UNDP publication on "*Protecting the Ozone Layer: Malaysia Implementing the Montreal Protocol*", prepared jointly by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and UNDP. UNDP values its close relations with the Ministry and I would like to convey my appreciation to Dato' Suboh and his colleagues.

This publication, "*Protecting the Ozone Layer: Malaysia Implementing the Montreal Protocol*", that will be launched by the Honourable Minister this afternoon tells us about the ozone, why we should be aware of its existence and what impact it has on human beings. It also highlights measures and initiatives taken by the government to phase out CFCs.

UNDP as one of the executing agencies for the Montreal Protocol has worked with the Ozone Unit since it was first set up in the late 1990s. The Unit, together with UNDP and UNOPS, started working with Malaysia's small and medium sized industries in phasing out use of ozone depleting substances. The investment programme, as it was called, targeted the manufacturers of foam, refrigerant and aerosol. The industry is an engine of growth and contributes to the country's economy and is a heavy consumer of CFCs.

With funding from Multilateral Fund (MLF), the industries were provided with new equipment compatible with new techniques and manufacturing processes, given alternatives to CFCs and technical assistance. 20 years after ratification, Malaysia leads the way in phasing out uses of ozone depleting substances. Nevertheless, this is not the end, but a new beginning as Malaysia strives to move ahead and meet future challenges.

Distinguished guests,

UNDP Malaysia will continue to support and advocate programmes, in line with national concerns, to improve environmental management and conservation. The lessons learned in implementing the Montreal Protocol programme should be shared among the developing countries in the region. We hope to share this publication with our 140 country offices globally, and with other UNDP partners and donors.

In closing, UNDP would like to thank all partners for helping to make the Montreal Protocol programme a success, consistent with the national vision and aspirations of sustainable development.

Thank you.