



UNEP DTIE OzonAction Programme under the Multilateral Fund



The United Nations Environment Programme Announces Winners of the Children's Painting Competition on Protecting the Ozone Layer

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PARIS/NAIROBI, 5 November 1998 - The Selection Committee of the Children's Painting Competition for Protecting the Ozone Layer organized jointly by the UNEP DTIE OzonAction Programme and the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) announced the winners in Paris. The four top prizes, of equal distinction, were awarded to the entries from Indonesia (Laila Nuri), Iran (Rosa Kallontarpour), Niger (Bachari Saidou) and Egypt (Najla Husein Eid). The Government of Egypt will host these four winners for a 5-day stay during the Meeting of the Parties in Cairo where they will receive their awards on 23 November 1998.

The Committee also awarded 2 Jury prizes to the entries from China (Nan Qu) and Romania (Maria Popescu). Ten entries were given Special Merit awards. These are from Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cuba, Ethiopia, Honduras, India, Jordan, Syria, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

All the winners will receive plaques of appreciation and gifts from UNEP and the EEAA.

The Selection Committee was composed of Mme. Fatma Al-Madoul (President of the national Centre for Children's Culture, Egypt), Mr. Michel Baudson (Responsible for Cultural Affairs, Galerie Nationale de Jeu de Paume, Paris), Mr. Paul de Gobert (artist/painter, Paris), Mme. Laurence Musset (Ministry of the Environment, France) and Mr. Naresh Singh (Photographer, Paris).

The contest was open to children up to sixteen years old from developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Each country was requested to organize their own national competitions and send the winning entries to UNEP.

Entries were received from 53 countries.

The winning paintings and all the other entries will be on exhibit at the Cairo International Conference Centre, site of the 10th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer from 18-24 November 1998.

Notes for the Press:

About the Montreal Protocol

The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer is the international environmental agreement that has galvanized global cooperation to protect the stratospheric ozone layer. The Protocol was signed by 24 countries in 1987 and as of August 1998, has been ratified by 168 countries, or Parties to the Protocol. A number of ozone-depleting substances (chlorofluorocarbons, carbon tetrachloride, methyl chloroform and halons) have already been phased out in developed countries, except for about 10,000 tonnes used as essential uses.

About UNEP DTIE OzonAction Programme

Since 1991, the UNEP DTIE OzonAction Programme in Paris has been strengthening the capacity of governments (especially National Ozone Units) and industry in developing countries to make informed decisions on technology and policy options that will result in cost-effective ODS phase-out activities with minimal external intervention. The Programme accomplishes this by delivering a range of need-based services, including:

Information Exchange

to enable decision makers to take informed decisions on policies and investments. Information and management tools already provided for developing countries include the OzonAction Information Clearinghouse (OAIC) diskette and World Wide Web site, a

quarterly newsletter, sector-specific technical publications for identifying and selecting alternative technologies, and policy guidelines.

Training and Networking

that provide platforms for exchanging experiences, developing skills, and tapping the expertise of peers and other experts in the global ozone protection community. Training and network workshops build skills for implementing and managing phase-out activities and are conducted at the regional level (support is also extended to national activities). The Programme currently operates seven regional and sub-regional Networks of ODS Officers comprising more than 80 countries, which have resulted in member countries taking early steps to implement the Montreal Protocol.

Country Programmes and Institutional Strengthening

that support the development of national ODS phase-out strategies and programmes, especially for low-volume ODS-consuming countries. The Programme currently assists 74 countries in the development of their Country Programmes and implements Institutional-Strengthening projects for 50 countries.

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[Back to the Press Releases page](#)

▲
Top