



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



- Learning by playing - Innovative education tool for Secondary Schools launched during global Montreal Protocol celebrations

“Montreal Protocol – Global Partnership for Global Benefits”

Nairobi 16 September 2008, -Under the theme **“Montreal Protocol- Global Partnership for Global Benefits-** UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF and WHO announce the launch of the new OzonAction Education Pack for Secondary Schools entitled **“High Sky”**, during the celebration of the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.

This guide, targeted of secondary school students (13-16 years old) includes a teacher's book, a student's book and a collection of Ozzy and Zoe Ozone multimedia materials. This package contains an entire teaching and learning programme based on key knowledge, practical skills, and participation that enables teachers and students to learn about simple solutions to protect the ozone layer and safely enjoy the sun.

The Education Pack uses an innovative and interactive approach - “role playing” - to engage the students in the subject matter. The reader assumes the role of a journalism student about to get a job in an important news agency and he/she is challenged to write an article to tell the world the current situation of the ozone layer and the linkage with climate change, including practical tips for children to help protect our planet.

The Montreal Protocol deadline for developing countries to complete the phase-out of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), carbon tetrachloride (CTC) and halons is by 1 January 2010. However, there is still remaining work to be done with other chemicals such as hydrofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and methyl bromide. Scientists now expect the ozone layer to recover only by 2050 if all of the necessary measures under the Protocol are implemented as planned. This Education Pack mobilizes children and teachers to do their part to help achieve these compliance targets, and informs them how to use safe sun practices.

The Pack was jointly produced by the DTIE OzonAction Branch of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and was supported by the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol.

“Children are the most valuable resource of our planet. Kids and their parents are protected by the ozone layer, our Earth's protective shield, which is under continued threat” says **Mr. Achim Steiner**, UNEP's Executive Director. “The complex problems of global environment cannot be solved only by developing technologies but by deploying them through a learning process. The Education Pack not only explains the problem, but encourages children to find practical solutions. Through this new initiative, UNEP is giving a very strong message to save the planet”.

The OzonAction Education Pack is also linked to the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, which is led by UNESCO.

UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF and WHO are jointly promoting the OzonAction Education Pack to countries around the world and encouraging Environment, Education and Health Ministries, schools and teachers to adopt it as part of the secondary school curriculum.

Notes to editors:

The signing of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer on 16 September 1987 is now celebrated every year as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.

UNEP as an Implementing Agency of the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol through the OzonAction Branch of the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, has a unique regionalized programme that delivers compliance assistance services to countries to assist them meet the international commitments under the Protocol. The compliance regime requires countries to: achieve and sustain compliance, promote a greater sense of country ownership and implement the agreed Executive Committee framework for strategic planning.

Ozzy Ozone is the UNEP's flagship campaign for children regarding stratosphere ozone protection initiated as part of our organization's mandate as an Implementing Agency of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

The Ozzy Ozone character is a registered trademark of the Government of Barbados. UNEP would like to thank the Government of Barbados for its permission to use this character.

For more information, including resources and ideas for celebrating International Ozone Day, see: <http://www.unep.fr/ozonaction/events/ozoneday/2008.htm>

For more information please contact:

Nick Nuttall, UNEP Spokesperson, Office of the Executive Director, on Tel: +254 20 762 3084; Mobile: 254 733 632 755 or when traveling +41 795 965 737; E-mail: nick.nuttall@unep.org

Or Anne-France White, Associate Information Officer, on Tel: +254 20 762 3088, Mobile: + 254 728600494; E-mail: anne-france.white@unep.org

Or Anne Fenner
Information Officer
UNEP DTIE OzonAction Branch
15 Rue de Milan
75441 Paris CEDEX 09
France

Tel.: +33 144 37 14 50
Fax: +33 144 37 14 74
E mail: afenner@unep.fr
Web: www.unep.fr/ozonaction
www.ozzyozone.org

