



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

Division of Technology, Industry and Economics

OzonAction Branch

15 rue de Milan, 75441 Paris - Cedex 09, France, Tel: +33.1.44.37.14.50; Fax: +33.1.44.37.14.74E-mail: unep.tie@unep.fr URL:
<http://www.uneptie.org/>

ECA OZONE PROTECTION AWARD 2010 FOR CUSTOMS & ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

PLEASE DISSEMINATE WIDELY

IF POSSIBLE TRANSLATE INTO NATIONAL LANGUAGE

INDIVIDUAL CUSTOMS & ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO SUCCESSFULLY PREVENTED ILLEGAL TRADE OF OZONE-DEPLETING SUBSTANCES (ODS) OR PRODUCTS / EQUIPMENT RELYING ON ODS TO OR FROM MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE REGIONAL OZONE NETWORK FOR EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA (ECA NETWORK) ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE NOMINATED FOR THE ECA OZONE PROTECTION AWARD 2010.

NOMINATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY THE NATIONAL OZONE UNITS TO THE COORDINATOR OF THE ECA NETWORK BY 30 JUNE 2010:

Halvart Koeppen, Regional Officer (Europe & Central Asia)

UNEP DTIE OzonAction Programme

Tel: +33-1443714-32

Fax: +33-1443714-74

Email: halvart.koppen@unep.org

ECA NETWORK CONSISTS OF 12 COUNTRIES: ALBANIA, ARMENIA, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA, CROATIA, GEORGIA, KYRGYZSTAN, MACEDONIA FYR, MOLDOVA, MONTENEGRO, SERBIA, TURKEY, TURKMENISTAN.

CUSTOMS & ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OR A TEAM / OFFICE FROM COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OR TRANSHIPMENT COUNTRIES ARE FULLY ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE.

Background

Illegal trade in ODSs has become a cause of serious concern of many parties to the Montreal Protocol. There are a number of reasons for the continuance of illegal business: long lifespan of equipment using ODSs and, consequently, high demand for ODSs in various sectors, import of used refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment, alternatives to ODSs are often more expensive thus creating further demand and increasing risks of illegal trade, profitability of illegal trade combined with low risk of law offenders. Furthermore, ODSs smuggling reduces the incentives for users to shift to alternatives as well as supplying alternative technologies which uses ozone and climate friendly refrigerants.

The complete phase-out of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), carbon tetrachloride (CTC) and halons from 1 January 2010 may cause additional demand for smuggled chemicals. The accelerated phase-out schedule of hydrochlorofluorocabons (HCFCs) may cause problems where neighboring countries or trade partners follow different phase-out schedules.

In this regard, Customs and Enforcement officers (including environmental inspectorate and eco-police) are key governmental officials in the controlling the import and export of ODS at the local, regional and global levels and have the responsibility of enabling country to fulfil their commitments towards the Montreal Protocol.

The regional meeting of the Enforcement Network of Customs and Ozone Officers for Europe & Central Asia (ECA REN) in Budapest, Hungary, 12-14 October 2009, recommended the establishment of an award scheme for Customs and Enforcement Officers as part of the ECA REN project approved by the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol.

Objectives

The ECA Ozone Protection Award 2010 for Customs and Enforcement Officers aims to provide incentive and recognition to Customs and Enforcement officers, who succeed in preventing illegal trade in ozone-depleting substances (ODS). The activity will be implemented in close cooperation with World Customs Organization (WCO) in order to recognize high level of the performance of customs and enforcement officers and their contributions towards environment protection at the regional and global scales. It will also contribute to raising awareness about the Montreal Protocol and national compliance strategy in line with the Montreal Protocol targets.

The Award is designed to be a recognition scheme intended to:

- ✓ Increase awareness of environmental crimes by drawing attention to efforts made to prevent illegal trade of ODSs;
- ✓ Raise the profile of Customs and Enforcement Officers regarding the monitoring and control system for import and export of ODSs;
- ✓ Underline the connection between smuggled chemicals and its environmental impacts;
- ✓ Increase international participation of Customs and Enforcement Officers in preventing illegal trade of ODSs.

Scope

Individual Customs & Enforcement Officers or a team / office who successfully prevented the illegal trade of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) or products / equipment containing or relying on ODS to or from member countries of the Regional Ozone Network for Europe & Central Asia (ECA network):

Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey and Turkmenistan. Customs and Enforcement Officers or a team / office from countries of origin (exporting country) or transshipment countries are fully eligible to participate.

Nominations

The successful prevention of illegal trade should be officially documented and reported by the National Ozone Unit to the Ozone Secretariat. A short description and the formless nomination should be sent by the National Ozone Unit to the Coordinator of the ECA network. The deadline for submission is the **30 June 2010**.

Selection criteria

The selection of up-to 5 awardees will be done by the Head of UNEP DTIE's OzonAction Programme in consultation with the Ozone Secretariat and a representative of the ECA network countries. The selection criteria include the amount of ODS or products / equipment containing / relying on ODS seized, the effort involved, innovative methods applied and the outreach / publicity of the result to raise awareness.

Awards

In 2010, up to 5 awards will be given to individual Customs and Enforcement Officers or representatives of a team / office. The award will consist of the invitation to attend the ECA enforcement network meeting in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, 27 September – 1 October 2010 (subject to approval), to present each case in detail to share information and to stimulate the debate on preventing illegal trade in ODS in the region.

During the award ceremony, a Certificate of Appreciation and a Medal of Honor will be handed over to the awardees. A media briefing on the award ceremony and the cases of illegal trade will be widely shared through national media contacts, ozone networks in other regions as well as WCO's eco-message.