



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE OZONE LAYER 2023

PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saturday 16th September 2023

The Policy Monitoring and Research Centre (PMRC) proudly joins the international community in commemorating the **36th anniversary of the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, also known as World Ozone Day, celebrated on September 16**. This year, the world unites under the theme **“Montreal Protocol: Fixing the Ozone Layer and Reducing Climate Change.”**

The ozone layer, a shield of high concentration of ozone in the Earth’s stratosphere, envelops our planet, protecting life by absorbing harmful Ultraviolet-B (UV-B) radiation from the sun. **This year’s theme underscores the significance of the Montreal Protocol, to which Zambia is a dedicated state party.** The Montreal Protocol is a global agreement aimed at safeguarding the stratospheric ozone layer by phasing out the production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances. **The Protocol enjoys universal ratification, signifying the collective global commitment to invest in technologies that will set the ozone layer on a path to recovery.** Over the years, the Protocol has evolved through amendments, including the 2016 Kigali Amendment, which targets the phasedown of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), already controlled under the Protocol.

This year’s theme directly aligns with the principles outlined in Sustainable Development Goal 13 (SDG13) on Climate Action and the comprehensive framework laid out in the Eighth National

Development Plan (8NDP 2022-2026). Within the 8NDP, there is a strong emphasis on promoting socio-economic development that addresses the immediate needs of the current generation while also considering the capacity of future generations to meet their own requirements. In line with the 8NDP's objectives, the Government remains committed to enhancing the capabilities of both individuals and institutions, enabling them to undertake ambitious initiatives for climate change mitigation and adaptation. This collective commitment underscores our dedication to fostering a sustainable and resilient future for all.

Lastly, PMRC wishes all citizens a happy World Ozone Day!



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PMRC Executive Director

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