



EMB-POD holds 4th Quarterly Importer's Meeting; UNDP KIP-PRP Team conducts National Survey

The Environmental Management Bureau-Philippine Ozone Desk (EMB-POD), on October 18, 2024, organized the 4th Quarterly Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) Importer's Meeting at AQMTC Building, DENR Compound, Visayas Avenue, Quezon City.

OIC Assistant Secretary Engineer Esperanza A. Sajul, in her opening remarks, highlighted the key role that the importers play in furthering the success of the Montreal Protocol leading to healing and recovery of the ozone layer and climate system.

The first part of the meeting includes a discussion on the current status of HFCs quota allocation consumption. Mr. Onofre Escota, Project Evaluation and Monitoring Officer of EMB-POD, mentioned that out of 55 importers who have quota allocations, 15 importers have not yet applied for Certificate of Registration (COR) and Pre-Shipment Importation Clearance (PSIC).

Nine importers have applied for COR but not yet applied for PSIC. Only 31 importers have applied and used their quota allocations.

Mr. Escota also raised an issue where there are companies requesting quota allocations to import HFC. But he clarified that they are not allowed because they have no importation history for the year 2020-2022 pursuant to Section 6 of DAO 2021-31.

During the meeting, the EMB-POD provided the importers with updates on the Draft Memorandum Circular for the Provision of Additional HFC Quota Allocation. "Since only clarification on the provision of additional HFC quota allocation is the issue and will remain that only importers imported in 2000-2022 will be provided quota allocation and may only apply for COR and PSIC to import HFCs."

EMB-POD also noted that requests for additional quota may only apply from the third to the fourth quarter of the year, and those importers

that have not utilized or have remaining quota for the third to fourth quarter of the year will be reserved for requests for additional quota provided that there is no notification from the importer.

During the afternoon session, the United Nations Development Programme-Kigali Implementation Plan Project Preparation Team conducted the national survey for the HFC importers. The objective of this survey is to gather data on refrigerant use within the importer, manufacturing, dealership, retail, and servicing sectors.



The conduct of the nation-wide survey aims to develop the overarching strategy for the phase-down of HFCs and plan of action for stage I of the KIP based on the survey results and national consultations to address the freeze target and 10% reduction target in HFC consumption by 2024 and 2029, respectively.

Furthermore, all registered HCFC and HFC importers are requested by the EMB-POD to finalize their HFC import transactions for 2024, and any unutilized quotas will be reallocated to registered importers in need of additional quota allotments. The unit instructed the companies that intend to request additional quota allocations to notify the Bureau as soon as possible to allow for efficient redistribution of unused quotas.

The conduct of the meeting allowed the importers to raise their concerns and provide their recommendations that will be inclusive for their sector. Moreover, the importers will be aligned with the goals of the Philippines to be an ozone-sensitive and climate-friendly country.

