



# 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

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## PRESS ADVISORY

### Vienna Convention on the Protection of the Ozone Layer Celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

#### High-level segment to complete awards ceremony

Dakar, 14 December 2005 – The High-Level Segment of this week's United Nations conference on the ozone layer will take place on Thursday and Friday, 15 - 16 December, at Le Méridien Président Dakar Conference Centre.

Starting at 10h on Thursday, delegates will be welcomed by President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal, Environment Minister Thierno Lo, Dakar Mayor Pape Dio, and senior officials of the United Nations Environment Programme.

The high-level speeches will be followed by the continuation of the Ozone Awards Ceremony to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vienna Convention's adoption in 1985. The first part of the Awards Ceremony was hosted by the Government of Austria in Vienna on the September anniversary of the Vienna Convention. The award winners announced earlier in Vienna will also be honoured in Dakar. They are:

**Professor Ayite-Lo Ajavon of Togo**, long-time Co-Chair and a key contributor to the Scientific Assessment Panel that developed the annual and quadrennial reports on ozone science.

**Dr. Daniel Albritton of the USA**, one the world's foremost experts on atmospheric science and Co-Chair of the Protocol's Science Assessment Panel since its inception.

**Professor James Anderson of the USA**, who demonstrated the role of CFCs and other man-made chlorine compounds in depleting the ozone layer over Antarctica.

**Professor Pieter Aucamp of South Africa**, who as Co-Chair of the Scientific Assessment Panel from 1994-2001 coordinated the scientific assessments of the ozone layer.

**Dr. Rumen Bojkov of Bulgaria**, who as Chief of the World Meteorological Organization's Atmospheric Sciences Division from 1974 to 1983 initiated the first international assessment of the ozone layer.

**Professors Paul Crutzen of the Netherlands, Mario Molina of Mexico, and Frank Sherwood Rowland of the USA**, who jointly won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1995 for their pioneering work on ozone-depleting substances and the stratospheric ozone layer.

**Dr. Joseph Farman of the UK**, whose 1985 report in *Nature* magazine describing a 40% decrease of stratospheric ozone over Antarctica in one month confirmed the presence of the Antarctic ozone hole.

**Professor G.O.P. Obasi of Nigeria**, the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization from 1984 to 2003.

**Dr. Susan Solomon of the USA**, whose scientific expeditions to Antarctica in 1986 and 1987 led to a greater understanding of ozone chemistry.

**Professor Xiaoyan Tang of China**, Co-Chair of the Environmental Effects Panel of the Montreal Protocol since 1992.

**Professor Manfred Tevini of Germany**, Co-Chair of the UNEP Assessment Panel on the Environmental Effects of Ozone Depletion since its inception.

**Dr. Mostafa Tolba of Egypt**, who as Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme from 1974 to 1992 played a critical leadership role during the ozone negotiations.

**Professor Jan van der Leun of the Netherlands**, Co-Chair of UNEP's Environmental Effects Assessment Panel under the Montreal Protocol since its inception.

**Dr. Robert Watson of the USA**, Co-Chair of the Science Assessment Panel under the Montreal Protocol since its inception.

In addition, the Parties to the Protocol in Dakar will acknowledge and celebrate the outstanding contributions to the ozone regime of two additional award recipients:

**Omar El-Arini**, who, as Chief Officer of the Montreal Protocol Multilateral Fund from its inception until September 2003, helped develop the Protocol's financial mechanism into what is arguably the most successful technology transfer instrument ever created to address an environmental issue.

**Madhava Sarma**, who, as Executive Secretary of the United Nations Environment Programme's Ozone Secretariat from 1991 to 2000, skilfully managed the process leading to the development and implementation of three separate amendments to the Montreal Protocol.

This week's ozone conference consists of the Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Seventeenth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.