



United Nations Environment Programme

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PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE

ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

Your reference:

Our reference: Oz.Sec./18th MOP hotel

2 June 2006

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: 18th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, New Delhi, India, October 30 – November 3 2006

I have the honour to refer to decision XVII/48 of the 17th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in which the Parties decided to convene the 18th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in India with a firm date to be announced as soon as possible. In accordance with this decision, and decision XVII/47, the Ozone Secretariat posted on its website in late January, the dates of October 30-November 3 as agreed with the government of India for hosting the Meeting of the Parties in New Delhi. We expect to send an official invitation to the 18th Meeting of the Parties by the end of June.

Over the last several weeks, we have been in discussions with the government of India about the planning for the meeting. During this time, it has been brought to our attention that over the last several months, there has been a significant increase in the demand for hotel rooms in New Delhi which is resulting in a shortage of available rooms, an escalation of the prices of many hotel rooms, and an urgent need to ensure that hotel rooms are booked several months in advance. Early bookings are even more critical for the period during which the meeting will take place, as it is very near in time to India's main annual festival, Diwali.

Accordingly, with this letter, the Secretariat is urging all Parties and non-Governmental organizations who believe that they will take part in the 18th Meeting of the Parties to make hotel accommodations for themselves and where relevant, their ministers, as soon as possible. To assist in this regard, the Government of India has inaugurated a website for the 18th Meeting of the Parties, which includes a list of hotels and their relevant prices.

That website is www.mopindia.com. Should parties decide to stay at one of the hotels listed on the above noted website, the government of India has offered to facilitate the transfer of participants from the airport to the listed hotels and from the areas surrounding the listed hotels to the conference venue. However, given the hotel situation in New Delhi, governments may also wish to consider other options, which could include working through their embassies to find suitable accommodations.

To help better understand the urgency of the situation, and to facilitate early bookings, representatives of the government of India and the Indian travel industry will be present at the July Open Ended Working Group Meeting in Montreal to describe the issue and make bookings. In the case of participants eligible for support to attend the meeting of the Parties, the Secretariat will be prepared to guarantee early bookings through the Government organizing Committee.

We would once again like to urge you to consider making your hotel accommodation arrangements for the Meeting of the Parties for likely delegates, including Ministers, at the earliest possible time.

Yours sincerely,

Marco González
Executive Secretary
Ozone Secretariat