**Declaration on national ODS and HFC banks emission mitigation in the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) Sector**

The international community has agreed to the common goal of keeping global warming below a threshold of 2°C. Countries and stakeholders are working on measures in all sectors. However, science tells us that we are still facing a large mitigation gap in order to remain on a 2° consistent pathway.

Due to the globally increasing demand for refrigeration and air conditioning (RAC), the stock of appliances, foams and products containing halogenated hydrocarbons is rising rapidly. Halogenated hydrocarbons are either ozone-depleting substances (ODS) or have high global warming potentials (hydrofluorocarbons, HFCs). If old cooling appliances are not disposed in an environmentally sound manner, emissions from these so-called "ODS and HFC banks" are released unhindered into the atmosphere. The resulting annual emissions are estimated to exceed 1.5 Gt CO2-eq. This is equivalent to the annual emissions of 441 coal-fired power plants. Consequently, the proper disposal of gases and foams in old cooling appliances offers enormous potential for climate action.

While the international community has agreed to regulate the production and consumption of ODS by the Montreal Protocol (1987) and to phase-down HFCs with its Kigali Amendment (2016), no agreements have been made regarding the destruction of the ODS and HFCs already produced. For countries in the Global South in particular, the recovery, collection and reclamation or destruction of waste containing ODS and HFCs present challenges as they often lack the appropriate political and regulatory framework and infrastructure.

By signing this declaration, the signatories affirm their commitment to help ensure abatement of ODS and HFC banks emissions with the aim to globally phase out these emissions as soon as possible.

**The signatories affirm to**

1. Comply with the Vision and Mission of the Climate and Ozone Protection Alliance (COPA), thereby acting as **official COPA member country**.

AND ensure to support

1. Identifying the size of ODS and HFC banks and profiling related (potential) GHG emissions in the country through ODS / HFC banks emissions inventories and making this data available to be used for the greenhouse gas emission reporting under the UNFCCC
2. Identifying sectors and metropolitan areas with the largest accessible ODS and HFC waste streams and highest mitigation potentials

AND are

1. Welcoming the Climate and Ozone Protection Alliance, enabled by Germany to provide technical assistance to the government of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, according to the countries’ needs and priorities, in data collection and status quo analysis, for the development of mitigation project concepts, and to support the access to financial means to implement ODS and HFC banks mitigation projects to achieve national climate targets

AND are

1. open to share experiences and lessons learnt with other COPA members.

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Date, Signature

Name of signatory: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Position of signatory: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_