



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer Celebrations in Afghanistan

Kabul, Afghanistan – The National Ozone Unit (NOU) of the Afghan National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) organized this years celebrations for the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer in Kabul. Since 1995 the Ozone day is celebrated internationally on September 16th of every year, this years theme was “Act Ozone Friendly – Stay Sun Safe”.

To celebrate the occasion, an awareness raising event was held in the International Press Centre of the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism in Kabul. Prior to this event the NOU launched the screening of the OzzyOzone video in Dari and Pashto through local television networks. Also, information leaflets and other materials were distributed to Kabul University and schools.

The stratospheric ozone layer filters sunlight and prevents the harmful effects of ultraviolet radiation reaching the Earth's surface, thereby preserving life on the planet. Different groups of chemical substances such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) are known to damage the ozone layer reducing its shielding capacity. The Montreal Protocol to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer lays out measures to phase out Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS), over a period of time.

Afghanistan ratified the Vienna Convention for the Protection of Ozone Layer and its Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the Ozone Layer along with all 4 amendments on 17th June 2004. The National Ozone Unit was established in September 2004 and is working to fulfill the Afghanistan's requirements under the convention and its protocol.

For further information and interviews, please contact:

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More information on the protection of the ozone layer can be found on:
<http://www.unep.ch/ozone>