



24th August, 2018 A half-day media awareness on Tonga's Obligations under the Kigali Amendment was opened this morning by the Chief Executive Officer for MEIDECC, Mr. Paula Pouvalu Ma'u at Climate Change Conference Room.

The event was facilitated by the National Ozone Depleted Substance (ODS) Unit of the Department of Climate Change and funded by the Multilateral Fund for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol and is being implemented by UN Environment, with MEIDECC as the executive partner.

Mr. Ma'u said that the purpose of this media awareness is to provide a forum for all journalists to be fully aware about the Kigali Amendment and Tonga's obligations as set out under the Amendment.



“Journalists play a vital role in educating the public about events and issues and how they affect

lives. Today, the ODS will lead you through of what is required for the public's awareness of Tonga's obligations as set out under the Amendment."

"The Kigali Amendment adds powerful greenhouse gases hydro fluorocarbons (HFCs) to the list of substances controlled under the Protocol to be phased down. This HFC phase-down is expected to prevent the emission of up to 105 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent of greenhouse gases, helping to avoid up to 0.5 degree Celsius of global temperature rise by 2100, while continuing to protect the ozone layer."

He also stated that under the Amendment, Tonga is required to gradually reduce HFCs (R-134a, R-410a, etc.) use by 80-85 per cent by 2040.

Mr. Ma'u urged the need for the journalists to disseminate clear and accurate information about the Kigali Amendment to the public.

"We hope that you will all deliver what you have learned today to the public and to demonstrate our country commitment to protect global environment. The Pacific Island Countries including Tonga are vulnerable to the impact of Climate Change."

Attending the media awareness were representatives from Tonga Broadcom 87.5 FM, Matangi Tonga Online, and Taimi 'o Tonga Newspaper.

ENDS

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