

## PRESS RELEASE

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### EFCTC welcomes the agreement at the 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties in Dubai to work towards an HFC amendment in 2016

From November 30 to December 11, Governments will meet in Paris at COP-21, a vital meeting in addressing the challenges associated with climate change, as it should result in a new international agreement. The latter will partly be based upon the submission by all governments of their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) that detail individual national plans for taking action against climate change.

HFCs are greenhouse gases whose emissions are currently controlled under the Kyoto Protocol and EFCTC notes that actions to reduce emissions of HFCs have already been included in a number of those INDCs. Alternatives to HFCs have also been discussed in a Technical Expert Meeting under work stream 2 of the Ad-hoc Meeting of the Durban Platform. This work stream is mandated to propose actions to increase ambition in measures tackling climate change in the post-2020 period. EFCTC believes that including provisions for controlling the placing on the market of HFCs under the Montreal Protocol would complement and strengthen the HFC emissions provisions of the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol.

*"The decision in Dubai is an important step forward to reaching an international agreement under the Montreal Protocol to phase-down the use of HFCs leading to a reduction in their emissions," said Dr Campbell, "We believe that COP-21 should endorse the management of HFCs under the Montreal Protocol, a body with the technical knowhow that has played a crucial role in successfully controlling consumption of CFCs and HCFCs and can provide the necessary expertise to effectively implement a similar system for HFCs, and encourage governments to strive for an early agreement."*

Significant progress has been made by HFC producers to find low GWP alternatives for a range of applications including technical aerosols, mobile air-conditioning, insulating foams and commercial refrigeration that deliver the same attributes in terms of safety, energy efficiency and favourable life-cycle costs as the current mainstream HFCs. A good example is the alternative fluid developed for mobile air-conditioning; it has a GWP of less than 1 compared to a GWP of 1300 for the HFC currently being used. In addition, there has already been considerable research, development and deployment by producers and manufacturers of equipment and products to adopt the lower GWP alternatives.

EFCTC positively looks forward to the upcoming COP-21 agreement. Ideally it will endorse the agreement reached at the 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties in Dubai and move towards a decision to control the placing on the market of HFCs through the mechanisms of the Montreal Protocol.

The European Fluorocarbons Technical Committee is a Cefic Sector Group that monitors the constantly changing legislation related to HFCs (hydrofluorocarbons), PFCs (perfluorinated carbons) and SF<sub>6</sub> (sulphur hexafluoride), CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons), HCFCs (hydrochlorofluorocarbons), in the EU and at global level. Fluorocarbons are used as feedstock, as refrigerants, as solvents and as blowing agents for insulation plastic foams.