



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

PRESS RELEASE



NEMA CONCLUDES TRAINING OF CUSTOMS OFFICERS ON OZONE PROTECTION

KAMPALA, 24th April, 2026 - The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has, Friday, concluded a two-day Train-the-Trainer Workshop on ozone layer protection at Imperial Golf View Hotel in Entebbe.

The training is part of the Montreal Protocol implementation, in which Uganda is party. It aimed at strengthening the capacity of customs and enforcement officers to monitor and control Ozone Depleting Substances (ODSs) and Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), was conducted through NEMA's National Ozone Unit. The Protocol is an international treaty designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production and consumption of ODSs.

The training brought together Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) customs officers from various Inland Container Depots, border control points including Malaba and Mombasa, as well as appropriate NEMA technical staff.

Participants were equipped with both practical and technical knowledge on key areas such as obligations under the Montreal Protocol, identification of controlled substances, interpretation and application of Harmonised System (HS) codes, and strategies to curb illegal trade in environmentally harmful substances.

The workshop also featured interactive, hands-on sessions including role-plays, demonstrations on the use of refrigerant identifiers, and technology-driven detection methods designed to strengthen enforcement at points of entry. Experts from the National Ozone Office, UNEP, and URA facilitated the training.

During the workshop, stakeholders emphasised that the initiative has strengthened inter-agency collaboration and enhanced Uganda's capacity to meet its international obligations while safeguarding the ozone layer.

The successful completion of the training underscores Uganda's continued commitment to environmental protection by equipping frontline officers with the tools required to detect, prevent, and eliminate illegal trade in ODS and HFCs.

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