

Assessing the relative harm of chemicals which contribute to ozone depletion and global warming indicates that, in the short term, use of HCFCs and HFCs as substitutes for CFCs may be necessary since harmless substitutes are not yet available, and HCFCs and HFCs are much less harmful than CFCs. In order not to rely too heavily or too long on HCFCs and HFCs, however:

(4) We recommend that:

- a) neither HCFCs nor HFCs be used in any aerosols;
- b) HCFCs and HFCs only be used in other products as replacements for CFCs where safe alternatives are not available;
- c) only those HCFCs and HFCs with the least ozone depletion and global warming potential be used in products or processes requiring such substances;
- d) in future, HCFCs and HFCs not be substituted for CFCs at any time in amounts greater than 30% and 9%, respectively, of present CFC use, and by 2010 the production and consumption of HCFCs and HFCs be discontinued.

B. The Need for Coordinated Actions

It is clear that phasing out the use of CFCs, halons and their substitutes which still have ozone depletion and global warming potential will require a concerted effort at all levels of governments. Many jurisdictions will be involved in recovery, recycling, transporting and the eventual destruction of these substances. In particular there is a need to accelerate recovery and recycling activities since they are the key to removing our dependence on new molecules of these substances. Recycling will allow us to accelerate the phasing out of production.

There is a need for leadership in this regard. Presently the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment is the most appropriate body available to deal with multijurisdictional activities relating to environmental concerns. They should be active in all aspects of managing the phaseout of these substances when more than one jurisdiction is involved.

(5) We recommend that the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment take the lead when multijurisdictional participation would accelerate initiatives for the reduction, recovery, recycling and eventual safe destruction of CFCs and halons.