



## COOLING, THE KEY TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Receipt of Association Existence ( N°: N00000947001 )

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### PRESS RELEASE

#### U-3ARC STATEMENT ON DUMPING OF OBSOLETE AIR CONDITIONERS IN AFRICA

**Casablanca, September 23, 2022-** During General Assembly of the Union of African Associations of Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Stakeholders (U-3ARC), held on September 23 in Casablanca, members made a Statement on the Dumping of obsolete air conditioners in Africa, in order to play their role as an expert and informed actor in the field of refrigeration and to support the Vision of the African Union's Agenda 2063. Signed by Mr. Madi Sakandé, President, Mr. Said El Harch, Deputy Secretary General, Mr. Lassine Katilé, General Treasurer Mr. Basile Seburikoko, Commissioner for Communication & External Relations, Mr. George Njer, Commissioner for Communication & for External Relations, and Ms. Raoudha Massaoudi, Commissioner in charge of Women's Mobilization, the Declaration, which we can now call the Casablanca Declaration for the refrigeration sector, highly strategic for the sustainable socio-economic development of Africa , will make a date.

It revolves around the replacement of old air conditioners containing obsolete HCFC and HFC refrigerants. The Declaration will, on the one hand, comply with the ratification of the Montreal Protocol, by the 54 African countries, on substances that deplete the ozone layer, which has already eliminated chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) refrigerants and will supplant soon hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), such as R-22 and progressively ozone-friendly hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) greenhouse gas refrigerants, such as R-410A under the Kigali, adopted by 40 African States. On the other hand, it will create full-time jobs all year round and continuous activities for qualified companies.

For us, this is the moment to sincerely thank Mr. Mohamed Rida Derder (Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development - IGSD) for his contribution to the activities of U-3ARC, and to recall that member companies of U-3ARC currently employ nearly 150,000 people and will continue to create full-time jobs across Africa. RACHP companies will create more jobs as they expand their operations, including delivering recovered refrigerants for destruction in local cement kilns and recycling metals and plastics. U-3ARC could support its members in projects funded by the Multilateral Fund (MLF) for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol for training, capacity building and infrastructure development.

#### Enough environmental dumping

As countries around the world develop and install highly efficient RACHP equipment, developing countries face an important side consequence, namely environmental dumping. The Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development (IGSD) defines "environmental dumping" to include "the export of technologies that cannot legally be sold in the country of export, due to failure to meet environmental standards, safety, energy efficiency or other products; and the export of technologies that are unusable in the country of export because the refrigerants are no longer available, due to national regulations or phase-out and phase-down control schedules under the Montreal Protocol".

We strongly oppose the export by developed countries of obsolete, unreliable and environmentally harmful equipment to developing countries. African countries are particularly sensitive to the negative

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impacts of environmental dumping. Between 2013 and 2020, the Ghanaian government seized nearly 60,000 used RACHP units.

Fortunately, the U-3ARC is poised to serve as a powerful environmental anti-dumping defender. U-3ARC expresses its support for the draft decision submitted by Ghana on behalf of Africa in 2021 to end environmental dumping in Africa. This draft decision was submitted to the 12th Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and to the 33rd Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol. At the forty-fourth meeting of the Montreal Protocol Open-ended Working Group (OEWG), held in Bangkok from 11 to 16 July 2022, parties agreed to forward the draft decision "Stop Dumping" to the Meeting. Parties, scheduled from October 31 to November 4, 2022 in Montreal, Canada.

As the conflict in Europe continues to destabilize the price of electricity, the related goals of stopping environmental dumping and promoting efficient equipment are now more important than ever.

The RACHP industry is changing rapidly, presenting African states with a range of opportunities and challenges. The U-3ARC can help developing countries capitalize on new business opportunities while stopping the dumping of new and used inefficient RACHP technology with obsolete refrigerants that damage local climate and environments.

### U-3ARC, in short:

Established in 2020, the Union of African Associations of Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Stakeholders (U-3ARC) is made up of national associations from across Africa. U-3ARC has also established a Continental Union of Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heat Pump Stakeholders (RACHP), which includes representatives from fifty-four African countries. U-3ARC member companies import, manufacture, assemble, market, install and service residential and commercial RACHP equipment across Africa.

The ambition of the U-3ARC is to provide its customers with quality equipment that is affordable, high performance and environmentally friendly. Accordingly, the U-3ARC advocates minimum energy performance standards (MEPS), product labeling, training and capacity building, installation and service best practices, and a policy designed to support a high employment rate and reasonable benefits.

As the cooling equipment market expands rapidly, in response to climate change, U-3ARC is a respected and influential voice in the development of African environmental and energy policy. U-3ARC will be even more important to its members by taking advantage of access to new technologies and funding under the Montreal Protocol.

### Advantages of the Kigali Amendment, in 3 points:

As expected, the Kigali Amendment creates a business opportunity for refrigeration and air conditioning professionals to:



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- 1) Stop the dumping of inefficient used cooling appliances in Africa, which compete with new efficient equipment with low Global Warming Potential (GWP) refrigerants, such as R-32 and R-290;
- 2) introducing the best new technology with energy efficiency so high that the additional cost of equipment is quickly offset by the lower running cost;
- 3) and improve service to reduce leakage and avoid future high cost of HCFCs and HFC refrigerants phased out under the Montreal Protocol.

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