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16th January, 2020 WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

Mr. Rajendra Shende Appointed as MOPIA's Senior Sustainability Advisor

The Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association (MOPIA) is pleased to announce the Appointment of Mr. Rajendra Shende as **Senior Sustainability Advisor**, effective immediately.

Mr. Rajendra M. Shende is a former Director at The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP – Paris) during which he successfully led the global program to protect the stratospheric ozone layer under The Montreal Protocol.

Mr. Shende was the Coordinating Lead Author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report that shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 with Al Gore. He is the proud recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize citation.

As a Director at UNEP for 20 years, he has advised 146 developing countries' governments in preparing and implementing their country strategies and management plans to eliminate use of Ozone Depleting Substances and super Green House Gases. Through UNEP's five offices worldwide (i.e. Paris, Bangkok, Nairobi, Bahrain, and Panama City), he was the lead architect for the award winning global program of OzonAction. It was recognized as the most creative global program in the UN system for capacity building of the developing countries to implement the Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

Mr. Shende is currently Chair of The TERRE Policy Centre in India, a not-for-profit think-tank and action-forum. He serves as Advisor to Media India group in France engaged in enhancing cooperation between India and Europe on environmental protection. He is also on the Board of MIT-World Peace University in India, Chairman of International Advisory Council of Operation Earth of China, Advisor to CBCDGF (China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation) and Chair of the Working Group on Solar cooling of the International Solar Alliance. He is a graduate from IIT-Bombay. Mr. Shende's appointment will immensely benefit MOPIA which is getting ready to unveil the new decade of action on the climate crisis.

MOPIA, based in Manitoba, is a leading international climate and ozone protection not-for-profit organization with over 25 years experience in training, stakeholder engagement/awareness, regulatory and program stewardship, all facilitating capacity to reduce the carbon footprint of various industry sectors. Various refrigerants used in the air conditioning, refrigeration HVACR sectors, including HCFCs and HFCs, are among the most potent greenhouse gases.

See Mr. Shende's bio at: www.rajendrashende.com or www.rajendrashende.blog/