

October 2023

EFCTC expresses concerns on implications of provisionally agreed revised F-gas Regulation, but welcomes improved enforcement measures

Brussels, 6 October 2023 – Following the publication of the European Commission’s legislative proposal to update the F-gas Regulation (No 517/2014) in April 2022, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union have now reached an agreement in the 4th trilogue meeting on 5 October 2023.

The European Fluorocarbons Technical Committee (EFCTC) notes the conclusion of trilogue negotiations on the review of the F-gas Regulation. EFCTC acknowledges significant progress in various aspects of the regulation – including combatting illegal trade and supporting end-of-life management.

However, according to the [press release](#) published by the Council, the agreement appears to extend the scope of the bans far beyond the Commission’s original proposal. Extending the scope to low-GWP fluorinated solutions would require a full impact assessment, in line with the Better Regulation principle. EFCTC fears this extension of scope is also misaligned with the objectives of the Montreal Protocol.

“Although EFCTC recognises the need for ambitious climate action, the provisionally agreed revised phase-down schedule coupled with F-gas product bans are unfeasible; will undermine decarbonisation efforts and jeopardise the EU Green Deal and REPowerEU. The most concerning effect will be the delayed deployment of heat pumps and safer, more energy and resource efficient RACHP solutions.” says EFCTC Chairman, Fernando Correia.

EFCTC remains committed to working collaboratively with EU institutions and stakeholders to ensure the responsible use of fluorinated gases in the European Union and looks forward to continued engagement with EU policymakers and stakeholders. However, EFCTC urges careful consideration of the technical feasibility and the broader implications of any proposed restrictions as low-GWP refrigerants have an important part to play in providing energy efficient and safe solutions in numerous applications to ensure the successful implementation of the revised F-gas Regulation.

Next steps in the legislative process:

The provisional agreement will now be submitted to Coreper and the Parliament's ENVI committee for endorsement. If approved, the text will then need to be formally adopted by both institutions, before it is published in the Official Journal of the European Union and enters into force.

About EFCTC

The European FluoroCarbons Technical Committee is a Cefic Sector Group that monitors legislation related to HFCs (hydrofluorocarbons), and HFOs (hydrofluoro-olefins) in the EU and at global level.

Fluorocarbons are used as feedstock, as refrigerants, as solvents and as blowing agents for insulation plastic foams.

Contact: **EFCTC Chairman:** Fernando Correia, fernando.correia@kouraglobal.com
EFCTC Secretariat: Eszter Komaromi, eko@cefic.be

Disclaimer: The present press release represents the views and opinion of the EFCTC Sector Group, not necessarily of Cefic as a whole.