



## Agenda

**Title:** *Sustainable cold chains and the Rome Declaration: delivering efficient ozone and climate-friendly cold chains to ensure nutritious and healthy food for all*

**Date and time:** 20 September 2021 (14.00-17.00 Central European Time)

**Venue:** Webex ([register here](#))

**Convenor:** Government of Italy, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and Ozone Secretariat

With support of Cool Coalition, Climate and Clean Air Coalition, UNEP's OzonAction Programme

**About the Event:** The event will put a spot light on the critical role of sustainable cold chains in ensuring food safety and security, reducing food waste and loss, mitigating climate change and preventing the depletion of the ozone layer; and demonstrate how the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, universally ratified multilateral environmental agreement, its Kigali Amendment and its Rome Declaration on Sustainable Cold Chain Development, can contribute to scale up technological and policy solutions for sustainable cold chains.

### Agenda:

#### 1. Opening session

Opening remarks: Meg Seki, Ozone Secretariat

Keynotes: Giusy Lombardi, Director General, Ministry of Ecological Transition, Italy  
Ajwad Mustafa, Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Environment, Climate Change and Technology, Maldives

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#### 2. Dialogue 1: **Where do we stand and what are the main issues and challenges to achieve sustainable food chains?**

Sustainable cold chain as a critical element in food systems is still not part of the mainstream discussion for many governments and other stakeholders and represents an uncharted territory in the policy arena. This session will establish the importance of sustainable cold chains and challenges. It will highlight that in many countries, food is lost between farm and market due to gaps in cold chain infrastructure, resulting in 475 million tonnes or 13% of total food production being lost, which is worth \$350 billion and enough to feed approximately 950 million people. Access to cold chain in rural areas, especially in developing countries is not widely available at the scale needed to sustain and boost agricultural development. The session will also look at key environmental impacts of cold chains, such as pollution and climate change due to the emissions from energy use (indirect emissions) and the use of ozone-depleting and high-global warming refrigerants (direct emissions).

### **Panellists**

- Toby Peters, the Birmingham University
- Didier Coulomb, International Institute of Refrigeration
- Patrick Zakariya, Zimbabwe Farmers' Union - World Farmer Organization
- Miruza Mohamed, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology, Maldives
- Patrick McInerney, Environment Department, Australia
- Philip Owen, European Commission
- Olivier Dubois, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- Mark Radka, United Nations Environment Programme

### **3. Dialogue 2: What needs to be done and what solutions do we have?**

This session will aim to identify existing best practices and solutions for delivering sustainable cold chains. The solutions will be highlighted as possible actions to underpin and back up commitments promoted by the Rome Declaration on Sustainable Cold Chains. The Cool Coalition in partnership with other organizations including the Ozone Secretariat is developing a status assessment report in the space of cold chains to identify existing best practices and approaches to address cold chains. The OzonAction of UNEP has launched a cold chain database models to assist countries to systematically collect data in this area for more effective management and phase out of controlled substances. The session will highlight technological challenges and options for transition to zero ODP, lower GWP refrigerant and promote energy efficiency. In addition, it will discuss policy options being adopted and implemented by governments.

### **Panellists**

#### Industry considerations:

- Kevin Fay, Global Food Cold Chain Council
- Marco Buoni, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration European Association (AREA)
- Tian Changqing, China Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Industry Association

#### Addressing data gaps:

- Hassan Mubarak, the Supreme Council for Environment, Bahrain
- Gilda Torres, Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, Paraguay

#### Integrated approach:

- Juliet Kabera, Rwanda Environment Management Authority, Rwanda
- Pawanexh Kohli, Cold Chain expert, India

#### Technology transfer:

- Ole Nielsen, UNIDO

#### De-risking and optimizing investments:

- Olivier Dubois, FAO

#### Cold chains for vaccines:

- Brian Hartley, Sustainable Energy for All

#### Cold Chain Status report (summary)

- Nathan Borgford-Parnell, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition

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### **4. Concluding sessions: Way forward and vision for delivering sustainable cold chains - From Commitments to Action**

The session will summarize the results of the previous two dialogues and discuss how to accelerate efforts for implementing the Rome Declaration Commitments, share knowledge and highlight comprehensive, impactful approaches on sustainable cold chain for food.

- Summary of the meeting by the facilitator
- Concluding remarks by Juliet Kabera, Rwanda Environment Management Authority

