

**Title:**

PFAS, F-gasses and persistence: a closer look

Time and room:

Wednesday, 25 October 2023 – lunch break, CR-10

Speakers:

Thomas Trevisan, Deputy Manager for Public Affairs at [ATMOsphere](#) – Thomas.trevisan@atmosphere.cool

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Content:

The event explained to attendees the likely risks related to continued emissions of chemicals leading to accumulation of persistent chemicals in the environment.

According to the revised definition of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), multiple controlled substances under the Montreal Protocol and their halogenated low-GWP alternatives fall under this definition. In addition, most of these substances degrade in other persistent chemicals, such as trifluoroacetic acid (TFA), whose concentration are increasing in drinking water, plants and are also found in human blood. Calling for the adoption of the precautionary approach before any safety threshold is passed, emission of these chemicals or their precursors, such as some HFCs, HCFCs and HFOs, should be reduced to the greatest extent possible. In fact, alternatives exist in the RACHP sector and are adopted around the world.

Policy initiatives around the world are also starting to address this issue.