Summary Paper on the proposed changes to the EU F-Gas Regulation

On 5 April 2022, the European Commission made a legislative proposal to update Regulation (EU) No 517/2014S (‘F-Gas Regulation’). This proposal will now be negotiated by the co-legislators in the European Parliament and the Council.

The Commission is proposing to align the F-Gas Regulation with:

* the European Green Deal and the European Climate Law;
* recent international obligations on hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) under the Montreal Protocol.

The review is intended, in particular, to:

* deliver higher ambition;
* ensure compliance with the Montreal Protocol;
* improve enforcement and implementation;
* achieve more comprehensive monitoring.

This paper provides a summary of the European Commission’s proposal on the review of the Fluorinated Greenhouse Gas Regulation, which has repealed F-Gas Regulation 517/2014 and amended EU Directive 2019/1937.

Only those Articles that have an impact on tanker shipping are commented on below. The comments are focused on the proposed changes to the requirements on leakage checks and detection systems as well as the definitions as key areas of focus.

Text taken from the proposal has been indicated by emboldened ***italics***throughout this summary paper.

# Chapter I – General Provisions

The key definitions for tanker shipping are ‘Stationary’ and ‘Mobile’. These are important as they define the application or not of the Regulation to ships and their equipment. While the present definitions in the F-Gas Regulation have remained unchanged, a clarification has been added relating to the medium of intent for the equipment by the manufacturer not the medium of use by the consumer. For example, a refrigeration unit is intended by the manufacturer to be a stationary unit of equipment. The location of the equipment is not the deciding factor, it is the purpose of the manufacturer.

# Chapter II – Containment

## Article 4: Prevention of emissions:

This section highlighted key areas of change from the previous 517/2014 Regulation. Operators, manufacturers, and installations will now be required to take all technical and economically feasible measures to minimise risks.

A second proposed change relates to any equipment found to be leaking during transport or storage, which must now be repaired without undue delay and identified via a ‘natural person’ that this repair has been effective.

### Text from Proposal

***“Without prejudice to Article 11(1), first subparagraph, the placing on the market of fluorinated greenhouse gases shall be prohibited, unless producers or importers provide evidence to the competent authority at the time of such placing, that any trifluoromethane, produced as a by-product during the manufacturing process, EN 13 EN including during the manufacturing of feedstock for their production, has been destroyed or recovered for subsequent use, using best available techniques.”.***

***Where a leakage of fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I or II is detected, the operators, manufacturers of equipment and installations and the undertakings in possession of the equipment during its transport, or storage, shall ensure that the equipment or installation is repaired without undue delay.***

## Article 5: Leak checks

The Article summarises the target equipment referred to throughout this summary and listed below. The key areas are the new and stricter approach taken to leakage checking. There are now specific and clear dates for the frequency of checks dependant on the amount of F-gas being used (CO2 equivalent and Kg of F-gas). For example, equipment containing over five tonnes of CO2 equivalent or 1KG of F-gas shall ensure leak checks are completed.

A more comprehensive summary of the times is also provided below, taken from the proposal with times between checks and references to Leakage Detection Systems (LDS).

As can be seen below, there are slightly different time periods for hermetically sealed units. The specific reference to a “*natural person*” conducting these checks is clear throughout this proposal.

### Text from proposal:

Equipment relates to the following:

***(a)*** ***stationary refrigeration equipment;***

***(b)*** ***stationary air-conditioning equipment;***

***(c)*** ***stationary heat pumps;***

***(d)*** ***stationary fire protection equipment;***

***(e)*** ***refrigeration units of refrigerated trucks and trailers;***

***(f)*** ***organic Rankine cycles.***

***(g)*** ***electrical switchgear***

***Operators of equipment that contains 5 tonnes of CO2 equivalent or more of fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I or 1 kilogram or more of fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex II, Section I, not contained in foams, shall ensure that the equipment is checked for leaks.***

***Hermetically sealed equipment that contains less than 10 tonnes of CO2 equivalent of fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I or 2 kilograms of fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex II, Section I, shall not be checked for leaks, provided the equipment is labelled as hermetically sealed and its connected parts have a tested leakage rate of less than 3 grams per year under a pressure of at least a quarter of the maximum allowable pressure.***

***Equipment less than 50 Tonnes CO2 and 10Kg of F-Gas:***

***12 months per check (24 months with Leakage Detection System)***

***Equipment between 50-500 Tonnes of CO2 and between 10-100kg of F-Gas:***

***6 months per check (12 months with Leakage Detection System)***

***Equipment more than 500 Tonnes of CO2 and 100Kg of F-Gas:***

***3 months per check (6 months with Leakage Detection System)***

## Article 6: Leakage Detection System:

As mentioned above, the installation of an LDS can double the time between required checks in each of the above ranges of volume of F-gas on board.

The proposal states that any equipment breaching the 500 tonnes of CO2 equivalent/100Kg mark, shall require an LDS to be installed. This LDS will be required to alert either an operator interpreted as crew or ship management or a service company to the leak. As per Article 4, any equipment which is found to be leaking must be repaired without undue delay.

Note the check frequencies for the equipment are all at twelve months, whereas electrical switchgear has the caveat of being every six years.

### Text from proposal:

***(a)*** ***stationary refrigeration equipment;***

***(b)*** ***stationary air-conditioning equipment;***

***(c)*** ***stationary heat pumps;***

***(d)*** ***stationary fire protection equipment;***

***(e)*** ***refrigeration units of refrigerated trucks and trailers;***

***(f)*** ***organic Rankine cycles.***

***(g)*** ***electrical switchgear***

***Operators of the equipment listed in Article 5(2), points (a) to (d), and containing fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I in quantities of 500 tonnes of CO2 equivalent or more, shall ensure that the equipment is provided with a leakage detection system which alerts the operator or a service company of any leakage.***

***Operators of the equipment listed in Article 5(2), point (g), that is subject to paragraph 2 shall ensure that leakage detection systems are checked at least once every six years to ensure their proper functioning.***

## Article 7: Record Keeping:

The key information in this article relates to the keeping of records for five years, unless recorded in a database that the competent authorities and/or the Commission have access to. The operators of the equipment are instructed to maintain the records of any equipment deemed to be required to undertake leakage checks.

If the former route is chosen, any of the below stated criteria and information must be made available to the competent authorities or the Commission upon request.

Relevant information on the purchase of these fluorinated greenhouse gases including the number or certificates of the purchase fully described in Article 10 and the respective quantities of those gases purchased shall be kept for five years.

### Text from the proposal:

***“Operators of equipment which is required to be checked for leaks pursuant to Article 5(1), shall establish and maintain records for each piece of such equipment specifying the following information:***

***(a)*** ***the quantity and type of gases installed;***

***(b)*** ***the quantities of gases added during installation, maintenance or servicing or due to leakage;***

***(c)*** ***whether the quantities of gases have been recycled or reclaimed, including the name and address in the Union of the recycling or reclamation facility and, where applicable, the certificate number;***

***(d)*** ***the quantity of gases recovered;***

***(e)*** ***the identity of the undertaking which installed, serviced, maintained and where applicable repaired or decommissioned the equipment, including, where applicable, the number of its certificate;***

***(f)*** ***the dates and results of the checks carried out under Article 5(1), (2) and (3), as well as the dates and results of any leak repairs;***

***(g)*** ***if the equipment was decommissioned, the measures taken to recover and dispose of the gases.”***

***“Unless the records referred to in paragraph 1 are stored in a database set up by the competent authorities of the Member States the following rules apply:***

***(a)*** ***the operators referred to in paragraph 1 shall keep the records referred to in that paragraph for at least five years;***

***(b)*** ***undertakings carrying out the activities referred to in paragraph 1, point (e), for operators shall keep copies of the records referred to in paragraph 1 for at least five years.”***

***“For the purpose of Article 11(5), undertakings supplying fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I and Annex II, Section 1, shall establish records of relevant information on the purchasers of these fluorinated greenhouse gases including the following details:***

***(a)*** ***the numbers of certificates of the purchasers;***

***(b)*** ***the respective quantities of those gases purchased.***

***The undertakings supplying those gases shall maintain those records for at least five years.***

***The undertakings supplying these gases shall make such records available, on request, to the competent authority of the Member State concerned and to the Commission.”***

## Article 10: Certification and training:

Updates to the required certification and training have been outlined, with an emphasis on meeting a standard for each of the listed equipment. The training and subsequent certification is based on the following:

***(a)*** ***applicable regulations and technical standards;***

***(b)*** ***emission prevention;***

***(c)*** ***recovery of fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I and Annex II, Section 1;***

***(d)*** ***safe handling of equipment of the type and size covered by the certificate; and***

***(e)*** ***energy efficiency aspects.***

Using this criteria, Member States are required to establish a minimum standard, providing the natural persons carrying out the following tasks, with the practical and theoretical skills to complete them:

***(a)*** ***installation, servicing, maintenance, repair or decommissioning of the equipment listed in Article 5(2), points (a) to (g);***

***(b)*** ***leak checks of the equipment referred to Article 5(2), points (a) to (f), as provided for in Article 5(1);***

***(c)*** ***recovery as provided for in Article 8(1).***

These certification programmes will cover the ***applicable regulations and technical standards, emission prevention, recovery of F-gases in Annexes I and II, safe handling with type and size of equipment relevant and energy efficiency aspects*.**

The Commission shall implement acts which specify the required standards for each type of equipment listed Article 5. Of note is that certifications previously accepted for the 517/2014 Regulation will still apply.

A significant extract from this Article also refers to the position of Member States lacking the resources, demand, and facilities to establish such training and certification schemes. It has been noted that in these cases other Member State schemes can be adopted with notification to the Commission and subsequently to the respective Member State.

### Text from the proposal:

***“Member States shall, on the basis of the minimum requirements referred to in paragraph 5, establish or adapt certification programmes, including evaluation processes, and ensure that training on practical skills and theoretical knowledge is available for natural persons carrying out the following tasks involving fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I and Annex II, Section 1 and other relevant alternatives to fluorinated greenhouse gases:***

***(a)*** ***installation, servicing, maintenance, repair or decommissioning of the equipment listed in Article 5(2), points (a) to (g);***

***(b)*** ***leak checks of the equipment referred to Article 5(2), points (a) to (f), as provided for in Article 5(1);***

***(c)*** ***recovery as provided for in Article 8(1).”***

***“The certification programmes and training provided for in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall cover the following,***

***(a)*** ***applicable regulations and technical standards;***

***(b)*** ***emission prevention;***

***(c)*** ***recovery of fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I and Annex II, Section 1;***

***(d)*** ***safe handling of equipment of the type and size covered by the certificate; and***

***(e)*** ***energy efficiency aspects.”***

***“The Commission shall, by means of implementing acts, establish the minimum requirements for certification programmes and training attestations. Those minimum requirements shall specify, for each type of equipment referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2, the required practical skills and theoretical knowledge, where appropriate, differentiating between different activities to be covered, the modalities of the certification or attestation as well as the conditions for mutual recognition of certificates and training attestations. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 34(2).”***

***“Existing certificates and training attestations issued in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 517/2014 shall remain valid, in accordance with the conditions under which they were originally issued.”***

***“Where the obligations under this Article relating to the provision of certification and training would impose disproportionate burdens on a Member State because of the small size of its population and the consequent lack of demand for such training and certification, compliance may be achieved through the recognition of certificates issued in other Member States.***

***Member States applying this paragraph shall inform the Commission who shall inform other Member States.”***

# Chapter III Restrictions and Control of use

## Article 12: Labelling:

The equipment containing F-gas, or which the respective functionality depends on F-gas, must be labelled accordingly. Items placed on the market must have this labelling clearly shown with reference to the purpose of its use. This is not a major change from that of January 2017, in which the weight and amount of F-gas along with the chemical name were required to be on the label.

Reclaimed gases must also have this visible on the label, with the indication of the reclaimed or recycled substance.

### Text taken from Proposal:

**“The following products and equipment that contain fluorinated greenhouse gases or whose functioning relies upon those gases listed in Annexes I and II, may only be placed on the market if they are labelled:**

**(a)** **refrigeration equipment;**

**(b)** **air-conditioning equipment;**

**(c)** **heat pumps;**

**(d)** **fire protection equipment;**

**(e)** **electrical switchgear;**

**(f)** **aerosol dispenser that contain fluorinated greenhouse gases, including metered dose inhalers;**

**(g)** **all fluorinated greenhouse gas containers;**

**(h)** **fluorinated greenhouse gas-based solvents;**

**(i)** **organic Rankine cycles.”**

**“The label required pursuant to paragraph 1 shall indicate the following information:**

**(a)** **an indication that the product or equipment contains fluorinated greenhouse gases or that its functioning relies upon those gases;**

**(b)** **the accepted industry designation for the fluorinated greenhouse gases concerned or, if no such designation is available, the chemical name;**

**(c)** **from 1 January 2017, the quantity expressed in weight and in CO2 equivalent of fluorinated greenhouse gases contained in the product or equipment, or the quantity of fluorinated greenhouse gases for which the equipment is designed, and the global warming potential of those gases.**

**The label shall indicate the following information, where applicable:**

**(a)** **a reference that the fluorinated greenhouse gases are contained in hermetically sealed equipment;**

**(b)** **a reference that the electrical switchgear has a tested leakage rate of less than 0,1 % per year as set out in the technical specification of the manufacturer.”**

**“Reclaimed or recycled fluorinated greenhouse gases shall be labelled with an indication that the substance has been reclaimed or recycled, information on the batch number and the name and address of the reclamation or recycling facility in the Union.”**

## Article 13: Control of use:

One of the more significant changes in this proposal is that from 1 January 2024, the use of F-gas with a GWP of 2500 or more for servicing and maintenance is prohibited. This comes with a caveat for both recycled and reclaimed gases over this GWP figure. However, both cases must be appropriately labelled, with reference to the equipment that it has been reclaimed or recycled from and stating that the purpose is for that same equipment that is being serviced. The prohibition on the use of these reclaimed or recycled gases for the same equipment's servicing takes effect from 1 January 2030.

### Text from Proposal:

***“From 1 January 2024, the use of fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I, with a global warming potential of 2 500 or more, for the servicing or maintenance of refrigeration equipment is prohibited.”***

***“The prohibition referred to in the first subparagraph shall not apply to the following categories of fluorinated greenhouse gases until 1 January 2030:***

***(a)*** ***reclaimed fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I with a global warming potential of 2 500 or more used for the maintenance or servicing of existing refrigeration equipment, provided that they have been labelled in accordance with Article 12(6);***

***(b)*** ***recycled fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I with a global warming potential of 2 500 or more used for the maintenance or servicing of existing refrigeration equipment provided they have been recovered from such equipment. Such recycled gases may only be used by the undertaking which carried out their recovery as part of maintenance or servicing or the undertaking for which the recovery was carried out as part of maintenance or servicing.”***

# Chapter IV - Production schedule and reduction of the quantity of hydrofluorocarbons placed on the market

## Article 19: Pre-charging of equipment with hydrofluorocarbons

Recharged refrigeration, air conditioning units and heat pump equipment which have been charged with hydrofluorocarbons shall not be placed on the market unless accounted for in the quota. This must be complied with by the importer and fully documented. Both manufacturer and importer must be able to produce a declaration of conformity with these products to ensure compliance for at least five years.

Note: this Article does not apply to undertakings less than 100 tonnes of CO2 equivalent per year.

### Text from Proposal:

***“Refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pump equipment charged with hydrofluorocarbons shall not be placed on the market unless hydrofluorocarbons charged into the equipment are accounted for within the quota system referred to in this Chapter.”***

***“Manufacturers and importers of equipment shall keep this documentation and the declaration of conformity for a period of at least five years after the placing on the market of that equipment and shall make it available, on request, to the competent authorities of Member States and the Commission.”***

***“This Article shall not apply to undertakings that placed on the market less than 100 tonnes of CO2 equivalent of hydrofluorocarbons, per year, contained in the equipment referred to in paragraph 1.”***

## Article 20: F Gas Portal

The Commission outlines a centralised system where all information can be viewed by competent authorities, the Member States, and the Commission themselves, or that can at least ensure this data is being recorded and kept for at least five years.

The Commission shall set up an electronic system managing the quotas, licensing of imports and exports and the reporting of refrigerant gases in the F-gas Portal. This portal will ensure intercommunication between Member States, the competent authorities, and the Commission to share information.

Registration to this portal shall be validated by the Commission and stand until it is suspended, removed, or revoked.

The competent authorities, including Customs authorities of the Member State, will have access to enable effective implementation of relevant requitements and controls.

Note: Registration is active once a licence is required under Article 22

### Text from Proposal:

***“The Commission shall set up and ensure the operation of an electronic system for the management of the quota system, licensing of imports and exports and reporting (‘the F-gas Portal’).”***

***“Member States shall ensure the interconnection of their national single window environments for customs with the European Union Customs Single Window - Certificate Exchange System for the purpose of exchanging information with the F-gas Portal.***

***Undertakings shall have a valid registration in the F-gas Portal prior to the import or export of fluorinated greenhouse gases and products and equipment containing fluorinated greenhouse gases or whose functioning relies upon those gases except in cases of temporary storage and for the following activities:***

***(a)*** ***submitting a declaration pursuant to Article 17(3);***

***(b)*** ***receiving a quota allocation for the placing on the market of hydrofluorocarbons in accordance with Article 17(4) or making or receiving a quota transfer in accordance with Article 21(1) or making or receiving an authorisation to use quota in accordance with Article 21(2) or delegating that authorisation to use quota in accordance with Article 21(3);***

***(c)*** ***supplying, or receiving hydrofluorocarbons for the purposes listed in points (a) to (e) of Article 16(2);***

***(d)*** ***for carrying out the activities that require reporting under Article 26;***

***(e)*** ***for receiving production rights pursuant to Article 14 and for making or receiving a transfer and an authorisation of production rights referred to in Article 15;***

***for verifying reports referred to in Articles 19(3) and 26(8).***

***Registration shall be valid only once the Commission validates it and for as long as it is not suspended or revoked by the Commission or withdrawn by the undertaking. “***

***“The competent authorities, including customs authorities, of the Member States shall have access to the F-gas Portal to enable the implementation of the relevant requirements and controls. Access to the F-gas Portal by customs authorities shall be ensured via the European Union Single Window Environments for Customs.***

***The Commission and competent authorities of the Member States shall ensure the confidentiality of the data included in the F-gas Portal.”***

***“A valid registration in the F-Gas Portal at the moment of import or export constitutes a licence required under Article 22.”***

***[Article 22***

***Imports and exports***

***The import and export of fluorinated greenhouse gases and products and equipment containing those gases or whose functioning relies upon those gases except in cases of temporary storage, is subject to the presentation of a valid licence to customs authorities pursuant to Article 20(4).***

***Fluorinated greenhouse gases imported into the Union shall be considered as virgin gases.]***

# Chapter V – Trade

## Article 23 – Controls of Trade

Similar to Article 12, this proposal puts the onus on the importer/declarer to produce the information and to be held accountable to this information in cases of misinformation or attempted infringements to this Regulation.

The importer (or in their absence, the declarant of the imported equipment) must produce information relating to the list shown below.

This will be validated by Customs authorities, noting that where relevant, Customs authorities and market surveillance shall enforce the prohibitions and regulations of this Regulation.

### Text from proposal:

***“In cases of imports of fluorinated greenhouse gases and of products and equipment containing those gases or whose functioning relies upon those gases the importer, or where not available the declarant, indicated in the customs declaration or in the temporary storage declaration, and in cases of exports the exporter indicated in the customs declaration, shall provide to customs authorities in the declaration the following, where relevant:***

***(a)*** ***the F-gas Portal registration identification number;***

***(b)*** ***the Economic Operators Registration and Identification (EORI) number;***

***(c)*** ***the net mass of bulk gases and of gases charged in products and equipment;***

***(d)*** ***the commodity code under which the goods are classified;***

***(e)*** ***the tonnes of CO2 equivalent of bulk gases and of gases contained in products or equipment, and parts thereof.”***

***“Customs authorities shall verify, in particular, that in cases of release for free circulation, the importer indicated in the customs declaration has quota or authorisations to use quota as required by this Regulation before releasing the goods for free circulation. Customs authorities shall also ensure that in cases of imports the importer indicated in the customs declaration, or where not available the declarant, and in cases of exports the exporter, indicated in the customs declaration is registered in the F-gas Portal pursuant to Article 20.”***

***“Where relevant, customs authorities shall communicate information regarding the customs clearance of goods to the F-gas Portal via the European Union Single Window Environment for Customs.”***

***“The importer, or where not available the declarant, or exporter shall make their licence available to customs authorities during controls in accordance with Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013.”***

***“Customs authorities shall confiscate or seize non-refillable containers prohibited by this Regulation for disposal in accordance with Articles 197 and 198 of Regulation (EU) 952/2013. Market surveillance authorities shall also withdraw or recall from the market such containers in accordance with Article 16 of Regulation (EU) No 2019/1020 of the European Parliament and the Council[1].***

***For other substances and products and equipment covered by this Regulation, alternative measures may be taken to prevent unlawful import, further supply, or export, in particular in cases of hydrofluorocarbons placed on the market in bulk or charged in products and equipment in violation of the quota and authorisation requirements set out in this Regulation.***

***The re-export of gases and products and equipment that do not comply with this Regulation is prohibited. “***

# Chapter VI – Reporting and Collection of Emission data

## Article 27 - Collection of emissions data

Member States are instructed to establish emissions reporting systems for relevant sectors and shall record this data as per the system referenced in [Article 7](#_Article_7:_Record) through either of the selected paths.

### Text from Proposal:

***“Member States shall establish reporting systems for the relevant sectors referred to in this Regulation, with the objective of acquiring emissions data.***

***Member States shall, where appropriate, enable the recording of the information collected in accordance with Article 7 via a centralised electronic system.”***

# Chapter VIII - Penalties, Consultation Forum, Committee Procedure and Exercise of Delegation

## Article 31 – Penalties

Member States can use their discretion on the severity of the penalties applicable to infringements of this Regulation. However, it is noted that the penalties should be effective, proportionate, and dissuasive based on the provided criteria. A key reference is to the Member State ensuring their authorities could impose penalties following any infringements listed below.

More detail is included on repeat offences within certain time limits. For example, a case of infringement would require a penalty five times the market value, whereas two infringements within five years would incur a penalty eight times the market value.

### Text from Proposal:

***“Member States shall lay down the rules on penalties applicable to infringements of this Regulation and shall take all measures necessary to ensure that they are implemented. The penalties provided for shall be effective, proportionate and dissuasive. Member States shall, by 1 January [OP please insert the year = 1 year following the date of entry into force of this Regulation] notify the Commission of those rules and of those measures and shall notify it, without delay, of any subsequent amendment affecting them.”***

***“Member States shall ensure that level and type of penalties are appropriate and proportionate and are applied considering at least to the following criteria:***

***(a)*** ***the nature and gravity of the infringement;***

***(b)*** ***the intentional or negligent character of the infringement;***

***(c)*** ***any previous infringements of this Regulation by the undertaking held responsible;***

***(d)*** ***the financial situation of the undertaking held responsible;***

***(e)*** ***the economic benefits derived or expected to be derived from the infringement.”***

***“The Member States shall ensure that their competent authorities are able to at least impose the following penalties in case of infringements of this Regulation:***

***(a)*** ***fines;***

***(b)*** ***confiscation or seizure of illegally obtained goods or of revenues gained by the undertaking from the infringement;***

***(c)*** ***suspension or revocation of the authorisation to carry out activities where those fall under the scope of this Regulation.”***

***“In cases of unlawful production, import, export, placing on the market, or use of fluorinated greenhouse gases or of products and equipment containing those gases or whose functioning relies on those gases, Member States shall envisage maximum administrative fines of at least five times the market value of the concerned gases or products and equipment concerned. In case of a repeated infringement within a five-year period, the Member States shall envisage maximum administrative fines of at least eight times the value of the gases or products and equipment concerned.”***

## Article 38 – Entry into Force

***This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.***

***It shall apply from 1 January [OP: Please insert the year following the year of entry into force of this Regulation].***

***Articles 20(2), 20(3) and 23(5) shall apply from:***

***(a)*** ***[[1 March 2023] date = the application date specified in Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Union Single Window Environment for Customs and amending Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 in the Annex for the part concerning fluorinated greenhouse gases] for release for free circulation referred to in Article 201 of Regulation (EU) 952/2013;***

***(b)*** ***[[1 March 2025] date = the application date specified in Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Union Single Window Environment for Customs and amending Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 in the Annex for the part concerning fluorinated greenhouse gases] for import procedures other than the one referred to in point (a), and export.***

***Article 17(5) shall apply from [OP: Please insert the year following the year of the application of this Regulation].***

***This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.***

***Done at Strasbourg,***