

OzoNews

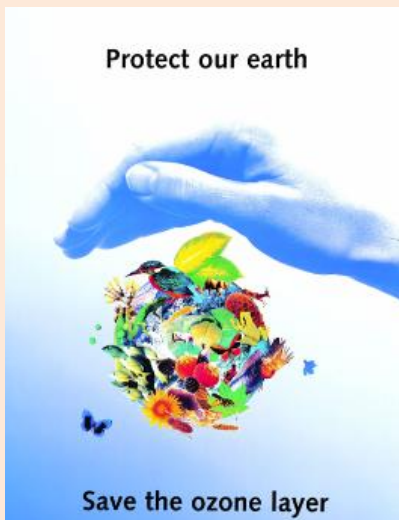
A fortnightly electronic news update on ozone and climate protection and the implementation of the Montreal Protocol brought to you by OzonAction

Volume XXV | 16 September 2025

HAPPY WORLD OZONE DAY

In this issue:

1. On Ozone Layer Day, Secretary-General Says Recovery Shows 'Progress Possible' through Science, Unity2
2. World Ozone Day 2025 Message by UNEP Executive Director, Inger Andersen3
3. St. Kitts and Nevis – Kigali ratification3
4. St. Kitts and Nevis Strengthens Commitment to Combatting Climate Change with Ratification of the Kigali Amendment3
5. The power of science in safeguarding our planet.....4
6. World Cold Chain Symposium – Save the date | November 1 | Nairobi, Kenya5
7. Nigeria works towards phasing out ozone-depleting substances in 20305
8. National and Regional Training of Trainers on Climate and Environmentally Friendly Energy Efficient Air Conditioning Conducted6
9. Protection de la couche d'ozone: Madagascar n'a pas encore ratifié l'Amendement de Kigali7
10. Azerbaijani Parliament to ratify several international agreements8
11. Polish customs seize 42 tonnes of F-gas.....8
12. Brazil launches natural refrigerants training in new SENAI-RJ lab9
13. Qatar Reaffirms Commitment to Ozone Protection and Environmental Sustainability 10



HAPPY WORLD OZONE DAY

On 19 December 1994, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed **16 September the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer**, commemorating the date, in 1987, on which the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was signed.

States are invited to dedicate this day to promoting, at the national level, activities in accordance with the objectives of the Montreal Protocol and its amendments.

We thank you for your ongoing commitment to compliance with the Montreal Protocol and your excellent efforts in implementing your national strategies and projects.

On behalf of the **OzonAction Compliance Assistance Programme**, we wish you a successful and **Happy Ozone Day celebration!**

GLOBAL

1. On Ozone Layer Day, Secretary-General Says Recovery Shows 'Progress Possible' through Science, Unity



Following is UN Secretary-General António Guterres' message for the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, observed on 16 September:

Forty years ago, nations came together to take the first step in protecting the ozone layer — guided by science, united in action.

The Vienna Convention and its Montreal Protocol became a landmark of multilateral success. Today, the ozone layer is healing.

This achievement reminds us that when nations heed the warnings of science, progress is possible.

Scientists are sounding the alarm once again. We are hurtling towards pushing global temperatures 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, with devastating consequences.

I urge Governments to fully ratify and implement the Kigali Amendment to the Protocol which commits to phase down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) — potent greenhouse gases used primarily in cooling technologies.

And I also urge them to reflect this commitment in their new national climate plans —or nationally determined contributions. These must be aligned with limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C and cover all sectors and greenhouse gases, including HFCs.

Implementing the Kigali Amendment could avoid up to 0.5°C of warming by the end of the century. Paired with energy-efficient cooling, we could double these gains.

Every fraction of a degree matters. Every action counts.

On this World Ozone Day, let's recommit to preserving our ozone layer and to protecting people and planet for generations to come.

DOWNLOAD LANGUAGE VERSIONS: [AR](#) | [CN](#) | [EN](#) | [ES](#) | [FR](#) | [RU](#)

Source/image: [United Nations](#), 4 September 2025 | [UNEP Ozone Secretariat](#)

2. World Ozone Day 2025 Message by UNEP Executive Director, Inger Andersen



[Click here to access YouTube video](#)

VIEW VIDEO WITH SUBTITLES IN:

[AR](#) | [CN](#) | [ES](#) | [FR](#) | [RU](#)

Source : [UNEP Ozone Secretariat](#), September 2025

3. St. Kitts and Nevis – Kigali ratification

At the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, held in Kigali from 10 to 15 October 2016, the Parties adopted, in accordance with the procedure laid down in paragraph 4 of article 9 of the 1985 Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, a further amendment to the Montreal Protocol as set out in Annex I to the report of the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties (Decision XXVIII/1). Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, Status of Ratification 15 October 2016 to date.



Source: [United Nations Treaty Collection](#) | Image: [Flagpedia.net](#)

4. St. Kitts and Nevis Strengthens Commitment to Combatting Climate Change with Ratification of the Kigali Amendment

United Nations, New York (4 September 2025) – In a brief yet significant and emblematic ceremony at the United Nation's Treaty Office in New York on 29 August 2025, St. Kitts and Nevis deposited its instruments of acceptance for the Kigali Amendment signaling the nation's continued commitment to combatting global climate change, and multilateralism.

Adopted in October 2016 in Kigali Rwanda, under the Montreal Protocol, a UN treaty successfully used to protect the ozone layer by phasing out chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), the Kigali Amendment, addresses a significant yet overlooked source of climate change, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). While not ozone depleting, HFCs are powerful greenhouse gases that trap heat thousand times more effectively than carbon dioxide, making their reduction crucial for climate action.

St. Kitts and Nevis' Permanent Representative and Ambassador to the United Nations, Dr. Mutryce Williams said, "St. Kitts and Nevis is a small island developing state. Although SIDS are

responsible for less than 1% of global greenhouse gas emissions, we are disproportionately affected by the climate crisis. We are susceptible to climate change: sea-level rise, intense weather such as hurricanes and rising ocean temperatures. Signing the Kigali Amendment is crucial as it helps to mitigate climate change, which poses an existential threat to our nation. The aim of the Amendment is to curb the global temperature rise, directly protecting vulnerable SIDS such as our nation from the devastating effects of warming.”

She continued, “The ratification of the Kigali Amendment further demonstrates St. Kitts and Nevis’ dedication to addressing the impact of climate change. It also aligns with our broader commitment to energy resiliency and energy sovereignty. Through our Sustainable Island State Agenda (SISA), championed by the Honourable Prime Minister Dr. Terrance Drew and his administration, capably led by Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, and Climate Action the Honourable Dr. Joyelle Clarke, St. Kitts and Nevis has pledged to develop national strategies and institutional strengthening so that our nation may be at the forefront in combatting climate change.”

At their 28th Meeting, the Parties to the Montreal Protocol adopted the Kigali Amendment, an international agreement that mandates a global phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), potent greenhouse gases used in refrigeration and air conditioning, to reduce global warming. The Amendment which came into effect on 1st January 2019 complements existing climate goals like the Paris Agreement by addressing a significant yet often overlooked source of climate change.

The Kigali Amendment aims to prevent up to 0.5 degrees Celsius of warming by 2100 by requiring developed and developing countries to reduce HFC production and consumption by 80-85% by 2047. The Amendment also promotes innovation as it encourages the development and adoption of new, lower-global warming potential alternative technologies.

Source: [Government of St Christopher \(Kitts\) & Nevis](#), 4 September 2025

5. The power of science in safeguarding our planet



On this World Ozone Day 2025, we are reminded that the story of the ozone treaties is one of the most inspiring examples of global cooperation, scientific foresight, and environmental stewardship. These landmark agreements demonstrated how science can alert the world to emerging threats and guide decisive action. For almost forty years, the world has been considering the science behind the impacts of human activity on the ozone layer and the resulting impacts on climate and human health.

Science, together with support from the Multilateral Fund are key to the Montreal Protocol’s success. On the one hand, science is at the core of the Protocol’s flexibility whereby it became stronger as scientific understanding evolved. Its design anticipated evolving scientific knowledge, ensuring it could adapt to new findings and emerging challenges. This has allowed the Protocol to pivot over the past thirty-five plus years, allowing for additional substances to be recognized and frameworks developed to address them.

Funding, on the other hand, is crucial to the implementation of the Montreal Protocol and its Amendments. The Multilateral Fund provides the support needed to ensure that all countries can develop the legislation, tools and technology required to meet the Protocol requirements and allows the necessary flexibility for countries to develop their own strategies and plans. From supporting the phase-out of CFCs to the phase-down of HFCs and beyond, the Fund has evolved its support to better assist Article 5 countries to meet changing implementation requirements.

Science, both analysis and actual atmospheric monitoring, continues to form the basis of all decisions relating to the Montreal Protocol and to the Multilateral Fund. This World Ozone Day reminds us all of the amazing value of science and of the scientists that have accompanied the evolution of the Montreal Protocol for the last four decades.

Source/image: [Multilateral Fund Secretariat](#), 27 August 2025

6. World Cold Chain Symposium – Save the date | November 1 | Nairobi, Kenya

Advancing a sustainable cold chain requires coordinated efforts from a broad range of stakeholders. Governments and non-profit organizations play a critical role in identifying and highlighting pilot projects, and industry engagement is essential to help build business models and drive long-term market growth. With this in mind, the theme for this year's World Cold Chain Symposium is Energizing the Private Sector.

Join the [Global Food Cold Chain Council](#), the [United Nations Environment Program's OzonAction](#), the [Cool Coalition](#), [Carrier](#) and experts from around the world as we come together for an in-person and virtual event focused on the benefits of investing in efficient, sustainable cold chain development programs and highlighting the progress to date.



AFRICA

7. Nigeria works towards phasing out ozone-depleting substances in 2030



Nigeria is working towards achieving the January 1, 2030, target of phasing out ozone-depleting substances (ODS) in foam, refrigeration, and air conditioning sectors to create an enabling environment for manufacturing practices that are sustainable and climate-friendly.

The Minister of Environment, Balarabe Lawal, gave the assurance yesterday in Lagos during the commissioning of the Optimised System House for the formulation of ozone and climate-friendly polyurethane systems in the manufacture of rigid foam at Vitapur Nigeria Limited, a subsidiary of

Vitafoam Nigeria Limited.

He said the plan under the Hydrochlorofluorocarbons Phase out Management Plan (HPMP) stage II project was being implemented by the ministry through the National Ozone Office and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

He recalled stage I of the project, which he said had challenges such as shrinkage and high densities of the end-product, and called for an upgrade.

To address the challenge, Lawal said it became necessary to optimise the system using different environmentally-friendly blowing agents, under the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol, to ensure Nigeria contributes towards global efforts in ensuring a sustainable environment for all.

Highlighting some of the benefits, the minister said it could lead to increased foreign exchange earnings for the country, support green jobs, and facilitate local production of environmentally-friendly foam products.

Reaffirming Nigeria's commitment to the Montreal Protocol and the Kigali Amendment Programme, he assured that the country would put in place necessary policies and enabling legislation that would support relevant stakeholders involved in the implementation of the multilateral environmental agreements to which Nigeria is a party.

Chairman of Vitafoam, Zakari Sada, said to fully optimise the potential of the project, the minister should engender government policies that would foster an enabling environment for private entrepreneurs to set up sandwich panel production lines across the six geopolitical zones in Nigeria.

Giving a status update on the project, the Group Managing Director of Vitafoam, Taiwo Adeniyi, said even though the project has achieved the set objectives, it however, thrown up some challenges, such as testing of imported PU finished goods/product for ODS blowing agent content and testing of imported PU manufacturing raw material for ODS blowing agent content.

On her part, the UNDP Resident Representative, Elsie Attafuah, represented by Muiyiwa Odele, expressed satisfaction with Nigeria's compliance with the phase-out of ozone-depleting materials.

She said the commissioning represents a powerful symbol of Nigeria's leadership in environmental stewardship, industrial innovation, and sustainable development.

According to her, it also reflects the strength of the partnership between the government, the private sector, and the international community in advancing climate action and inclusive economic transformation.

Source/image: [The Guardian](#), 3 September 2025

8. National and Regional Training of Trainers on Climate and Environmentally Friendly Energy Efficient Air Conditioning Conducted



Kenya's efforts toward green cooling continues with the promotion of the use of highly energy efficient, climate and environmentally friendly refrigerants in room split air conditioning systems (R290). Under the GRACE Project, the first two Training of Trainers sessions took place in August, at The Nairobi National Polytechnic, bringing together around 30 RAC Trainers from various institutions in Kenya as well as participations of eight other African countries.

Giving Trainers more influence to make an impact

In August 2025, the GRACE Project rolled out the Training of Trainers program, by hosting two one-week training sessions on the safe handling of R290 (A3/A2L) split air conditioners. The training initiative will enable trainers to deliver and pass knowledge and information on handling of R290 refrigerant effectively to the technicians in their various institutions. The training sessions

hosted a total of around 30 RAC trainers from various training institutions across Kenya and a few other African countries.

Ms Judith Cherono, a RAC Trainer and one of the participants in the training stated: "This training on handling of R290 ACs has been very beneficial because there has been so much anxiety on how the refrigerant would be handled given its flammability characteristics, but now the fear is gone and the technicians I will be training will adequately receive the same knowledge".

The participants gained knowledge on safety precautions in handling flammable refrigerants with regards to installation, servicing and de-commissioning.

At the end of the training, the RAC Trainers acknowledged being confident in doing the same in their institutions, which ultimately translates to a ripple effect in Kenya's climate strategy and commitments with regards to green cooling and transitioning to climate and environmentally friendly refrigerants.

The GRACE Project is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMUKN) within the International Climate Initiative (IKI) and implemented by GIZ Proklima.

Source/image: [Green Cooling Initiative](#), 2 September 2025

9. Protection de la couche d'ozone: Madagascar n'a pas encore ratifié l'Amendement de Kigali

Sur plus de 160 pays signataires, Madagascar fait partie de la trentaine de pays qui n'ont pas encore ratifié l'« Amendement de Kigali ». Un amendement au protocole de Montréal concernant l'interdiction des Substances qui appauvrissent la couche d'ozone (SAO), notamment relatifs aux hydrofluorocarbures (HFC), et qui a été adopté en octobre 2016 lors de la 28e réunion des parties prenantes à Kigali (Rwanda).

«Il prévoit une réduction progressive de la production et de la consommation des HFC selon des calendriers différenciés entre pays développés et en voie de développement, avec disposition spécifique pour chaque pays dont Madagascar », a fait savoir le Point focal de la couche d'ozone du ministère de l'Environnement et du développement durable (Medd), Janny Andrianirina.

La signature de cet amendement ne mène pas uniquement à la préservation de la couche d'ozone, mais aide également les signataires, autant sur le plan technique que financier, à faciliter la lutte pour cette préservation, et par la même occasion à lutter contre le changement climatique.

Triple intérêt stratégique

Un projet de loi à ce sujet est déjà déposé à la primature pour sa validation auprès de la chambre basse. Selon le Medd, la ratification de cet amendement par Madagascar revêt un triple intérêt stratégique pour le pays. Le premier sur le plan environnemental où cela permet de contribuer à l'atténuation du réchauffement climatique avec un potentiel de réduction de 0,5°C sur l'élévation globale des températures.

Le deuxième sur le plan économique et technologique où Madagascar va bénéficier des ressources financières du Fonds multilatéral pour couvrir les surcoûts de conversion

technologique. Dans la foulée, la Grande île va également bénéficier d'un soutien technique incluant des projets de renforcement de capacités et d'accompagnement.

Quant au troisième intérêt stratégique, elle se porte notamment sur le plan diplomatique où cette ratification permet d'aligner Madagascar avec la majorité des Etats membres des Nations-unies, ce qui va renforcer sa crédibilité dans les enceintes climatiques internationales. Permettant ainsi de renforcer ses politiques nationales sur la transition énergétique.

Source: [Newsmada](#), 6 septembre 2025

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

10. Azerbaijani Parliament to ratify several international agreements



The Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan is set to ratify a series of international agreements, **Azernews** reports. The matter has been included in the agenda of the International Relations and Interparliamentary Relations Committee meeting scheduled for September 10.

The agreements under consideration include:

The draft law on approving the Kigali Amendment of October 15, 2016, to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

The draft law on approving the Agreement on Cooperation of CIS Member States in Preventing and Responding to Public Health Emergencies of a Sanitary-Epidemiological Nature.

The draft law on approving the Agreement between the Government of Azerbaijan, represented by the Ministry of Digital Development and Transport, and the International Telecommunication Union on the hosting, organization, and financing of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-25).

The draft law on approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Azerbaijan, represented by the Ministry of Economy, and the Islamic Development Bank Group on the guarantees to be provided by Azerbaijan as host country for the IsDB Group Annual Meetings in 2026.

In addition, the committee will also review the draft law on Azerbaijan's accession to the Constitution of the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

Source/image: [Azernews](#), 3 September 2025

11. Polish customs seize 42 tonnes of F-gas

POLAND: Officers from Poland's National Revenue Administration (KAS) have seized 42 tonnes of smuggled F-gas, valued at nearly €1m.



The officers from Masovia discovered 40 pallets containing 1,340 cylinders of refrigerant when they stopped a truck for a road check in a town near Warsaw.

A subsequent raid on the warehouse from which the truck had originated, uncovered a further 2,845 cylinders. Pallets of empty refrigerant cylinders were also found in the building.

The full inventory of the seizure has not been revealed but, from the customs department photographs, the haul included the refrigerants R134a, R407C and R32.

If convicted, those involved face up to three years in prison.

Source/image: [Cooling Post](#), 6 September 2025

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

12. Brazil launches natural refrigerants training in new SENAI-RJ lab



Sixteen professionals completed the first “Train-the-Trainers” session of the new course “Safe and Efficient Use of CO₂ and R-290 in Commercial Refrigeration Systems”, held from August 18 to 23 at Firjan-SENAI Benfica, Rio de Janeiro. The training took place in a newly inaugurated demonstration lab modeled after a mini supermarket and equipped to work with natural refrigerants CO₂ and R-290.

The initiative is part of the Brazilian HCFC Phase-out Management Plan (PBH), supported by GIZ-PROKLIMA.

The course is free of charge and open to professionals in the commercial refrigeration sector.

The training was conducted by two invited instructors: mechanical engineer and PhD Professor Gutenberg da Silva Pereira, a GIZ-PROKLIMA consultant, and Fábio Francisco Ferreira, an electrotechnology technologist with a postgraduate degree in engineering and air conditioning, affiliated with PBH partner school FAPRO-ETP. The course also included technical presentations by Rogério Marson Rodrigues, engineering manager at Eletrofrío.

Three instructors — Daniel Neves, Rafael Gama, and Robson Oliveira — will deliver the PBH course at the SENAI Benfica unit starting August 25. They were joined in the training by eleven instructors from other SENAI-RJ units and two members of the local maintenance team who will oversee the new lab.

The training was also attended by Stefanie von Heinemann, project manager at GIZ-PROKLIMA; Frank Edney Gontijo Amorim and Tatiana Lopes de Oliveira Pereira, environmental analysts from Brazil’s Ministry of Environment and Climate Change; David Fernando Marcucci Pico from the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); and Edgard Soares Pinto Neto from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) — both agencies are PBH partners alongside GIZ.

Source/image: [RefIndustry Refrigeration Tech Hub](#), 6 September 2025

WEST ASIA

13. Qatar Reaffirms Commitment to Ozone Protection and Environmental Sustainability



Doha, September 11 (QNA) - The State of Qatar joins the international community in celebrating the International Day for Preservation of Ozone Layer, marked annually on September 16. The occasion highlights Qatar's growing commitment to protecting the environment, preserving its resources, addressing the impacts of climate change, and promoting environmental sustainability through carefully designed scientific strategies and plans.

Under the wise leadership of HH the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, Qatar attaches great importance and unwavering commitment to safeguarding the environment and its natural resources, while contributing to sustainable development. This includes implementing the necessary measures to protect the ozone layer from depletion. In this regard, Qatar achieved notable progress in sustainability and emissions reduction, earning recognition from the UN Environment Programme and other international organizations.

Qatar is an active party to Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and its amendments - both international treaties that regulate the production of ozone-depleting substances.

Through its membership in these agreements, the State, represented by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, works on implementing plans for the gradual phase-out of ozone-depleting substances such as Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), under strict monitoring mechanisms in cooperation with international bodies and relevant national sectors. The Ministry also organizes community awareness events, student competitions in collaboration with international organizations and universities, and honors outstanding participants as part of broader efforts to raise public awareness of ozone preservation.

As part of its national efforts, the Ministry also hosts experts from international organizations such as United Nations Industrial Development Organization to review progress on HCFC phase-out strategies. These efforts reflect Qatar's commitment as a party to the Vienna Convention and Montreal Protocol, while strengthening cooperation with specialized international organizations and supporting global efforts to protect the ozone layer and safeguard the planet from climate change.

In parallel, Qatar takes clear steps to harmonize national development with international commitments on ozone protection. The Ministry intensified monitoring of the trade in ozone-depleting substances, particularly in the refrigeration and air-conditioning sectors, and coordinates with importing companies to ensure compliance with global environmental standards. [Continue reading...](#)

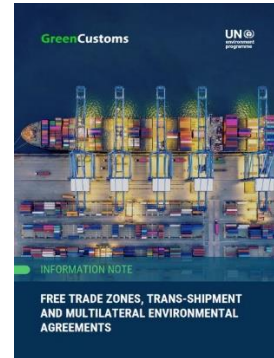
Source/image: [Qatar News Agency](#), 11 September 2025

RESOURCES

[FACTSHEET: Update on New Refrigerants Designations and Safety Classifications - June 2025.](#)
[Also available in French and Spanish](#)



[INFORMATION NOTE: Green Customs – Free Trade Zone, trans-shipment and Multilateral Environmental Agreements](#)



FEATURED



Ozone Secretariat's latest activities [here >>>](#)



Multilateral Fund's latest activities [here >>>](#)



OzoneAction's latest activities [here >>>](#)



Past OzoNews Issues [here >>>](#)
[Request PDF of current issue](#)
[Subscribe to OzoNews](#)

Disclaimer:

The United Nations Environment (UNEP), Law Division, OzoneAction, provides OzoNews as a free news clipping service for the members of the Montreal Protocol community under UNEP's mandate as an Implementing Agency of the Montreal Protocol's Multilateral Fund. Since its inception in January 2000, the goal of OzoNews is to provide current news relating to ozone depletion and the implementation of the Montreal Protocol, to stimulate discussion and to promote cooperation in support of compliance with this multilateral environmental agreement. With the exception of items written by UNEP and occasional contributions solicited from other organizations, the news is sourced from online newspapers, journals, and websites.

The views expressed in articles written by external authors are solely the viewpoints of those authors and do not represent the policy or viewpoint of UNEP. While UNEP strives to avoid inclusion of misleading or inaccurate information, it is ultimately the responsibility of the reader to evaluate the accuracy of any news article in OzoNews. The citing of commercial technologies, products, or services does not constitute endorsement of those items by UNEP.

If you have questions or comments regarding any news item, please contact the source directly indicated at the bottom of each article.

Prepared by: UNEP OzoneAction | **Reviewed by:** James S. Curlin

If you wish to submit articles or invite new subscribers, please contact: Jo Chona, jo.chona@un.org

UNEP, OzoneAction, 1, rue Miollis, Bldg. VII – 75015, Paris • France