Table "Ambient limit values"

FCAH recommendations

The FCAH recommends that the Federal Council adjust the ambient limit values set out in Annex 7 of the OAPC in accordance with the following table to ensure that these values continue to fulfil the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act.

Pollutant	Averaging time	WHO AQG 2021	Current OAPC ambient limit value	FCAH recommendation 2023
Sulphur dioxide (SO$_2$), µg/m^3 (see Chapter 8)	Annual average and new mean value over winter half-year	-	30[a]	20[b]
	95% of ½h mean value for a year	-	100	remove
	24h mean value	40[c]	100[d]	40[c]
Nitrogen dioxide (NO$_2$), µg/m^3 (see Chapter 7)	Annual average	10	30	10
	95% of ½h mean value for a year	-	100	remove
	24h mean value	25[c]	80[d]	25[c]
Carbon monoxide (CO), mg/m^3 (see Chapter 9)	24h mean value	4[c]	8[d]	4[c]
Ozone (O$_3$), µg/m^3 (see Chapter 6)	Summer season[e]	60	-	60
	98% of ½h mean value for a month	-	100	100
	8h mean value	100[c]	-	-
	1h mean value	-	120[d]	120[d]
Suspended particulates / particulate matter (PM10), µg/m^3 (see Chapter 4)	Annual average	15	20	15
	24h mean value	45[c]	50[c]	45[c]
Suspended particulates / particulate matter (PM2.5), µg/m^3 (see Chapter 5)	Annual average	5	10	5
	24h mean value	15[c]	-	15[c]

[a] Ambient air quality standard, which also includes the protection of animals and plants, their biological communities and habitats according to Article 1 paragraph 1 EPA, and corresponds to the state of knowledge when the Air Pollution Control Ordinance was adopted in 1985.

[b] Value stipulated in the 2000 WHO AQGs (WHO, 2000) for the protection of forests and other seminatural ecosystems. Valid as an annual average as well as for the winter half-year. (October-March).

[c] 99th percentile (i.e. limit value may be exceeded three times per year).

[d] May only be exceeded once per year.

[e] Average of the maximum daily 8h mean value ozone concentrations in the six consecutive months with the highest six-month average for ozone concentration. For Switzerland, this corresponds to April to September.