

**Statement by Magdolna Tóthné dr. Nagy, Guta Environmental Law Association, on behalf of the European ECO Forum**

Agenda item 6 Programme of work and operation of the Protocol: (a) Implementation of the work programme for 2018–2021;

Madame Chair, distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the European ECO Forum and the Guta Environmental Law Association, we thank the Secretariat and the Bureau for the Report on the implementation of the work programme of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers for 2018–2021.

This document underscores the extensive activities carried out by them and the different stakeholders during the past period, in preparation and conduct of the sessions of the Working Group of Parties meetings, as well as the contribution to the meetings of different international organizations, and to the different international conferences and workshops.

Among the highlights, we especially should mention the innovative participatory and interactive sessions during the meetings of the Working Group of Parties, where the needs of Parties and stakeholders could be identified and advice could be provided by the representatives of different international organizations and Parties, with expertise on more advanced PRTRs. These could be useful for the development of further assistance programmes or initiatives for those Parties and stakeholders in need. The findings of the Survey on the experiences of the implementation of the Protocol, the report and the related proposals of the Bureau have been also very valuable, as these have outlined areas where the Protocol may need further development. Along with the international developments, these could provide a good basis for continuing the work in the next interim period, in case Parties initiate amendments.

Thank you for the attention!