

#### **Item 4a, General discussion – Csaba Kiss, Justice & Environment/ European ECO Forum**

European ECO Forum / Justice and Environment would like to call the attention to a new legislative development in Hungary. While there is a state of emergency declared in Hungary due to the war in Ukraine, a new regulation having entered into force in May makes it possible to hold a public hearing in environmental matters without the actual presence of the public, via electronic means. This is the method that was applied during the COVID-19 pandemic but the whole concept and its technical implementation (e.g. in some cases members of the public have to call a phone number and can leave a voice message of maximum 3 minutes) is a step back and we cannot evaluate it as a progress.