

Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen!

Welcome to Budapest, welcome to the CEUREG Forum again.

It is a pleasure to me to open this forum on authorization and use of plant protection products.

It was just 25 years ago , when the central and Eastern European registration authorities gathered first time in Budapest to discuss the challenges and problems they were facing at that time.

During the years the participants, the responsible persons in the countries changed, but the importance of the PPP authorization in Europe did not decrease, on contrary it developed much and plays increasing role in food safety. While on one hand some NGOs and mass media require stricter and stricter rules, on the other hand the agricultural growers are complaining due to disappearing of active substances.

In the two days ahead of us we will have opportunity to discuss the most interesting professional and legal problems of the authorization and use of PPPs, including also the control of the products.

There was never so many participants on CEUREG like now, 120 experts registered from authorities, international organizations, manufacturers and consultant companies.

Thank you for accepting our invitation, and especially thanks for the speakers making their presentation. We can discuss with the representatives of the European Commission, ECPA, ECCA, EPPO, and national authorities.

I wish you two nice days and a fruitful conference.

We will give you some technical information after the coffee break.

And now I would like to ask Dr. Lajos Bognár, chief veterinary officer, secretary of state responsible for food chain safety, to welcome the conference.