

**COUNTRY:** Brazil

**COMMITTEE:** UNEP

**TOPIC: Promoting the development of nuclear technology as a safe and sustainable energy source of the future, protection of the environment in armed conflicts, the influence of COVID-19 on the environment**

**For many centuries, human beings have existed in harmony with nature because nature meant life to them. However, environmental problems are one of the most crucial issues in today’s world. As a country that owns 60% of the world’s rainforest, we recognize the great harm caused by environmental problems.**

**The history of Brazilian nuclear technology started in the mid-1930s. Now, Brazil has two nuclear reactors and these reactors produce 3% of our electricity. The government of Brazil knows that nuclear technology plays a significant role in producing energy. Therefore, in the last eight months alone, our president (Jair Bolsonaro) has begun replacing the old concepts of nuclear policy with new ones and opening up private investment in the nuclear industry. On the other hand, we are also aware of its own renewable energy capacity. Brazil has 79.3 GW hydroelectric potential. Access to electricity across the country is almost universal and nearly 45% of primary energy demand is met by renewables, rendering the Brazilian energy market one of the world’s least carbon-intensive. Nuclear energy has both cons and pros but Brazil will not only pay attention to nuclear energy but also carry out a balanced energy policy with renewable energy sources to promote sustainability for nuclear and renewable energy.**

**As we said before, nuclear energy has both advantages and disadvantages. There is one disadvantage which will be very hazardous for the environment: nuclear weapons. Enormous explosive energy is produced by nuclear weapons. Brazil has never produced weapons. Moreover, Brazil has disavowed nuclear arms and peaceful nuclear explosions (PNEs) and has been a state party to the Nuclear Weapons Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).**

**At the beginning of March 2020, The World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 as a global pandemic. Then, in late March, partial quarantine was ordered by the government of Brazil. During this time, there was a decrease of up to 54.3 percent in NO2 concentration on city road in Brazil. Furthermore, a rise about 30% in** O3 **concentrations was observed. The partial quarantine has provided a beneficial effect on air quality. However, during the pandemic, masks have become essential due to preventing spread of COVID-19. Masks lead to pollution especially in oceans. We are delighted with the pandemic’s environmental gains, but it is crystal clear that these positive results will not last long.**

**Lastly, Brazil suggests that all countries must work cooperatively to ensure the safety and sustainability of nuclear energy with the aid of the United Nations. Each country should review its own nuclear energy policies. A balanced policy should be followed between renewable and nuclear energy sources. In addition, every country should jointly act and make collaborative decisions with entrepreneurs who are considering to invest in nuclear energy. To retain air quality, countries should evaluate pollution data in their cities with the urban and regional planners. It is also important to improve the natural infrastructure of cities and to make society aware of easy yet efficient methods, such as the use of public transport. We want the support of member states and the United Nations to achieve these solutions.**