

Commitee: UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Topic: The Effect of War Preparations on the Environment

Country: Turkmenistan

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Without exception every country in the world is arming. Because the armament is closely related to security. But it is also related to the concept of war. In other words, arming is not only a tool for security and defence but also a means of war.

 As Turkmenistan, we are one of the most peaceful countries in the world. When we became a member of UN in 1995, we declared ourselves as a permanent neutralized country. As a permanent neutralized country, we guarantee that we don’t start any war, we never take a part in a war and we never take side of any country.

After the USSR collapsed, most of its military equipment were shared by new established countries. But we didn’t get any from them. And we weren't armed until 2008. After that, we felt under the threat of some radical groups and we needed to strenght our army in order to defend ourself if necessary.

Beside the huge economical affect of strenghtining our army, there are some environmental consequences either. %80 of our countryland is a desert and having clean drinking water is a growing problem. All the toxic materials, coming from military equipments which are used by countries in the region, not only poisons the air but also poisons the water.

As a permanent neutralized country, we invite all countries to become a permanent neutralized country. Currently there are 13 countries which has this statue. Our recommendation to UN is to encourge all countries to at least consider this politic.

Thank you.