Commitee: UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Topic: Promoting the Development of Nuclear Technology as a Safe and Sustainable Energy Source of the Future

Country: Turkmenistan

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As Turkmenistan, we have one of the biggest natural gas reserves in the world. But we are aware of the fact that we should make investments for renewable energy sources.

As Turkmenistan, we own 10.1% of the world's natural gas reserves and we are an important natural gas supplier. But we are making investments for renewable energy sources like wind power and solar energy systems by taking advantage advantage of our country’s desert area. Therefore, Turkmenistan is an IAEA member country since 2016 to setup Technical Cooperation Programme.

However, we think that if all the necessary precautions are taken, nuclear energy is a safe, renewable and sustainable energy source. But we should find a solution for nuclear waste problem. Nuclear wastes are endangering human lives and environment by their very high radiation rate. The most eco-friendly method to destroy the nuclear wastes is “Plasma vitrification” which is currently used by 5 countries. In this method, you mix nuclear wastes with sand and glass and you heat it at 5000 degrees. If this method is used, nuclear waste turns into glass and it won’t pose a danger for a million years.

In World Bank Group, there is an Environmental and Social Framework which finances investment projects related to environment and social issues. To encourage the countries which are considering to invest in nuclear power reactors, we recommend WBG to increase their budget for Plasma vitrification projects and make it non-refundable. Thus, the damage caused by nuclear energy on the environment will be reduced.

Thank you