Country: Austria

Committee: UNDP

Agenda Item: Development of Nuclear Energy and Its Effects on Environmental Matters

The Republic of Austria is a landlocked country in Central Europe. Neighboring countries include Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Liechtenstein, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Switzerland. West and South Austria are located in the Alps while the rest of the country is mostly flat. The government system is a federal republic; the chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the federal chancellor. Austria has a mixed economic system which includes a variety of private freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation. Austria is a member of the European Union (EU).

The Austrian parliament unanimously decided to build a nuclear power plant, and the government launched a nuclear energy programme in the 1960s. The 700 MWe boiling water reactor at Zwentendorf Nuclear Power Plant was built by the German company KWU starting in 1972. The government started an education campaign to inform the public about the advantages and security of nuclear power in 1976, two years before the nuclear power plant opened. On the other hand, this campaign sparked a public debate that resulted in substantial protests against the Zwentendorf plant in 1977.

On 15 December 1978, the Austrian Parliament voted in favor of a ban on using nuclear fission for Austria’s energy supply until March 1998. Additionally, it is against the law to store or transport radioactive materials through Austria. In Austria, discussions on nuclear energy persisted, with some lawmakers hoping to lift the ban. However, efforts to lift the moratorium waned following the Chernobyl disaster in 1986. The Austrian Parliament unanimously enacted legislation on July 9, 1997, declaring the nation to remain anti-nuclear. Austria demanded in 2012 that Europe give up nuclear power. Austria has specifically made an effort to persuade the Czech Republic to demolish the nuclear power station Temelin, which is located close to Austrian borders. The nuclear power plant has been defended by the Czech Republic as safe and preferable to other options like relying on coal, gas or oil.

Today as the Republic of Austria we are maintaining our aim of minimization of radiactive and nuclear power usage all over the world. And call upon the every single country to abandon nuclear power for good. We need a future that is safe, long and habitable for all of the nations.

Country: Austria

Committee: UNDP

Agenda Item: Quality education interruptions due to territoroal disputes in the MENA region

The Republic of Austria is a landlocked country in Central Europe. Neighboring countries include Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Liechtenstein, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Switzerland. West and South Austria are located in the Alps while the rest of the country is mostly flat. The government system is a federal republic; the chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the federal chancellor. Austria has a mixed economic system which includes a variety of private freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation. Austria is a member of the European Union (EU).

In Austria, school attendance is compulsory for nine years, including one year of preschool, four years of primary school, and four years of lower secondary school. At age 16, students may choose either a vocation or academic track program based on their field of interest and academic strengths. Also Austria is considered to have a very high quality of education. The University of Vienna is ranked 143 according to the Times Higher Education world rankings and boasts nine institutions in the top 1,000. These include the medical and technical universities related to the study of sciences.

The Republic of Austria is aware of and not in favour of the terrible issues and conflicts in the MENA region. We believe every individual who lives in the world has a right to get education no matter his or hers religion, etnicity, gender or social status.And we always supported equal and quality education all over the world based on International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and The Convention on the Rights of the Child.

As the Republic of Austria we consider education as the most vital issue in the world and accordingly we support and encourage all of the initiatives and attempts to improve the education facilities for all of the local people in the MENA region. Because educate people means establish the future. Malcolm X says “Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.”