2006

Jr. Ohio Model United Nations

Resolution

Nation: Uzbekistan

School: Perkins Middle School

SUBJECT: Reversing Water Loss and Contamination

WHEREAS, the Aral Sea is losing water making a more concentrated brine and causing it to become polluted, and

WHEREAS, the destruction of the Aral Sea ecosystem has been sudden and severe since beginning in the 1960's, and

WHEREAS, Uzbekistan is the world's third largest exporter of cotton, and

WHEREAS, agriculture's demands have deprived the large central Asian salt lake of enough water to sustain itself, and

WHEREAS, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and other central Asian states use water from the Aral Sea to grow cotton and other export crops, and

WHEREAS, the pesticides from the cotton are leeching into the Aral Sea, and

WHEREAS, the Aral Sea has already lost 75% of its water, which is the equivalent of lakes Erie and Ontario, and

WHEREAS, the surface area of the Aral Sea has dropped 50%, and

WHEREAS, chronic toxicity has a longer term effect on health due to frequent exposure of a toxic substance often causing cancer, mental illness, and kidney and liver disease, mental illness, cancer,

WHEREAS, the Caspian Sea watershed has been flooding and causing substantial crop damage in many areas of the watershed.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that water treatment facilities should be funded and built at the Aral Sea to reduce contamination of the Aral Sea. They should also build a pipeline or water stream leading from the Caspian Sea watershed to the Aral Sea watershed to help control the flooding in the Caspian Sea watershed and slow the net loss of water in the Aral Sea.