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Damage to the Environment Caused by Continued Armenian Occupation

The Operation Center of the Azerbaijan's Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources has completed a research on the consequences of the continued Armenian occupation of the Azerbaijani territories.

The research assesses overall damage to Azerbaijan's environment as high as 26,4 billion US dollars as a result of the aggression and subsequent occupation of about 20 percent of Azerbaijani territory by Armenian armed forces. The Ministry has also assessed the environmental damage inflicted upon refugees and internally displaced persons and their land and farms in accordance with their possessions and complains. The environmental damage estimated to be 9,6 billion US dollars.

Fires which have ravaged the occupied territories this summer have inflicted serious damage to the land, flora and fauna on the occupied territories. The fires have resulted in the destruction of historical and cultural monuments as well as natural sanctuaries remained in the occupied territories. This problem was discussed at the UN General Assembly in September-October 2006 within the agenda item "Situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan".

The speedy resolution of the Armenia-Azerbaijani conflict and the withdrawal of occupied forces is the only option for the creation of necessary conditions for damage control, restoration and preservation of environment and natural sanctuaries on the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.