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Letter dated 5 November 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the eighteenth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement, held on 25 and 26 October 2019 in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, on the theme “Upholding the Bandung Principles to ensure concerted and adequate response to the challenges of the contemporary world”.

In this regard, I am pleased to transmit to you herewith a copy of the Baku Declaration (see annex), adopted at the Summit, and should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 15, 17, 19, 23, 34, 35, 52, 61, 68, 69, 70, 83, 94, 98, 109, 121, 122 and 124.

(Signed) Yashar **Aliyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex to the letter dated 5 November 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Baku Declaration of the eighteenth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement

**Baku, Azerbaijan
25–26 October 2019**

We, the Heads of State and Government, gathered at the 18th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement, in Baku, the Republic of Azerbaijan, on 25–26 October 2019, under the theme “Upholding the Bandung Principles to ensure concerted and adequate response to the challenges of contemporary world”, undertook a review of the progress achieved in the implementation of the outcomes of the XVII Summit of the Movement, held in the Island of Margarita, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on 17–18 September 2016, with a view to making an effective contribution to the solution of the major problems of concern to all NAM Member States and to entire mankind, and,

Inspired by the vision, principles and objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement, articulated in Bandung (1955) and Belgrade (1961), and guided by the Declaration on the Purposes and Principles and the role of the Non-Aligned Movement in the present international juncture, adopted at the 14th NAM Summit in Havana, Cuba, on 16 September 2006, in our efforts to achieve a world of peace, equality, cooperation and well-being for all,

Reiterating our strong commitment to the purposes, principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

Acknowledging that the United Nations is comprised of the rich diversity of political, economic, social and cultural systems of our humanity, which shall be embraced and respected, while stressing their opposition to all attempts of imposition on any State of particular models or systems, as well as their commitment to promoting dialogue and tolerance,

Emphasizing that the principles of sovereignty and political independence are practiced within the United Nations through the full exercise of the rights and privileges of its Member States and, in this regard, expressing determination to defend the rights and privileges of Member States of the United Nations and to work hand in hand to avoid, mindful of the importance of this question, setting precedents that may undermine their full exercise in any way,

Reaffirming that every State has the duty to refrain in its international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations, and that such a threat or use of force constitutes a violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations and shall never be employed as a means of settling international issues,

Encouraged by the validity of the founding principles of the Movement and the achievements that have marked its historical developments, which ratify that the fight against colonialism and neo-colonialism, racism, all forms of foreign intervention, aggression, foreign occupation, domination or hegemony, as well as the intention of becoming a balancing factor in the international relations, outside of the military alliances of the centers of power, remain concrete expressions of the policy of non-alignment;

Emphasizing that armed conflicts, aggressive expansionist policies, terrorism, separatism, trans-national organized crime and extremism coupled with human rights abuses, financial crises and environmental degradation continue to affect millions of people around the world,

Underscoring the need, at the current international circumstances, for strengthened unity within and increased effectiveness of the Non-Aligned Movement,

Acknowledging that preserving and strengthening the values of multilateralism and international cooperation, which underpin the Charter of the United Nations and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, is fundamental to promoting and supporting the three pillars of the United Nations – peace and security, development and human rights,

Congratulating H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, for assuming the chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement and expressing appreciation to the Government and people of the Republic of Azerbaijan for hosting the XVIII Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement,

Having adopted the Outcome Document of the NAM Baku Summit, held on 25-26 October 2019 in Baku, the Republic of Azerbaijan,

Declare that the effective implementation of the NAM Baku Summit Outcome Document and the documents of the previous NAM Summits and Ministerial Meetings requires the highest commitment and determination of all NAM Member States to decisively address the challenges posed in the areas of peace, economic and social development, human rights and international cooperation, and for which we will make joint efforts to achieve the following objectives,

- To activate the role of the Movement for making it adequate to new realities in the current geopolitical landscape by promoting and upholding its founding principles which continue to be as much valid and relevant as originally conceived;
- To enhance the status and role of the Movement in opposing war and supporting peace internationally;
- To further coordinate Member States' positions in order to advance the interests of the developing world, build a fair, inclusive, transparent and effective system of global governance, based on justice and equitable participation of all countries, and address present challenges and risks stemming from global security threats, armed conflicts, environmental hazards, climate change, contagious diseases, extreme poverty, among others;
- To remain united and steadfast within the Movement in view of the emerging threats and challenges to international peace, security and development;
- To increase the effectiveness of the Non-Aligned Movement in order to ensure that the Movement is a dynamic and effective mechanism to represent, coordinate and support the interests and priorities of all of its Member States in an adequate and timely manner;
- To support multilateralism with the United Nations at its core and give a boost to the central role of the United Nations in the institutional and legal framework of global governance;
- To call for further strengthening and modernizing the United Nations, revitalizing the UN General Assembly and strengthening its authority as the most democratic, accountable, universal and representative body of the Organization, including in the area of international peace and security, and reforming the UN Security Council, in order to transform it into a more

democratic, effective, efficient, transparent and representative body, and in line with contemporary geo-political realities;

- To remain committed to and promote the faithful observance of the principles of international law concerning friendly relations and cooperation among States and the fulfillment in good faith of the obligations assumed by States, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations which is of the greatest importance for the maintenance of international peace and security;
- To reaffirm that all States shall respect the territorial integrity, sovereignty, the sovereign equality, political independence and inviolability of international borders of other States, comply with the principles of non-intervention in the internal affairs, the abstention from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of States, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, recommit to support and promote these principles of international law and to continue opposing any attempt aimed at partial or total disruption of the national unity or territorial integrity of States;
- To reaffirm that acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations are activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States and destabilizing the legitimately constituted Governments, and that the international community should take the necessary steps to enhance cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism;
- To strengthen NAM solidarity in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whosoever committed, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the relevant international conventions. In this context, we stress that terrorism should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group;
- To call upon all Member States, in accordance with their obligations under applicable international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, to deny terrorist groups safe haven, freedom of operations, movement and recruitment and financial, material or political support, which endanger national, regional and international peace and security, and to bring to justice or, where appropriate, extradite, on the basis of the principle of extradite or prosecute, the perpetrators of terrorist acts or any person who supports, facilitates or participates or attempts to participate in the financing, planning or preparation of terrorist acts;
- To redouble efforts towards eliminating the threat posed to the human species by the existence of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, including through strengthening the existing Nuclear Weapon Free Zones and supporting their establishment where they do not yet exist, especially in the region of the Middle East. In this regard, we resolve to work to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons. We further reiterate the sovereign right of countries to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, keeping in view their independence and economic development;
- To maintain and strengthen the security and stability of international commercial navigation and energy supplies for all, and in this regard exercise restraint from provocative actions against oil tankers and commercial ships, in the Middle East. Expressing our concern, in particular about the recent series of negative incidents in the international waters of the Strait of Hormuz, Sea of Oman, Red Sea and the Strait of Bab-Al-Mandeb, we reiterate that the whole global community shares a common vital interest in maintaining freedom of

navigation and the free flow of oil and other resources for all to and from the Middle East and beyond;

- To ensure that peacekeeping operations are carried out with strict adherence to the principles and purposes enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, and emphasize that respect for the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of States, as well as non-intervention in the internal affairs, are key elements of the joint efforts in the promotion of international peace and security. In this regard, we reiterate that the respect for the basic principles of peacekeeping; namely, consent of the parties, impartiality, and non-use of force except in self-defense and defense of the mandate, is essential for the success of peacekeeping operations;
- To promote a culture of peace by joint activities of the Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement to observe the 2021 as the International Year of Peace and Trust, which constitutes a means of mobilizing the efforts of the international community to promote peace and trust among nations based on, inter alia, political dialogue, mutual understanding and cooperation, in order to build sustainable peace, solidarity and harmony;
- To continue to work towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, leaving no one behind, remembering that the Agenda is universal and transformative, based on peoples' needs and interest;
- To recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is one of the critical elements in the promotion and realization of the right to development and is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, which requires a multifaceted and integrated approach;
- To express serious concern over the adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis on global trade through, inter alia, the rising protectionism, in particular, in developed countries, which negatively affects exports of developing countries;
- To reaffirm the central importance of the development dimensions in trade negotiations and maintain that a successful conclusion of the Doha Development Round, launched in 2001, can only be achieved if the outcomes thereof significantly address the imbalances and inequities in the multilateral trading system, in which the interests of developing countries could be reflected;
- To express our strong condemnation at the promulgation and application of unilateral coercive measures against Member States of the Movement, in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, particularly the principles of non-intervention, self-determination and independence of States. In this respect, we reiterate our determination to denounce, and demand the repeal of, such measures, which affect human rights and prevent the full economic and social development of the peoples subjected to them. Similarly, we reaffirm, in this connection, our full commitment to the provisions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which are to be implemented in a manner that is consistent with the rights and obligations of States under international law, and which reaffirm that every State has, and shall freely exercise, full permanent sovereignty over all its wealth, natural resources and economic activity, in line with the relevant United Nations General Assembly resolutions;
- To reaffirm that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our times and express profound alarm that emissions of greenhouse gases continue to raise globally. We express concern about the increased adverse impacts of climate

change, particularly on developing countries, which are severely undermining their efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development;

- To reiterate that the South-South Cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for sustainable development of our peoples, as a complement and not as a substitute to the North-South Cooperation, which allows for the transfer of appropriate technologies, in favorable conditions and preferential terms. In this regard, we reaffirm that the South-South Cooperation is an expression of solidarity and cooperation among the peoples and countries of the South, which contributes to their national wellbeing, guided by the principles of respect for sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in the internal affairs, and mutual benefit;
- To reaffirm our commitment to the promotion and protection of all human rights, in accordance with international commitments and domestic laws, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, through a constructive and cooperative international dialogue, capacity building, technical assistance and the recognition of good practices, while ensuring the full enjoyment of all human rights, including the right to development as an inalienable, fundamental and universal right, and as a comprehensive part of the universally recognized human rights, in order to build collective and sustainable peace and prosperity across the world;
- To reiterate that human rights should be strengthened by adhering to the fundamental principles of universality, transparency, impartiality, non-selectivity, non-politicization and objectivity, while seeking to realize the human rights for all, pursuant to the principles contained in the Vienna Declaration of 1993;
- To reaffirm and underscore the validity and relevance of the Movement's principled positions concerning the right to self-determination of peoples under foreign occupation and colonial or alien domination;
- To urgently call for serious, collective efforts to bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, in accordance with and in full respect of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, and the relevant United Nations resolutions, including Security Council resolutions [242 \(1967\)](#), [338 \(1973\)](#) and its most recent resolution of [2334 \(2016\)](#);
- To urge the international community to act swiftly to avert the further dangerous deterioration and destabilization of the situation and to fulfill, without delay, the historical, political, legal and moral responsibilities towards the question of Palestine, including in support of the Palestinian people's realization of their inalienable rights, including self-determination and freedom in their independent State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, on the basis of the pre-1967 borders;
- To condemn all measures taken by Israel, the Occupying Power, to alter the legal, physical and demographic status of the Occupied Syrian Golan, and demand once again that Israel should abide by the United Nations Security Council resolution [497 \(1981\)](#), and to withdraw fully from the Occupied Syrian Golan to the borders of 4 June 1967, in implementation of Security Council resolutions [242 \(1967\)](#) and [338 \(1973\)](#);
- To recognize that Member States have the primary responsibility to promote durable solutions for internally displaced persons in situations of armed conflict,

including their voluntary return in safety and with dignity, as well as to ensure respect, protection and fulfillment of their human rights;

- To promote tolerance and respect for diversity and to seek common ground among and within civilizations in order to address common challenges to humanity that threaten shared values, universal human rights and the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, through cooperation, partnership and inclusion. We value in this regard the input of national, regional and global initiatives, such as the “Baku Process” initiated by the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2008, as a key global platform for promoting intercultural dialogue, to establishing an effective and efficient dialogue between civilizations.
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