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**Letter dated 17 August 2021 from the Permanent Representative of
Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia regarding the continued military actions of Azerbaijan against the Republic of Armenia in gross violation of international law and purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations (see annex).

On 16 and 17 August 2021 two Armenian servicemen were killed and another one was wounded as a result of shelling and sniper fire by Azerbaijani armed forces in the direction of Yeraskh village in the Ararat region and in the Gegharkunik region.

Azerbaijan's provocative actions further undermine regional security and efforts aimed at the resumption of negotiation process under the auspices of the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

I kindly ask that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mher **Margaryan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 17 August 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia

17 August 2021

On August 16, the Azerbaijani armed forces carried out provocative actions in the border areas of the Republic of Armenia, near Yeraskh settlement, near Sev Lake in the Syunik region and in the Gegharkunik region, targeting the civilian population of the bordering settlements. The armed forces of Azerbaijan continued the shelling with weapons of various calibres in the direction of Sotk in the Gegharkunik region.

On August 16, as a result of the shelling by the armed forces of Azerbaijan in the direction of Yeraskh, a serviceman of the Armed Forces of Armenia Vahan Tatosyan was fatally wounded by the shot of the sniper, and soldier Arman Hakobyan was fatally wounded by the enemy in the direction of Gegharkunik region. On August 17, another serviceman of the Armed Forces of Armenia was wounded. We express our deepest condolences and support to the family members and relatives of the killed servicemen and wish a speedy recovery to the wounded serviceman.

It is noteworthy that these actions are accompanied by the threats of the Azerbaijani top leadership towards the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Armenia and use of force against Artsakh.

We strongly condemn the provocative actions of the Azerbaijani side, which are clearly aimed at undermining the efforts towards de-escalation and hindering regional security and peace. They are aimed at preventing the resumption of the peace process under the auspices of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairmanship, as well as disrupting the regional unblocking process and the opening of all means of communication.

The Republic of Armenia will consistently defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity, the right of the people of Artsakh to self-determination and life in their homeland.
