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**QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL
FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD**

**Note verbale dated 26 March 2004 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan
to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the secretariat of the
Commission on Human Rights**

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva presents its compliments to the secretariat of the sixtieth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and has the honour to transmit herewith the Appeal to the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, parliaments and heads of State of the world on behalf of participants at the conference held in Baky on 23 February 2004 and devoted to the twelfth anniversary of the Khojaly genocide.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan would highly appreciate the circulation under agenda item 9, "Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world" of the present note verbale and the attached information* as an official document of the sixtieth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

* Reproduced in the annex as received, in the language of submission only.

Annex

APPEAL

**to the United Nations, Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe,
Council of Europe, Commonwealth of Independent States, Inter-
Parliamentary Union, parliaments and heads of states of the world**

**on behalf of participants – women NGOs
and well-known women activists of the Republic –
of the Conference of February 23, 2004
devoted to the 12th anniversary of Khojaly genocide**

We, on behalf of millions of girls and women of the Republic of Azerbaijan and thousands of women, girls, martyrs' mothers, who were subject to Armenian aggression, were expelled from their ancient lands and inhabited in tent camps, carriages and other inhuman residencies, appeal to you to bring to your attention historical truth and tragedy of our fate and call you to raise your voice in restoration of justice.

XX century that deserves to be considered as a period of speedy scientific and technical progress of the world civilization, triumph of peace and prosperity, human rights and humanism, unfortunately, also remained in the memory of the humanity with the merciless wars, barbarous racism and chauvinism which resulted in horrible crimes. Still innocent bloods continue to be shed as a result of ethnic and religious conflicts in the new century and millennium. Events of September 11 proved again that no state is insured against terrorism – the biggest threat to peace and tranquility in our planet. Azeri people, suffering from Armenian terrorism over the last century immediately after September 11 unanimously supported international antiterror movement and expressed its readiness to be in the first rows of this struggle.

Azeri people, having been a terrorism target of Armenians for long ago, faced with bloody troubles especially after declaration of its independence.

Armenian terrorists, who committed the most severe terrors over the world did not confine with human tragedy and even never concealed their feelings of hostility towards democracy and independence.

After declaration of independence of Azerbaijan for the second time Armenian terrorists committed one of the most terrible tragedies of the century – Khojaly genocide. Khojaly genocide is one of the unprecedented brutalities against Azerbaijanis committed by the Armenian nationalists, who are the authors of the adventurous and chauvinist policy of establishment of "Great Armenia" "from sea to sea" (from Black Sea to the Caspian Sea).

On the 26th of February 1992, Armenian military units attacked Khojaly peaceful residents of the town were brutally killed, 613 persons, including 106 women and 63 children were killed with harsh torture, and 421 persons were severely maimed. As a result of the tragedy about 1500 civilians were taken as hostages or missing, 155 children lost their parents, town, with the population of 10000 was ransacked and burnt.

Indifferent attitude and cold manner of the world community towards Khojaly genocide, impunity of grave criminals and killers of children caused not only disbelief to justice and deep sadness in Azeri people, but also led to increasing of Armenian aggression and terrorism as a whole. Its obvious example is vandalism and kid execution in Nagorno Karabakh and other Azerbaijan territories after Khojaly genocide.

We appeal to all parliaments, heads of the states and international organizations to draw your attention to this terrible tragedy and to the facts that more than 500 thousand Azerbaijanis were massacred by Armenians from the beginning of the century up to now, the territories now named the Republic of Armenia were forcibly misappropriated at the expense of eternal Azeri territories by Armenians, more than 2 millions of Azerbaijanis were expelled from these territories, historical names of about 2000 residencies of Azeri origin were changed, 20% of Azerbaijan territories (12 regions) were occupied, more than 1 million of Azerbaijanis became refugees and internally displaced persons. We call you to condemn this vandalism in accordance with the principles and norms of international law, to recognize Khojaly genocide and to stand for liberation of occupied Azerbaijani territories.

**Appeal was adopted on February 23 2004, at the
Conference held in the State Committee
on Women's Issues**
