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Agenda items 35, 39, 67 and 109

**Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and
their implications for international peace,
security and development****The situation in the occupied territories
of Azerbaijan****Elimination of racism, racial discrimination,
xenophobia and related intolerance****Measures to eliminate international terrorism****Security Council****Sixty-seventh year****Letter dated 9 May 2012 from the Permanent Representative of
Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 5 May 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia (S/2012/301). That statement pretends to respond to the speech of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan at the Security Council meeting held on 4 May under the agenda item "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts". In reality, the said statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia is yet another illustration of sophisticated and blatant falsification, by means of which the Armenian side attempts unsuccessfully to deny its responsibility for the most serious crimes of concern to the international community, including acts of terrorism, committed in the course of its ongoing aggression against Azerbaijan.

As is well known, international Armenian terrorism has bloody historic antecedents connected with the perpetration of numerous terrorist acts in various countries and killings of many foreign citizens and diplomats. Thus, according to mass media reports and analysis of civil society organizations, between 1973 and the present, with the exception of terrorist attacks against Azerbaijan and its citizens, Armenian terrorist groups, such as the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia and the Justice Commandos of the Armenian Genocide, committed approximately 239 acts of terrorism in different countries of North America, Europe, the Middle East and the Pacific region, which killed at least 70 and wounded 524 people; 105 people were taken hostage, 12 of whom were



executed. Those terrorist acts included at least 160 bomb attacks and accounted for the vast majority of deaths and wounding, as they were generally committed in crowded public areas, such as airports, city squares and shopping malls.

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, between 1980 and 1986, Armenian terrorism accounted for 24.1 per cent of all terrorist incidents in the United States of America. Among a number of countries targeted by Armenian terrorism also was the former Soviet Union. Thus, on 8 January 1977, a series of three explosions in the subway and market centres in the Soviet capital, Moscow, claimed the lives of seven people and injured dozens. In January 1978, another bomb blew up in the Moscow subway causing scores of deaths and injuries among passengers. Three nationals of the Soviet Union of Armenian origin, S. Zatikyan, Z. Bagdasaryan and A. Stepanyan, were identified and brought to justice as the perpetrators of those terrorist acts.

It should be particularly noted that, while the international community, particularly through the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council, has repeatedly expressed its profound solidarity with the victims of terrorism and their families, stressed the importance of assisting victims of terrorism, and provided them and their families with support to cope with their loss and grief, the leadership of Armenia has consistently demonstrated its solidarity with, and support and sympathy for the perpetrators of terrorist acts. Evidence of the special relationship in Armenia can be seen in the glorification of terrorists, including raising them to the status of national heroes and granting State decorations to them. Examples include, inter alia, the collection of the signatures of 1,277,473 nationals of Armenia in defence of the Armenian terrorist Varujan Karapetyan, who was sentenced in France to life imprisonment for placing an explosive device at Orly airport. Moreover, the sixth grade at a school in Yerevan was named in his honour, and in Yerevan and Echmiadzin, exhibitions of his paintings were organized. Expressions of sympathy for terrorists by the leadership of Armenia have included, for example, the appeal by the President of Armenia to the President of France for a pardon for Varujan Karapetyan, as well as the presence of the head of the Armenian State at the funeral of the well-known international terrorist, Monte Melkonian. It is notable that Melkonian was conferred the title of national hero and was posthumously awarded the highest military honours and decorations in Armenia.

Against this background, the hopeless attempts of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia to blame Azerbaijan and link it with international terrorist networks seem curious, to say the least. Likewise, it is absurd when the leadership of Armenia, which makes no secret of the promotion and dissemination of the odious ideas of racial superiority and differentiation and which has purged both the territory of its own country and the occupied areas of Azerbaijan of all non-Armenians and thus succeeded in creating mono-ethnic cultures there, has the cheek to ascribe its own crimes to others.

There are more than sufficient facts which expose the methods of nefarious fabrications used by the Armenian propaganda, and these have repeatedly been brought to the attention of the international community. Suffice it to recall the famous interview of 15 December 2000 with President Serzh Sargsyan of Armenia, who in answer to the question as to whether things could have happened differently and whether he had any regrets about the deaths of thousands of people as a result of Armenian attacks against Azerbaijani civilians, frankly said that he “has absolutely

no regrets”, since “such upheavals are necessary, even if thousands have to die” (see <http://carnegieendowment.org/2012/02/24/president-interview-andtragic-anniversary/9vpa>).

Valid references to Armenia made in the context of deliberations in the Security Council regarding threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts gave rise to the inadequate and irresponsible reaction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia. In this regard, in accordance with instructions received from the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, I have the honour to draw your attention to some facts testifying to the organization and implementation by Armenia of terrorist acts against Azerbaijan (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 35, 39, 67 and 109, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Agshin **Mehdiyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex to the letter dated 9 May 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Information on some facts testifying to the organization and implementation by Armenia of terrorist acts against Azerbaijan

After the open assertion by Armenia in the late 1980s of its territorial claims on Azerbaijan and the launching of armed operations in the Daghylyq Garabagh (Nagorno Karabakh) region of Azerbaijan, terrorism has been actively used as one of the means to achieve annexationist aspirations. In all, as a result of terrorist acts against Azerbaijan perpetrated since the late 1980s by the Armenian secret service and Armenian terrorist organizations closely connected with it, over 2,000 citizens of Azerbaijan have been killed, the majority of them women, the elderly and children.

It is notable that the first entry in the tragic list of crimes by Armenian terrorists in the territory of Azerbaijan was made before the beginning of the conflict when in 1984, in Baku, a passenger bus on the No. 106 route was blown up, killing one woman — the mother of two children — and injuring several other people. The identified terrorist responsible for that crime was an Armenian named Vartanov.

In December 1988, a military transport aircraft on the Baku-Yerevan route with rescue workers and humanitarian aid for victims of the Armenian earthquake on board suffered a disaster near Yerevan in circumstances which remain unexplained. Some versions speak of firing and others of the deliberate disorientation of the pilot by air traffic control at Yerevan airport (in view of the low altitude of the flight and the mountainous terrain). The underlying motive for this planned “air disaster” is completely unprecedented, in that the victims of this crime were 79 people who had been sent on a humanitarian mission from Azerbaijan to Armenia, despite the difficulties that had by then arisen in relations between the two republics.

On 27 May 1989, on a train from Yerevan to Baku, an Armenian citizen, V. Minasyan, was arrested and found to be in possession of an explosive device. In her testimony, Ms. Minasyan confessed that she had been intending to set that device to go off in the capital of Azerbaijan, Baku.

On 24 July 1989, there was an explosion on a train of Azerbaijan Railways at Karchevan station.

On 7 October 1989, the road bridge across the river Khalfalichai on the southern edge of the town of Khankandi was blown up. On 29 April 1992, the perpetrator of this terrorist act — one A. Abramyan — was sentenced to 15 years’ imprisonment.

Over the period from 19 January to 17 February 1990, a terrorist group carried out numerous raids from the territory of Armenia targeting the inhabitants of the frontier villages of Kheyrymly and Sofulu in the Gazakh district of Azerbaijan. The same terrorist group carried out an attack on a patrol vehicle of the Gazakh district division of internal affairs and plotted the destruction of a railway locomotive. Two

members of the group, L. Arutyunyan and A. Mkrtchyan, were sentenced to five and six years' imprisonment, respectively.

On 18 February 1990, 13 people were injured by an explosion in an intercity bus on the Shusha-Baku route, at the 105 km marker on the Yevlakh-Lachyn road.

On 4 March 1990, the Nabiyan-Shusha pipeline, which supplied the town of Shusha in the Daghlyq Garabagh region with drinking water, was blown up.

On 11 July 1990, between the settlements of Getavan and Charaktar in the Tartar district of Azerbaijan, an armed assault was launched on a road convoy, travelling under troop escort and conveying people and goods to the town of Kalbajar. In that terrorist act, three people were killed and 23 injured. The investigation identified one A. Airiyan as the perpetrator of this crime.

On 10 August 1990, in the Khanlar district of Azerbaijan, terrorists blew up an intercity bus operating on the Tbilisi-Aghdam route, killing 20 passengers and injuring 30. The perpetrators of that terrorist act were arrested before they were able to carry out their plan to blow up, on 17 June 1991, a bus on the Aghdam-Tbilisi route. Two Armenians, A. Avanesyan and M. Tatevosyan, were found guilty of those crimes.

In November 1990, a terrorist group, set up by one M. Grigoryan, a member of the terrorist organization "Ergraparkh", based in the territory of Armenia and composed of inhabitants of the Echmiadzin district of Armenia, was sent into the territory of Azerbaijan. This group was disarmed by the law enforcement agencies of Azerbaijan while attempting to carry out terrorist acts.

On 9 January 1991, at the 5 km marker on the Lachyn-Shusha road in the area of Galadarasi village, terrorists fired on a UAZ-469 vehicle belonging to military unit No. 44688 of the city of Gandja, killing the driver, Sergeant I. I. Goek, the commander of the reconnaissance battalion, Lieutenant Colonel A. P. Larionov, the chief of staff in the commandant's office of military unit No. 3505 (the command centre for the special units of the interior forces of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Major I. D. Ivanov, and a journalist from the newspaper "Molodezh Azerbaidzhana", Ms. S. A. Asgarova. The investigation identified A. Mkrtchyan, G. Petrosyan, A. Mangasaryan, G. Arutyunyan and G. Arustamyan as the perpetrators of this crime.

On 30 May 1991, 11 people were killed and 22 injured following an explosion on a passenger train from Moscow to Baku near Khasavyurt station (Dagestan, Russian Federation).

In May 1991, officials of the law enforcement agencies arrested S. Aznaryan, an inhabitant of the Noyemberyan district of Armenia, on a Baku-Tbilisi train at Shamkir station and removed from his possession two mines, a sub-machine gun and maps of the Azerbaijan rail and road network.

On 31 July 1991, a Moscow-Baku passenger train was blown up near Temirgau station (Dagestan, Russian Federation), killing 16 people and injuring 20.

The law enforcement agencies of Azerbaijan detained and disarmed two members of the Armenia-based terrorist organization "Urartu", A. Tatevosyan and V. Petrosyan, who, on 2 August 1991, had carried out terrorist attacks in the territory of the Kalbajar district of Azerbaijan.

On 20 November 1991, an MI-8 helicopter carrying a group of representatives from the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan and senior Azerbaijani leadership was shot down near the village of Garakand in the Khojavand district of Azerbaijan. The killing of 22 people, including statesmen from three countries, effectively put an end to the first attempt to settle the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict peacefully and prompted an escalation of violence in the region.

The single successful terrorist act carried out by Armenian terrorists against vessels of the Azerbaijan Caspian Shipping Line occurred on 8 January 1992. An explosion on the ferry *Sovietskaya Kalmykia* operating between Krasnovodsk and Baku claimed the lives of 25 people and injured 88. In the same year, an attempt to carry an explosive device onto the steamer *Sabit Orujov* was prevented in time.

On 28 January 1992, a civilian helicopter flying on the Aghdam-Shusha route was shot down by terrorists over the Azerbaijani town of Shusha in the Daghylyq Garabagh region, killing 41 passengers, most of them women and children, as well as the crew.

On 28 February 1993, 11 people were killed and 18 injured near Gudermes station (Dagestan, Russian Federation) by a bomb placed on a Baku-Kislovodsk train.

On 2 June 1993, a passenger carriage was blown up in a siding at the Baku railway station. On 22 July 1994, I. Khatkovsky, a Russian national and correspondent for the newspaper *Demokratichesky Tilzit*, resident of the village of Gastelovo in the Slavsky District of the Kaliningrad region of the Russian Federation, was found guilty of committing this crime and sentenced to eight years' imprisonment by the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The investigation process revealed that Mr. Khatkovsky had been recruited by the Directorate for National Security (the former State Security Committee) of Armenia and provided with detailed instructions on how to organize the bombing of transportation and communications facilities and vital services in Azerbaijan, gather intelligence information and commit terrorist acts in the territory of the Russian Federation. The case of Mr. Khatkovsky helped to uncover and neutralize a group of agents of the Directorate for National Security of Armenia who were responsible for organizing terrorist acts in Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Russian Federation. The head of the group was Lieutenant-Colonel Jan Oganessian, the chief of the department of intelligence and subversive operations in the territory of an adversary. Lieutenant-Colonel Oganessian and his two subordinates, Ashot Galoyan and Boris Simonyan, were sentenced by the military tribunal of the Tambov garrison, Russian Federation, to various terms of imprisonment.

On 1 February 1994, a Kislovodsk-Baku passenger train was blown up at Baku station, killing three people and injuring more than 20.

On 9 April 1994, a railway car was blown up at Khudat station.

On 17 March 1994, an Iranian C-130 transport aircraft was shot down over the territory of Azerbaijan occupied by Armenian armed forces, resulting in the deaths of 32 people who were citizens of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

On 19 March 1994, a bomb placed in one of the carriages of a train exploded at the 20 January subway station in Baku. As a result of this act, 14 people were killed and 42 were injured, some seriously.

On 26 March 1994, an explosive device was found in a railway carriage at Gazymammad station of Azerbaijan railways, thus averting another tragedy.

Six people were killed and three wounded at the Dagestanskiye Ogni station (Russian Federation) on 13 April 1994 as a result of an explosion on a Moscow-Baku passenger train.

On 3 July 1994, there was an explosion in a train between the 28 May and Ganjlik subway stations, killing 14 people and wounding 54.
