



General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 April 2020

Original: English

Human Rights Council

Forty-third session

24 February–20 March 2020

Agenda item 4

Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Note verbale dated 8 January 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and has the honour to submit herewith a document reflecting the position of the Azerbaijani community of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the peaceful settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict (see annex).

The Nagorno-Karabakh conflict started in the late 1980s as a result of the territorial demands of Armenia against Azerbaijan resulting with the occupation of Nagorno-Karabakh and seven adjacent administrative districts of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which constitute 20 per cent of the internationally recognized territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

As the result of the ethnic cleansing and the war later waged by Armenia against Azerbaijan from 1987 to 1994, more than 1 million Azerbaijanis were forcefully expelled from their native lands, becoming internally displaced persons and refugees.

The economic, social and cultural rights of the internally displaced persons and refugees forcefully expelled from those territories are still being violated by Armenia today.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva kindly requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to circulate the present note verbale and the annex thereto* as a document of the forty-third session of the Human Rights Council, under agenda item 4.

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



Annex to the note verbale dated 8 January 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Position of the Azerbaijani Community of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the peaceful settlement of the Armenia – Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

Referring to the Memorandum circulated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan at the OSCE on 3 December 2019, the Azerbaijani Community of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan reaffirms its readiness to live in a peaceful coexistence with the Armenian Community of Nagorno-Karabakh again within the internationally recognized borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan as it was before.

According to the Helsinki Additional Meeting of the CSCE Council held in March 24, 1992, the Azerbaijani and Armenian communities of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan were recognized as two equal "interested parties". The denial of even the existence of the Azerbaijani Community of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan as an interested party by Armenia is the violation of our fundamental rights and is against the spirit of documents adopted by the OSCE.

We, Azerbaijani Community of the Nagorno-Karabakh, demand the immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of the Armed Forces of Armenia from the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region and seven adjacent districts of Azerbaijan, and return of the forcibly displaced Azerbaijani population to their homes, as enshrined in the UN Security Council resolutions adopted in 1993.

With the aim to contribute to the progress in the negotiations and in line with the Co-chairs' statements on the need to prepare the population to peace, we stand ready to engage in an inter-community dialogue with the Armenian community of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan.

We strongly believe that the settlement of the conflict on these bases will create just and durable peace and favorable conditions for comprehensive economic development of the entire region and provide the peaceful coexistence of both communities in the Nagorno-Karabakh region within the boundaries of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
