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**Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their
implications for international peace, security
and development**

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

**Letter dated 13 July 2020 from the Permanent Representative
of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan in connection with the provocation by the armed forces of Armenia on the State border between Armenia and Azerbaijan on 12 July 2020 (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 32 and 37, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yashar Aliyev
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 13 July 2200 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan

12 July 2020

On 12 July 2020, the armed forces of Armenia, with the use of artillery, attempted to attack to seize positions in the direction of the Tovuz district along the State border between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

The attack of the enemy forces was prevented by retaliatory measures. As a result of the combat, three servicemen of the Azerbaijani army were killed and four were injured.

This provocative act of the Armenian armed forces should be seen as a continuation of the recent actions and statements of the leadership of the aggressor State – Armenia, which serve to increase tensions in the region.

Armenia, which has reflected its aggressive policy in the country's national security strategy, openly demonstrates that it aims to seize new positions and increase tensions in the region, instead of eliminating the consequences of the conflict and withdrawing its occupying forces from the internationally recognized territories of Azerbaijan.

This provocation by Armenia casts serious doubt on the essence of the negotiations mediated by the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs on the settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

With such provocative actions, Armenia tries to involve third countries in the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. Nevertheless, the position of the international community on Armenia's aggressive policy is well-known.

All provocations of the enemy forces will also be adequately prevented in the future.

Armenia bears full responsibility for such provocative actions that serve to aggravate the situation.

God bless the souls of our Martyrs.
