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Seventy-fifth year****Prevention of armed conflict****Right of peoples to self-determination****The responsibility to protect and the prevention of
genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes
against humanity****Letter dated 15 October 2020 from the Permanent Representative of
Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to enclose herewith a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia dated 14 October 2020 regarding the targeting of the territory of the Republic of Armenia by the Azerbaijani armed forces (see annex I) and a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh Republic) dated 14 October 2020 regarding the deliberate shelling by Azerbaijani armed forces of a hospital located in the north-eastern part of the Republic of Artsakh, where civilians were also treated (see annex II).

Azerbaijan, supported by the armed forces of Turkey and Turkish-backed foreign terrorist fighters, continues to commit war crimes and other gross violations of international humanitarian law. The attempts by Azerbaijan to expand the geography of the military aggression by directly attacking the territory of Armenia are yet another manifestation of provocative actions of Azerbaijan aimed at undermining the agreement on cessation of hostilities for humanitarian purposes.

I kindly request that the present letter and its annexes be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 34, 71 and 135, and of the Security Council.

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



Annex I to the letter dated 15 October 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Foreign Ministry of Armenia on the targeting of the territory of the Republic of Armenia by Azerbaijani armed forces

14 October 2020

The Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Armenia issued a statement informing that on October 14, the Azerbaijani armed forces targeted military installations and equipment on duty within the territory of the Republic of Armenia, in the Vardenis region, based only on groundless assumptions that the equipment was “ready to strike at peaceful settlements in Azerbaijan.”

It is obvious that Azerbaijan is not only refusing to implement the ceasefire which should have been established on the basis of joint statement of the Foreign Ministers of Russia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, agreed on October 10 at the initiative of the President of Russia Vladimir Putin, but also with blatant instigation of Turkey, seeks to expand the geography of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, by attacking and resorting to open aggression against the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia.

All the actions undertaken by the Azerbaijani side will receive an adequate response with the means at the disposal of the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia.

We strongly condemn Azerbaijan’s attempts of armed aggression against the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia and warn that Azerbaijan’s provocative actions will lead to irreversible military-political consequences, for which the leadership of Azerbaijan bears full responsibility.

Annex II to the letter dated 15 October 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Artsakh

Statement

We strongly condemn the deliberate shelling by the Azerbaijani side of a hospital located in the north-eastern part of the Republic of Artsakh, where civilians were also treated. Such a serious violation of the laws and customs of war once again indicates that the triple alliance of Azerbaijan, Turkey and international terrorists will not stop at any crimes in order to achieve their geopolitical goals.

Azerbaijan, whose actions are supported and controlled by Turkey, not only refuses to observe the humanitarian truce, but also purposefully expands the scale and geography of the aggression. In particular, on October 14, Azerbaijani-Turkish armed forces attacked the territory of the Republic of Armenia, bringing threats to regional peace and security to a new level. The criminal actions of the Azerbaijani-Turkish side deserve the strictest condemnation and resolute measures to prevent their repetition in the future. Further ignorance by the international community of the danger posed by the triple alliance of Turkey, Azerbaijan and international terrorists may have irreparable consequences not only for the South Caucasus, but also beyond its borders.

We emphasize once again that at a time when the Azerbaijani authorities, supported by Turkey and international terrorists and remaining unpunished, have lost their sense of reality and deliberately torpedo the peace initiatives of the Russian Federation and the OSCE Minsk group co-chairs, the only effective way to stop the escalation of violence, save numerous human lives and ensure long-term and lasting peace in the region is the international recognition of the independence of the Republic of Artsakh.

Stepanakert, 14 October 2020
