



**THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN  
TO THE UNITED NATION**

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**Statement by H.E. Mr. Yashar Aliyev  
Permanent Representative of the Republic Azerbaijan to the United Nations  
at**

**UNGA High-level dialogue on “Building Sustainable Peace for all: Synergies between the  
2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustaining Peace”**

*25 January 2017*

Mr. President,

At the outset, I would like to thank the PGA for the initiative to hold this high-level dialogue on the synergies between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and sustaining peace.

Despite the devastating consequences of armed aggression it is suffering for over two decades, Azerbaijan continues to undertake consistent efforts towards developing an inclusive and diversified economy and adapting its national sustainable development strategy to that end.

My country has either initiated or actively promoted a number of important regional development and infrastructure projects, the implementation of which contributes to the sustainable economic growth of Azerbaijan and other countries in the region and beyond.

On 6 October 2016, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev issued a special Decree on the Establishment of the National Coordination Council on Sustainable Development, instructing it to identify national priorities and their indicators until 2030, in line with the global development goals and targets, to adapt the relevant State programs and strategies and to prepare annual national SDG progress reports.

Needless to say that unresolved armed conflicts, other security challenges and related humanitarian crises undermine the ability of the affected countries to achieve sustainable development and threaten to reverse much of the development progress made in recent times.

The 2030 Agenda underscores that there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development. In that regard, the Agenda specifically recalls the rights and obligations of States under international law and reaffirms respect for the territorial integrity and political independence of States.

We concur with the Secretary-General that our priority is prevention of conflict, of the worst effects of natural disasters, and of other manmade threats.

It goes without saying that resolving armed conflicts is the necessary precondition for the successful implementation of all the Sustainable Development Goals and enabling economic cooperation.

In this context, special attention should be given to the implementation of resolutions adopted by the principal organs of the United Nations, relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution.

In this connection, I would like to draw attention to Security Council resolutions 822, 853, 874 and 884 on the conflict in and around the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan that condemn the use of force against my country and the occupation of its territories and reaffirm respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan. The Council also reconfirmed that the Nagorno-Karabakh region is an integral part of Azerbaijan, demanded the immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of the occupying forces from all the occupied territories of my country.

The Security Council's principled demands have still not been implemented and unresolved conflict continues to prevent full-fledged regional cooperation.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate that interdependence of security and development requires concerted efforts to sustain peace and stability for the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda.