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**Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the explanation of vote on
resolution A/RES/73/331, entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the
Collective Security Treaty Organization”**

*Plenary meeting of the General Assembly
25 July 2019*

At the outset, we would like to thank the delegation of Kyrgyzstan for skillful efforts and leadership in facilitating the negotiations on the draft resolution just adopted. The delegation of Azerbaijan has actively participated in the negotiation process. We note with satisfaction that some of our proposals put forward in the course of informal consultations have been accommodated in the text of the resolution.

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations is essential for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations. Regional organizations cannot be misused by those who gravely violate international law and advocate the culture of impunity.

The Charter of the Collective Security Treaty Organization commits its Member States to act in strict accordance with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations, and the decisions of the Security Council and to be guided by the universally recognized principles of international law. According to the Charter of the CSTO, the purposes of the Organization are to strengthen peace and international and regional security and stability and to promote a just and democratic world order based on the universally recognized principles of international law.

We recall those obligations with particular purpose. As is well known, the Republic of Armenia, one of the members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, used military force to seize a part of the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, namely, the Nagorno-Karabakh region, the seven adjacent districts and some exclaves, to ethnically cleanse the captured areas of all non-Armenians and set up the subordinate racist minority regime there.

In its resolutions 822 (1993), 853 (1993), 874 (1993) and 884 (1993), the Security Council condemned the use of force against Azerbaijan and occupation of its territories, reaffirmed respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, the inviolability of international borders and the inadmissibility of the use of force for the acquisition of territory and demanded the immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of the occupying forces from all the occupied territories.

None of the Security Council resolutions were implemented by Armenia, which continues to take purposeful measures to consolidate the gains of the use of force and ethnic cleansing and to challenge the ongoing political efforts towards the resolution of the conflict.

It is important to emphasize in that connection that the fulfillment in good faith of the obligations based on full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and inviolability of their international borders are necessary prerequisites for the maintenance of international and regional peace and security and are at the core of economic cooperation and sustainable development.

There is no alternative to commonly agreed rules and their universal application, including in particular with regard to the resolution of conflicts, whatever their distinct root causes and characteristics. Consistency should be maintained in identifying ways and means of international response to various crises and conflicts. The implementation of resolutions adopted by the principal organs of the United Nations and accountability must be part and parcel of collective efforts towards that end.

In that regard, we note that in the resolution just adopted the General Assembly, inter alia, referred to the Articles of the United Nations Charter relating to regional cooperation and encouraged the efforts by the States Members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to attain objectives consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations. We look forward to such efforts and their reflection in the future reports of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations.