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**General Assembly**  
**Seventy-fourth session**  
Agenda items 32 and 37**Security Council**  
**Seventy-fifth year****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 14 July 2020 from the Permanent Representative  
of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the  
Secretary-General**

I have the honour to submit to you a letter from Elmar Mammadyarov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, in connection with the ongoing provocation by the armed forces of Armenia along the international border between Azerbaijan and Armenia, which has resulted in fatalities and serious military escalation (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 14 July 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

**Baku, 14 July 2020**

I am writing to draw your attention to the recent provocation by the armed forces of Armenia along the international border between Azerbaijan and Armenia, which resulted in serious military escalation.

On 12 July, the armed forces of Armenia launched an attack using artillery aimed at seizing advantageous positions within the territory of Azerbaijan in the direction of Tovuz district. The armed forces of Azerbaijan were compelled to take adequate measures to repel this new act of aggression against the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan. As a result of the attack of Armenia, 11 servicemen of the armed forces of Azerbaijan were killed and numerous others were wounded. It is of particular concern that the armed forces of Armenia, in a blatant violation of international humanitarian law, deliberately targeted civilian settlements along the border, including with heavy artillery weapons, such as D-30 (122-mm) howitzers. As a consequence, there were civilian casualties, and serious damage was inflicted upon civilian infrastructure in the villages of Aghdam and Dondar Gushchu of the Tovuz district of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

This provocative act of Armenia should be seen as a continuation of the recent actions and statements of its leadership targeting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan. Armenia deliberately resorted to this armed provocation along the international border with a view to introducing a new dimension to the unresolved Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, aiming at engaging the members of the political-military alliance, the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), to which it is a member, into the conflict. With this act of aggression, the Armenian leadership also aims at diverting the attention of Armenian public opinion from the evolving deep economic, financial and political crisis in the country, exacerbated by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

This deliberate violation by Armenia of the ceasefire, along with its other actions and statements to increase tension on the ground, demonstrates the hypocrisy of this country's alleged adherence to the global ceasefire appeal by the United Nations Secretary-General.

The determination and courage of the armed forces of Azerbaijan in repelling the latest aggression of Armenia should serve as proof that the Republic of Azerbaijan will not tolerate Armenia's attacks against its sovereignty and territorial integrity, nor will it reconcile with the occupation of its internationally recognized territories.

The Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan expects the international community to condemn this irresponsible behaviour of Armenia, and to persuade the leadership of this country to engage in good faith in negotiations with a view to finding a political settlement to the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict through the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions [822 \(1993\)](#), [853 \(1993\)](#), [874 \(1993\)](#) and [884 \(1993\)](#).

I rely on your support on this extremely important matter to overcome the serious threat posed by the reckless actions of Armenia undermining the security and stability in our region.

*(Signed)* Elmar **Mammadyarov**