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Agenda items 35, 40, 86 and 135

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**Security Council
Seventy-fifth year**

**Letter dated 4 October 2020 from the Permanent Representative
of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General**

Further to our previous communications in connection with the act of aggression perpetrated by Armenia against Azerbaijan on 27 September 2020 and the situation it caused, I have the honour to inform you of the following.

In the morning hours on 4 October 2020, the armed forces of Armenia launched massive missile attacks from the territory of Armenia against the densely populated residential areas of Ganja, the second largest city of Azerbaijan situated 60 km away from the frontline. Ganja was hit with multiple rocket launch systems. As a result, 1 civilian resident of Ganja was killed and 32 others, including 6 children, were wounded. Serious damage was inflicted upon the civilian infrastructure and historical buildings in Ganja.¹

According to the information provided by the Ministry of Defence of Azerbaijan, “Tochka-U” tactical missiles, multiple rocket launch systems, including “Smerch”, “Uragan” and “Grad”, as well as other heavy artillery are used by the armed forces of Armenia to target the residential areas and other civilian objects in Azerbaijan.

¹ Additional material is on file with the Secretariat and available for consultation.



Since the outbreak of hostilities on 27 September 2020, in total, 22 Azerbaijani civilians, including 2 children and 2 elderly, were killed and 97 civilians were wounded, more than 200 houses and other civilian objects, including hospitals, medical facilities, ambulances, schools, kindergartens and energy infrastructure, were destroyed as a result of Armenia's shelling of cities, towns and villages in Azerbaijan.

Armenia's attacks directed at civilians, the murder and injuring of civilians and attacks that caused indiscriminate or disproportionate harm to civilians and civilian objects in Azerbaijan amount to war crimes under international humanitarian law, for which Armenia bears liability and which also incur individual criminal responsibility of the perpetrators.

The armed forces of Azerbaijan continue the counteroffensive operation, neutralizing Armenian fire and battle positions and liberating the territories of Azerbaijan from enemy occupation, in the exercise of the right of self-defence and in full compliance with international humanitarian law.

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 35, 40, 86 and 135, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yashar Aliyev
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
