

Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan in response to the statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Armenia

**Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Alignment Movement
Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

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We have noticed that the observer delegate of Armenia attended this ministerial meeting only to deliver his speech, without paying attention at all to the topic of the meeting, the outcome documents adopted by the NAM Member States and the positions expressed in their statements during the debate.

As a consequence, instead of learning lessons and realizing that the NAM is not a place for aggressors and their destructive ideas, the delegate of Armenia has abused his country's privilege of being an observer of the Movement and has made a yet another useless attempt to deny the facts and responsibility for continued violations of international law.

Neither Azerbaijan nor any member of the Movement are in need of Armenia's lectures as to the NAM activities and the conduct of its business. In reality, Armenia has long ago chosen the path of confronting the unified position of the international community, including the Non-Aligned Movement. The statement made by the observer delegate of Armenia is illustrative in that regard. It is well-known that Armenia used military force to seize a part of the territory of Azerbaijan, namely, the Nagorno-Karabakh region, the seven adjacent districts and some exclaves, to expel the Azerbaijani population from those areas and to set up the subordinate racist minority regime there.

In his statement, the observer delegate of Armenia deliberately passed over in silence the four Security Council resolutions, in which the Council condemned the use of force against Azerbaijan and the occupation of its territories and reaffirmed respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of my country, the inviolability of international borders and the inadmissibility of the use of force for the acquisition of territory.

Moreover, in response to Armenia's territorial claims and forcible actions, the Council reconfirmed that the Nagorno-Karabakh region is an integral part of Azerbaijan and demanded the immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of the occupying forces from all the occupied territories.

The observer delegate of Armenia also omitted to mention other important international documents adopted in connection with the conflict, including the consistent position of the NAM, which once again was reaffirmed yesterday in the Final Document of this ministerial meeting.

Armenia must drop its futile attempts to mislead the international community, engage constructively in the conflict settlement process and comply with its international obligations.