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Agenda items 35, 40, 86 and 135

**Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their
implications for international peace, security
and development**

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

The rule of law at the national and international levels

**The responsibility to protect and the prevention of
genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes
against humanity**

**Security Council
Seventy-fifth year**

Letter dated 3 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 outbreak of hostilities in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan along the front line between the armed forces of Armenia and Azerbaijan as a result of the former's act of aggression perpetrated against my country on 27 September 2020, I have the honour to bring to your attention the updated information about the consequences of direct and indiscriminate attacks by the armed forces of Armenia against the civilian population and civilian objects in Azerbaijan that continue to date.

As a result of direct shelling by the armed forces of Armenia of the densely populated areas in Azerbaijan, with the use of large-calibre weapons, 19 civilians, including 2 children and 2 elderly, were killed and 63 civilians were wounded, 181 houses and 44 other civilian objects were either significantly damaged or destroyed (photo evidence is attached).¹ The entire family of five people, including two children (born in 2006 and 2007), were killed in the Goranboy district. Even hospitals, medical facilities, ambulances, schools, kindergartens and graveyards are not spared. Among the targeted areas are also the settlements for the internally displaced persons forcibly expelled by the invading Armenian forces from the Nagorno-Karabakh region and other occupied territories of Azerbaijan in 1992–1993. Only during one day on 2 October, over 2,000 shells fell in the Tartar district of Azerbaijan. The armed forces of Armenia also fired at the energy infrastructure within Azerbaijan.

¹ On file with the Secretariat and available for consultation.



In order to repulse the aggression and ensure the safety of the civilian population, the armed forces of Azerbaijan continue the counter-offensive operation, neutralizing Armenian fire and stronghold battle positions and liberating the sovereign territories of Azerbaijan from enemy occupation, in the exercise of the right of self-defence and in full compliance with international humanitarian law.

Among the destroyed weapons of the armed forces of Armenia deployed in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan are about 230 tanks and other armoured vehicles, 250 artillery pieces, multiple rocket launch systems and mortars, 38 air defence systems, an S-300 anti-aircraft missile system, 10 command control and command observation posts, 7 ammunition depots and more than 130 military vehicles.

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.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter 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
