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Agenda items 16, 35, 72, 85, 137, 138 and 140

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Letter dated 30 December 2021 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I write to you to express once again our strongest protest against the circulation by Armenia of papers in the name of a non-existent entity and the references to the localities within Azerbaijan under fake names. The letters from the Permanent Representative of Armenia dated 19 November and 3 and 15 December 2021 ([A/76/555-S/2021/962](#), [A/76/581-S/2021/1010](#) and [A/76/605-E/2022/7](#)) are the latest examples of outrageous fabrication and undisguised propaganda of war, hatred and lawfulness.

Being apparently inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly, these and similar letters from the Permanent Representative of Armenia are invalid and absurd also because the place names to which they refer are pure fiction. They do not exist on the world map and have no legal grounds whatsoever. What the Permanent Representative of Armenia calls “Nagorno-Karabakh” or “Artsakh” is the sovereign territory of Azerbaijan which was under Armenia’s unlawful occupation for nearly three decades.

Another well-known fact is that Armenia created and maintained an ethnically constructed regime in the formerly occupied territories of Azerbaijan, which Professor Alain Pellet eloquently compared “with a great number of precedents, such



as Manchukuo, Transkei and other South-African ‘bantustans’”.¹ It is noteworthy that the Permanent Representative of Armenia circulates the papers on behalf of this criminal regime, thereby demonstrating his own Government’s direct liability for aggression, the racist policy and numerous hate crimes committed by Armenian forces during the war.

The United Nations is based on and guided by the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the decisions adopted by the States Members of the Organization. Accordingly, only geographical names established by competent national authorities must be recognized and used in the United Nations. The official list of geographical names in Azerbaijan, standardized by such institutions, is contained in the report submitted by the Government of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.² The report also includes the list of geographical names of Azerbaijan identified as falsified by Armenia.³

Furthermore, by his decree of 7 July 2021, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan established the Garabagh (consisting of the city of Khankandi and the districts of Aghjabadi, Aghdam, Barda, Fuzuli, Khojaly, Khojavand, Shusha and Tartar) and East Zangazur (consisting of the districts of Jabrayil, Kalbajar, Gubadly, Lachin and Zangilan) economic regions in Azerbaijan.

In accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the territory of Azerbaijan is unitary, inviolable and indivisible, and its administrative and territorial structure is a matter falling within the exclusive sovereign rights of the State. The dissemination of false historical narratives, the circulation of fabricated papers and the references to the localities within the internationally recognized territory of Azerbaijan under fake names constitute an encroachment on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and a threat to the rights and legitimate interests of its people – the acts for which Armenia will bear full responsibility.

The circulation by Armenia of papers in the name of a non-existent entity is unacceptable also insofar as it wastes significant resources of the Secretariat and imposes an additional financial burden on the regular budget of the Organization. In that regard, it is especially deplorable that such papers are circulated by the Permanent Representative of Armenia, who currently serves as the Chair of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, as it constitutes a clear conflict of interest for the execution of the Committee Chair’s function in a fair and impartial manner.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 16, 35, 72, 85, 137, 138 and 140, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tofiq **Musayev**
Chargé d’affaires a.i.

¹ Legal opinion on third party obligations with respect to illegal economic and other activities in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, United Nations document A/71/880-S/2017/316 (26 April 2017), annex, para. 76.

² GEGN.2/2021/CRP.134.

³ Ibid., annex I. Available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/2nd_session_2021/documents/GEGN.2_2021_CRP133_list%20of%20falsified%20names-annex.pdf.