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Agenda items 31, 61, 71 and 83**Security Council**
Seventy-eighth year**Prevention of armed conflict****Peacebuilding and sustaining peace****Promotion and protection of human rights****The rule of law at the national and international levels****Letter dated 28 September 2023 from the Permanent
Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to submit herewith the declaration of the international conference on “Increasing national and global efforts to clarify the fate of missing persons”, held in commemoration of the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, 30 August. The international conference was held on 18 September 2023, in Baku, the Republic of Azerbaijan (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 31, 61, 71 and 83, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yashar T. Aliyev
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 28 September 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Declaration of the International Conference on “Increasing national and global efforts to clarify the fate of missing persons” on the occasion of the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances

We, the participants of the International Conference on “Increasing national and global efforts to clarify the fate of missing persons” held on September 18, 2023 in Baku, Azerbaijan, declare the following:

Expressing grave concern about the fact that thousands of persons go missing every year as a result of armed conflicts and other causes,

Recognizing that the issue of missing persons causes suffering to their families, relatives and friends, and to the society as a whole,

Underlining the right of families and individuals to the truth and to know the fate of their missing relatives, and the circumstances of their disappearance,

Recalling the obligations of States to observe and ensure respect for the rules of the international humanitarian law, and human rights law,

Reiterating that the resolutions adopted by the international organizations on the issue of missing and disappeared persons constitute valuable guidance for addressing the main aspects of the problem,

1. Call for more national efforts in order to prevent and effectively address the problem of missing persons;
2. Invite the States to cooperate with each other in order to deal effectively with the issue of missing persons;
3. Also invite the international organizations, including the United Nations, to further raise awareness regarding the issue of missing persons and come up with recommendations to clarify the fates of missing persons;
4. Express gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan for the valuable opportunity to discuss the national and global efforts to clarify the fate of missing persons and for excellent organization of the event.