



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.: General
28 September 2023

Original: English

General Assembly**Seventy-eighth session**

Agenda items 31, 61, 69, 71, 83, 109 and 129

Prevention of armed conflict**Peacebuilding and sustaining peace****Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia
and related intolerance****Promotion and protection of human rights****The rule of law at the national and international levels****Measures to eliminate international terrorism****The responsibility to protect and the prevention of
genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes
against humanity****Security Council****Seventy-eighth year**

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 transmit herewith the commentary of the Press Service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan in response to false and misleading allegations contained in the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia about the 44-day war in the fall of 2020 and the measures taken after its end (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, 69, 71, 83, 109 and 129, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yashar 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

Commentary of the Press Service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan in response to the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia

28 September 2023

We strongly condemn the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia on September 27, 2023, which openly distorts and misguides the international community about the 44-day Patriotic War and the measures taken after the war.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia disseminates fake narratives in this statement while bluntly denying its responsibility for more than 30 years of military aggression and occupation of Azerbaijan's territories, mass atrocities and crimes against humanity committed against Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan's war against Armenia's occupation and aggression has always been just, and counter-terrorism measures of Azerbaijan this September legitimately nullified the threat posed by the illegal Armenian armed forces stationed in Azerbaijan in clear violation of all the norms and principles of international law.

Moreover, contrary to the lies of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia and unlike Armenia itself, Azerbaijan has never targeted civilian Armenians.

With regard to baseless claims about Azerbaijan's unwillingness to resolve the situation through political and diplomatic means, we would like to remind the Armenian side how this country has torpedoed all peace efforts not only during the 30-year occupation, but also during the post-conflict period.

While Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan stated on September 21 that there is no direct threat to the civilian population, allegations of "ethnic cleansing" of local Armenians, disseminated by all means by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia, clearly demonstrate how inconsistent and false Armenia's policies and narratives are.

We reiterate that Azerbaijan has nothing to do with the decision of local Armenian residents of the Garabagh region of Azerbaijan to move to Armenia or any other country. We are willing to create for them conditions for better livelihood than they were under the hostage of the military junta created by Armenia. Azerbaijan is determined to reintegrate Armenian residents as equal citizens and the Constitution and national legislation of Azerbaijan and international commitments we have undertaken provide the solid ground to this end.

We do understand how it hurts Armenia to see the separatist regime established on the territories of Azerbaijan has been collapsing and disappearing before its eyes, but now it would be better for them to focus on building peace and trust with Azerbaijan, based on respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty both in words and deeds.