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Agenda items 31, 61, 69, 71, 83 and 129**Security Council**
Seventy-eighth year**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****The responsibility to protect and the prevention of genocide,
war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity****Letter dated 19 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 press release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the death of two civilians and four servicemen of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan as a result of landmine terrorist acts committed today by the Armenian armed forces in the Khojavand district of Azerbaijan (see annex).

Since the signing of the November 2020 Trilateral Statement, 314 citizens of Azerbaijan, both civilians and military, have become mine victims, 61 of whom have died. Armenia must be held accountable for the indiscriminate use of mines and the non-release of full mine records. In order to ensure peace and security in the region, armed provocations and terrorist acts by Armenia and the puppet regime that it installed and currently sustains militarily, financially and logistically in the sovereign territories of Azerbaijan where the peacekeepers are temporarily deployed must be resolutely condemned and prevented.

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 and 129, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yashar Aliyev
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 19 September 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Press release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the death of civilians and the personnel of the Ministry of Internal Affairs as a result of landmine terror in Khojavand

19 September 2023

On September 19, 2023, a vehicle exploded on an anti-tank landmine planted in the Khojavand district by a sabotage group of the Armenian armed forces present in the territories of Azerbaijan where the Russian peacekeeping contingent is temporary deployed. As a result of this provocation, 2 civilians were killed.

On the same day, 4 servicemen of the Ministry of Internal Affairs dispatched to the area of the aforementioned terrorist act were killed in a landmine explosion on a new road tunnel in the Taghaverd village of the Khojavand district.

We express our deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of those killed. May God rest their souls in peace.

Since the 44-day Patriotic War of 2020, the total number of landmine victims has reached 314 people, of whom 61 people have died.

Landmine explosions in the Khojavand district once again demonstrate that the main goal of Armenia, which has not withdrawn its armed forces from the territory of Azerbaijan in gross violation of Paragraph 4 of the Trilateral Statement and continued military activities and the planting of landmines, and of its puppet regime is to escalate military tensions in the region and to engage in terrorism. Furthermore, the purpose of these provocations is also to prevent the large-scale post-conflict reconstruction works, to disrupt the civilian population working in these territories, as well as to prevent the return of IDPs and their peaceful life in their lands.

In order to ensure peace and security in the region, military provocations and terrorist acts committed by Armenia and the puppet regime it created must be resolutely condemned and prevented.
