



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.: General
13 October 2020

Original: English

**General Assembly
Seventy-fifth session**

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 11 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 erupted in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan since 27 September 2020 as a result of the act of aggression perpetrated by Armenia against Azerbaijan, I have the honour to inform you of the following.

Despite the humanitarian ceasefire agreed during the meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan and Armenia in Moscow on 9 October 2020, with the mediation of the Russian Federation, to exchange the prisoners of war and bodies of dead, effective as of 12:00 pm on 10 October 2020, the armed forces of Armenia continue to attack the positions of the armed forces of Azerbaijan and the residential areas and civilian infrastructure in my country.

Immediately after the establishment of the humanitarian ceasefire, the armed forces of Armenia fired at the Aghdam and Tartar districts of Azerbaijan. A few hours later, the armed forces of Armenia attempted to attack in the direction of Hadrut and Jabrayil. The Armenian side subjected to missile attack the city of Minghachevir, situated 40 km away from the front line, where the largest water reservoir in the South Caucasus is located. Besides, a medical worker was seriously injured as a result of the shooting by the armed forces of Armenia of a sanitary medical vehicle with a visible distinctive sign, which was collecting the bodies of Armenian soldiers in the area of Sugovshan.

On the night of 11 October 2020, an apartment building in the central part of Ganja, the second largest city in Azerbaijan with some 500,000 population, situated



approximately 40 km away from the front line, once again came under the missile attack by the armed forces of Armenia. The strike on Ganja was carried out from the Vardenis district of Armenia. The missile hitting the apartment building completely destroyed it, and its residents remained under ruins. According to the preliminary information, 9 civilians, including 4 women, were killed and 34 civilians, including 16 women and children, were severely injured. In addition, 10 apartment buildings and more than 100 other civilian facilities were extensively damaged in the city. In total, deliberate strikes by the armed forces of Armenia on the Ganja city since 4 October 2020 have resulted in the killing of 10 and injuring of 71 civilians.

Armenia's attacks directed at civilians, the murder and injuring of civilians and attacks that have 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 of the perpetrators.

The Republic of Azerbaijan strongly condemns these acts of aggression by Armenia and calls on the United Nations, its Member States and the international community as a whole to take decisive steps to force the aggressor Armenia to comply with international law and bring it to account.

The full responsibility for the situation in the region lies with the political and military leadership of the Republic of Armenia.

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