



Security Council

Distr.: General
19 September 2023

Original: English

Letter dated 19 September 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the letter from Ararat Mirzoyan, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, calling for an emergency meeting of the Security Council in relation to the large-scale military aggression of Azerbaijan against the peaceful population of Nagorno-Karabakh, which poses an imminent threat to international peace and security (see annex).

With reference to the letter dated 13 September 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2022/688](#)), and in follow-up to the meetings of the Council held on 20 December 2022 and 16 August 2023, I would like to request that an emergency meeting of the Council be convened based on Article 35 (1) of the Charter of the United Nations.

I also ask that the delegation of Armenia be allowed to participate in the Council's meeting in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and pursuant to rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council.

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex were brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Mher **Margaryan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 19 September 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am writing to bring to your attention the large-scale military aggression of Azerbaijan unleashed against the people of Nagorno-Karabakh with the aim of completing its policy of ethnic cleansing.

On 19 September 2023, Stepanakert and almost all other cities and settlements in Nagorno-Karabakh, including civilian infrastructures, came under the massive and targeted fire of Azerbaijani armed forces by the use of missiles and heavy artillery, in blatant violation of international law and the Trilateral Statement on ceasefire of 9 November 2020.

Among civilians, there have already been 2 registered as killed, including 1 child, and 26 wounded, including 11 children. Trapped between the humanitarian crisis and the unprovoked escalation, the civilian population is subject to immense suffering, with a particularly devastating impact on the most vulnerable: women, children and the elderly.

There is no shortage of evidence indicating the premeditated and well-planned character of the large-scale aggression. It was preceded by a massive military build-up by Azerbaijan in recent weeks along the Line of Contact with Nagorno-Karabakh and the State border between Armenia and Azerbaijan, and accumulation of much offensive heavy weaponry, including artillery, multiple rocket launchers, mortars and combat uncrewed aerial vehicles.

The preparations for the current aggression were accompanied by a massive disinformation campaign against Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, spreading false allegations about the so-called provocations by the Armenian side, which have regularly been refuted by Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh. The disinformation campaign culminated in the 18 September meeting with representatives of the diplomatic corps at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, which proved to be a diplomatic preparation to start concrete actions aimed at ethnic cleansing in Nagorno-Karabakh and for a new military escalation in the region.

It is important to highlight that this renewed aggression by Azerbaijan against the people of Nagorno-Karabakh is the logical escalation of a more than nine-month-long blockade of Nagorno-Karabakh and the ensuing humanitarian crisis, the vivid objective of which has been to inflict conditions of life calculated to bring about the physical destruction of the people of Nagorno-Karabakh in stark violation of international humanitarian law, the binding orders of the International Court of Justice of 22 February and 6 July 2023 and the Trilateral Statement of 9 November 2020.

The genocidal policy of Azerbaijan against the indigenous population of Nagorno-Karabakh should get an adequate reaction by the international community, including the Security Council, as the main international body responsible for ensuring international peace and security.

Armenia has raised the issue on numerous occasions, including in the Security Council in September and December 2022 and most recently in August 2023, warning of signs of the risk of atrocity crimes. The available information has also come from the International Committee of the Red Cross, the only international presence on the ground, and reputable international human rights institutions, including the former Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, the first Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide, and the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, warning of the serious humanitarian crisis and the genocidal intent of the Azerbaijani leadership.

The renewed aggression of Azerbaijan undermines the prospects of achieving lasting and dignified peace and security in our region. In light of the gravity of the situation, the Security Council needs to undertake urgent and effective measures in response to Azerbaijan's act of aggression to prevent the imminent atrocity crimes and ensure the rights and security of the people of Nagorno-Karabakh.

With the present letter, I kindly request an emergency meeting of the Security Council, based on Article 35 (1) of the Charter of the United Nations. I also request the participation of the delegation of Armenia in these deliberations, pursuant to rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ararat **Mirzoyan**
