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**Human Rights Council**

**Forty-fourth session**

30 June–17 July 2020

Agenda item 4

**Human rights situations that require the Council’s attention**

Note verbale dated 14 July 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and has the honour to submit herewith the statement made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the military provocation carried out by the Republic of Armenia along the Armenian-Azerbaijan State border on 12 July 2020 (see annex).

The Permanent Mission kindly requests the Office of the High Commissioner to circulate the present note verbale and the annex thereto[[1]](#footnote-2)\* as a document of the forty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council, under agenda item 4.

Annex to the note verbale dated 14 July 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Statement 158/20 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan

On July 12, the armed forces of Armenia attempted to attack, using artillery, in order to seize positions in the direction of Tovuz district along the state border between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

The attack of the enemy forces was prevented by retaliatory measures. As a result of the combat, three servicemen of the Azerbaijani army were killed and four were injured.

This provocative act of the Armenian armed forces should be seen as a continuation of the recent actions and statements of the leadership of aggressor state Armenia, which serve to increase tensions in the region.

Armenia, which has reflected its aggressive policy in the country's national security strategy, openly demonstrates that it aims to seize new positions and increase tensions in the region instead of eliminating the consequences of the conflict and withdrawing its occupying forces from the internationally recognized territories of Azerbaijan.

This provocation by Armenia casts serious doubt on the essence of the negotiations mediated by the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairs on the settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Armenia is trying to involve third countries in the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict with such provocative actions. Nevertheless, the position of the international community on Armenia's aggressive policy is quite well known.

All provocations of the enemy forces will be adequately prevented from this time onward as well.

Armenia bears full responsibility for such provocative actions that serve to aggravate the situation.

God bless the souls of our Martyrs.

1. \* Reproduced as received, in the language of submission only. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)