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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 30 June 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia 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 Armenia 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 transmit herewith the comment by the spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia on the statement issued by the Foreign Ministry of Azerbaijan regarding the inauguration of the newly elected President of Artsakh in Shushi (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of Armenia 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 30 June 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

 Comment by the Foreign Ministry Spokesperson dated 21 May 2020 on the statement issued by the Foreign Ministry of Azerbaijan regarding the inauguration of the newly elected President of Artsakh in Shushi

It’s worth mentioning that the threats of war or military posturing communicated either through statements or large-scale military exercises in violations of international commitments, represent traditional components of Azerbaijan's destructive stance, which has no impact either on the positions of the Armenian sides in the Nagorno-Karabakh issue or on the ongoing democratic processes in Artsakh. Nevertheless, they definitely undermine the establishment of an environment conducive to peace, which is necessary for the consideration of substantive issues. Armenia is committed to an exclusively peaceful settlement of the conflict within the framework of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairmanship.

Once again congratulating the people of Artsakh on the formation of authorities as result of democratic processes, we would like to reiterate that the Republic of Armenia will continue to closely cooperate with the new authorities, which represent the people of Artsakh in the peace process, and in this context we will consistently protect the exercise of the right of the people of Artsakh to self-determination without any limitations

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