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Letter dated 29 July 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Further to my letter dated 14 May 2021 (S/2021/467) regarding the infiltration by the armed forces of Azerbaijan into the sovereign territory of Armenia, I am writing to you in relation to Azerbaijan's continued use of force against the territorial integrity of Armenia, in flagrant violation of the norms and principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

In particular, I would like to bring to your attention that, on 28 July 2021, the armed forces of Azerbaijan conducted a military attack in the eastern direction of the Armenian-Azerbaijani border with the use of grenade launchers targeting the Armenian positions in the direction of Upper Shorzha village in the Gegharkunik region of Armenia. As a result of that action, three Armenian servicemen were killed and four servicemen were wounded. It followed the earlier infiltration into the territory of the Republic of Armenia in the Syunik and Gegharkunik regions on 12 May 2021, which resulted in the killing of an Armenian serviceman on 25 May 2021. On 14 July 2021, the Azerbaijani armed forces instigated a provocative military action in another area of the Armenian-Azerbaijani border, from the Nakhijevan direction towards the Yeraskh settlement in the Ararat region, which resulted in the killing of the head of the local municipality.

Azerbaijan's aggressive activities against the territory of Armenia have been substantiated by persistent territorial claims at the highest political level, accompanied by continued incendiary rhetoric, open military threats and cultivation of ethnic hatred. Such reckless actions by Azerbaijan carry the dangerous potential to increase the tensions on the ground and further destabilize the situation in the region.

Armenia is resolute to exercise its legitimate right to self-defence to protect its sovereignty and territorial integrity, in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

A strong and consolidated reaction by the international community to Azerbaijan's actions will be critical to preventing a further escalation of the security situation in the region.

Armenia remains convinced that all outstanding matters, including the issue of the comprehensive and lasting political settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, should be solved by peaceful means, under the aegis of the Co-Chairs of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Minsk Group.





I would be grateful if the present letter 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