REPORT

OF THE MEETING OF THE CONTACT GROUP
ON THE AGGRESSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

NEW YORK, UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS
23 SEPTEMBER 2019

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23 September 2019

1. The OIC Contact Group on the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan met on 23 September 2019 at the Ministerial level on the sidelines of the Annual Coordination Meeting in New York. The meeting was attended by the delegations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Malaysia, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Republic of Turkey and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

2. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Ambassador Youself AlDobeay, Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs. He opened the meeting by reading a statement by H.E. Dr. Yousef A. Al-Othaimeen, the Secretary General of OIC. In his statement, the Secretary General reconfirmed the principled position of the OIC since 1992 based on its condemnation of the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan and its demand for immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia from the Nagorno-Karabakh region and other occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan. He reiterated that all OIC Member States considered the continued occupation by Armenia of a significant part of the territories of Azerbaijan illegal and unacceptable. He expressed the hope that solidarity of the OIC Member States with the just position of Azerbaijan and their support for its sovereignty and territorial integrity would be translated into practical and effective measures in order to bring the aggressor in compliance with the norms and principles of international law, relevant Resolutions of the UN Security Council and the OIC decisions. The Secretary General further reiterated that the OIC has consistently called for the resolution of the conflict on the basis of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the international borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan and also expressed his hope that the meeting will contribute to the earliest settlement of the Armenia – Azerbaijan conflict on the basis of sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan, in accordance with the generally accepted norms and principles of international law, the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and the OSCE and the OIC documents and decisions.

3. The Secretary General referred to the final communique of 14th Islamic Summit held in Makkah al Mukarramah held on 31 May 2019 which commended the meetings of the Contact Group on the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan and expressed its full support for the activity of the Contact Group; reaffirmed the appeal of the Contact Group addressed to the OIC Secretary General, contained in the report of its meeting held on 24 September 2018 in New York and urged the OIC Member States to undertake all necessary measures to implement the relevant OIC decisions and resolutions with a view to further compel Armenia to comply with the UNSC resolutions 822 (1993), 853 (1993), 874 (1993) and 884 (1993).

4. Foreign Minister Elmar Mammadyarov of Azerbaijan cordially thanked the Members of the Group for their continued support for the just position of Azerbaijan and briefed them on the latest developments with regard to the peaceful settlement of the conflict. Minister Mammadyarov expressed his country’s utmost concern with and strongest rejection of the irresponsible statement made by the Prime Minister of Armenia, Nikol Pashinyan, during his
illegal visit to the occupied territories of Azerbaijan on August 5, 2019, declaring the inalienable part of Azerbaijan – the Nagorno-Karabakh region – as a territory of Armenia. Minister Mammadyarov further stressed that recent provocative statements by the Government of Armenia, glorifying the results of the conflict, distorting the aim of the negotiation process, and even threatening with a “new war for new territories”, as well as its actions on resettlement of the ethnically cleansed territories of Azerbaijan by Armenian settlers and illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the occupied areas prove that Armenia’s current government continues the irresponsible path to blatantly violate the norms and principles of international law. Recalling the above-referred UN Security Council resolutions, which reaffirmed respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and the inviolability of its international borders, Minister Mammadyarov stressed that these resolutions are yet to be implemented, and they remain valid and binding.

5. He emphasized that the mediation efforts carried out within the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, unfortunately have not yielded any results so far. Minister Mammadyarov emphasized that despite the establishment of a ceasefire, the towns and villages in Azerbaijan situated along the front line of the armed forces of Armenia and Azerbaijan and the border between the two States continue to be attacked resulting in killing and wounding of Azerbaijani servicemen and civilians.

6. The Minister reiterated his hope that the adoption of the resolution "On Solidarity with the Victims of the Khojaly Massacre of 1992" at the 45th session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers in Dhaka will contribute to the efforts of the OIC Member States for recognition and condemnation of the crimes perpetrated in the town of Khojaly and other occupied territories of Azerbaijan as war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide at the national and international levels. Minster Mammadyarov called on the OIC Member States to take urgent measures in accordance with relevant provisions of the OIC resolutions urging to take effective political and economic measures to bring Armenia in line with the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

7. The other members of the Contact Group also took the floor and reiterated the importance of the recommendations of the Contact Group for implementation by the OIC Member States of the OIC resolutions on the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. They condemned Armenia’s above-mentioned irresponsible actions and statements, including the recent statement by the Armenian Prime Minister, which disregard the basic international law principles and undermine regional peace and security, and urged Armenia to publicly renounce its provocative statements and actions and to commit itself to the peace negotiations with Azerbaijan. They reiterated the unwavering support for the resolution of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan within the sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the international borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The Contact Group condemned in the strongest terms continued violation of ceasefire by the Republic of Armenia and the attacks carried out by its armed forces against the civilian population of Azerbaijan causing human losses and injuries. The Contact Group supported Azerbaijan's efforts aimed at defeating those attacks and defending its population. The Contact Group further reaffirmed its total solidarity with and support for the efforts undertaken by the Government and people of Azerbaijan to restore the territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

8. Referring to the last year’s report of the Contact Group, which was subsequently endorsed at the Ministerial level, the Group Member States once again reaffirmed the urgency of implementation of the relevant provisions of the OIC resolutions on the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan by the OIC Member States and
recalled the Group’s last year’s requests to the Secretary General as contained in the document ACM-2018/AZER/REP ANNEXE-V.

9. Proceeding from the OIC resolutions on the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as the last year’s above-referred requests, the Contact Group once again called on the Member States to collectively act to compel Armenia to implement the United Nations Security Council resolutions and to harmonize their individual and joint efforts towards this end.

10. Emphasizing in particular the urgency of international public demonstration of concerted position of the OIC Member States on strong rejection of continued aggression of Armenia against Azerbaijan, provocative statements by the Government of Armenia, including the above-referred statement by Prime Minister of this country, continued military presence of Armenian armed forces in the territories of Azerbaijan and the illegal activities in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, including exploitation of natural resources and demolition of cultural monuments, inter alia, of Islamic heritage of Azerbaijani nation, and in order to compel Armenia to comply with the demands of the United Nations Security Council resolutions, the Contact Group called on the OIC Member States to:

- Curtail political and economic cooperation with Armenia, refrain from establishing and maintaining diplomatic presence in Armenia and deny diplomatic presence of Armenia in their territories, and praised, in this regard, Turkey, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia for their determination and principled position on non-recognition of and non-establishment of diplomatic relations with Armenia;
- Prevent any military supplies from or any transit of military supplies through their territories to Armenia, as such supplies can strengthen combat readiness of the armed forces of Armenia and increase its military presence in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan;
- Prevent any other actions which may, directly or indirectly, facilitate maintenance of occupation of Azerbaijani territories, including investments and other economic activities in Armenia;
- Deny Armenia any chance to propagate in the public opinion of the Islamic Ummah the illegal separatist regime established in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan and prevent any use of mass media of Muslim countries for such malign purposes;
- Prevent visits of the nationals of the OIC Member States to the Republic of Armenia and the occupied territories of Azerbaijan for political, economic, cultural or humanitarian purposes;
- Reiterate the call on their Parliaments to condemn the ethnic cleansing of Azerbaijanis by the armed forces of Armenia in the occupied territories, including the mass killings in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly;
- Submit to the Contact Group, through the General Secretariat, quarterly reports on implementation of the OIC resolutions on the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan.

11. This report will be submitted to the Annual Coordination Meeting for its consideration and adoption of necessary appropriate actions.

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