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**UN Human Rights Council
Forty-first Session**

Right of Reply

Mr. Emin Aslanov, First secretary of the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

28 June 2019

Mr. President,

I have to exercise my right of reply in response to the baseless and hostile accusations made by delegate of Armenia concerning my country.

Let's be clear, the Republic of Armenia, in blatant violation of the norms and principles of international law and the UN Charter has occupied one-fifth of my country, by illegal use of force.

In its resolutions of 1993 on the conflict, the UN Security Council acknowledged the fact that military force was used against Azerbaijan; that such actions are unlawful and in contradiction with the purposes and principles of UN Charter; and that they constitute an obvious violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan.

The numerous decisions and documents adopted by other authoritative international organizations have been framed along the same lines. However, the key Security Council demands, including in the first place the withdrawal of the Armenian forces from the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, have not been implemented yet. On the contrary, the policy and practice of Armenia clearly testify to its intention to secure the annexation of Azerbaijani territories that it has captured through military force.

Mr. President,

With regard to self-determination pretext, let me remind Armenian delegate that his deceptive allegations about the exercise of the right to self-determination by the Armenian minority group in Azerbaijan has been unequivocally rejected by international community, as Armenia has illegally used force against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan.

Armenian attempts to impose that the principle of right to self-determination may be applied in the form of unilateral secession for the Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan is null and void. Armenia is using the pretext of self-determination just to cover its aggression, use of force against sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijani and Armenian inhabitants of the region are entitled to the internal right to self-determination within the boundaries of Azerbaijan. Therefore, Armenia should halt to dream as Azerbaijan will never allow the second Armenian state to be established at the expense of Azerbaijani lands.

Distinguished colleagues, I firmly believe that your stronger and direct condemnation would make Armenia to stop disrespecting international law, the charter of this very international body by illegally using force against Azerbaijan and sustaining its army in the territories of my country, territorial integrity of which is supported and recognized by each of you.

I urge you all to condemn violation of the norms and principles of international law by Armenia whose army is illegally present in my hometown.

Thank you.