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ԵԱՀԿ-ՈՒՄ ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՄՇՏԱԿԱՆ ՆԵՐԿԱՅԱՑՈՒՑՉՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA TO THE OSCE

STATEMENT

on Azerbaijan's armed aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Armenia as delivered by the Delegation of the Republic of Armenia at the 1021th Plenary Meeting of the Forum for Security Cooperation

14 September 2022

Mr. Chairman,

As we have informed at the yesterday's special meeting of the Permanent Council, at midnight on September 13, 2022, Azerbaijan initiated yet another large-scale military aggression against the sovereign territories of the Republic of Armenia, using a wide range of weaponry, including artillery and combat UAVs.

Despite the assurances of the ceasefire that was allegedly reached yesterday, as of 8am local time today, Azerbaijan intensified attacks from the occupied sovereign territory of Armenia and resumed attempts to advance in the directions of the city of Jermuk and Verin Shorzha village of Armenia. Azerbaijan continued shelling the villages and residential areas, large caliber artillery systems, mortars, firearms and combat UAVs.

The village of Ishkanasar in Sisian region of Armenia is also under attack. Azerbaijan, in flagrant violations of international humanitarian law and the Geneva conventions, has heavily shelled the hospital, houses and civilian infrastructures.

This latest unprovoked and large-scale attack on Armenia is another flagrant violation by Azerbaijan of the United Nations Charter, the Helsinki Final Act and the Trilateral Statement of 9 November 2020 signed by the leaders of Armenia, Russia and Azerbaijan.

The fact that the attacks were also launched from those territories, which were transferred to Azerbaijan on 25 August 2022, clearly shows that by accelerating this process in clear violation of the Trilateral Statement of 9 November 2020, Azerbaijan sought to obtain convenient positions for its attack against Armenia. The head of the

press service of the Azerbaijani Defence Ministry confirmed that after taking control of these territories, they "began to clarify positions" in those territories, preparing strongholds for strikes against the sovereign territory of Armenia, which we saw last night. All this clearly testifies to the fabricated nature of Azerbaijan's claims.

The OSCE and its participating States must clearly and unambiguously condemn Azerbaijan's attack on Armenia, and they should send a strong signal to Azerbaijan that any aggression or attack by Azerbaijan, which may further escalate the already fragile situation in the region is unacceptable and will not be tolerated, and Azerbaijan will face consequences for its use of force and violation of the Helsinki Final Act principles. Only such an adequate assessment of the aggressive actions of Azerbaijan and targeted reaction, including relevant sanctions by the international community, can ward off a new war in the region.

Azerbaijan should be held accountable for its military aggression and committed war crimes.

Thank you.