

**Monday, 22 September 2014**

**Working session 1:** Democratic institutions,  
Including address by the Director of the OSCE Office  
for Democratic institutions and Human Rights

**Right of reply by the delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

We are exercising the right of reply regarding the statement by the Armenian NGO namely European Center for Artsakh.

The armed conflict in and around the Daghlyq Garabagh (Nagorno-Karabakh) region of the Republic of Azerbaijan has resulted in the occupation of almost one fifth of the territory of Azerbaijan and has made approximately 1 out of every 9 persons in the country an internally displaced person or a refugee. The Republic of Armenia bears the primary responsibility for unleashing the war against Azerbaijan, occupying its territories, committing the most serious crimes of concern to the international community during the conflict, carrying out ethnic cleansing on a massive scale and establishing the ethnically constructed subordinate separatist entity on the captured Azerbaijani territory.

It has been internationally recognized that Azerbaijani territories are under occupation. In 1993, the Security Council adopted resolutions 822 (1993), 853 (1993), 874 (1993) and 884 (1993), condemning the use of force for the acquisition of territory and reaffirming the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and the inviolability of its internationally recognized borders. In those resolutions, the Security Council reaffirms that the Daghlyq Garabagh region is part of Azerbaijan and calls for immediate, full and unconditional withdrawal of the occupying forces from all occupied territories of Azerbaijan. The General Assembly and other international organizations have adopted a similar position.

The illegality of the separatist entity and its structures, established by Armenia on the occupied territory of Azerbaijan, has been repeatedly stated at the international level in the most unambiguous manner. This entity is entirely unrecognized as such; it is essentially under Armenia's direction and control.

In this regard, we do not recognize any elections mentioned by the representative of the separatist regime and underline that the mentioned elections are illegitimate and violate international law and sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Thank you.