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BMT yanında Daimi
Nümayəndəliyi



Permanent Mission of the
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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations and, with reference to the latter's Note Verbale ODA/16-2014/ICBM dated 25 February 2014, has the honour to submit information by the Republic of Azerbaijan pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 67/49 entitled "Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms", adopted by the General Assembly on 3 December 2012.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration. *E.H.*

Enclosure: 2 pages

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The Office for Disarmament Affairs
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**Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms
(Resolution 67/49)**

Republic of Azerbaijan

2014

Introduction

Since regaining its independence in 1991 Azerbaijan has been supporting and contributing to efforts aimed at promoting peace and security, as well as to disarmament and arms control activities. Azerbaijan attaches particular importance to confidence-building and transparency measures (CBMs) in the field of conventional arms which complement the existing international framework against the illicit spread and transfer of conventional weapons. Azerbaijan is convinced that duly implemented CBMs ensure durable stability and predictability, strengthen peace and security and create a climate conducive to effective disarmament and arms control.

CBMs should be in harmony with the particular security concerns of States and implemented in a manner to ensure the right of each State to equal security, guaranteeing that no individual State or group of States obtain advantages over others. CBMs cannot be applied out of the overall political and security context, in particular when conflict situations are the area of application. They can only be effective when there is a genuine commitment of States, supported by concrete actions, for strengthening peace and security, renouncing territorial claims and respecting internationally recognized borders of States.

The continued occupation by Armenia of the Daghylyq Garabagh (Nagorno-Karabakh) region and seven surrounding districts of Azerbaijan provides fertile conditions for illicit arms trafficking activities. The current *status quo* of the occupation is the principal obstacle to the effective application of CBMs in the South Caucasus region. Armenia's consistent and willful disregard for its international legal obligations undermines peace, security and stability in the South Caucasus.

As a UN member country and participating state of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Azerbaijan contributes to confidence-building and transparency activities through participation in the relevant international instruments and documents adopted under the aegis of these institutions:

a) Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe

In 2013 the Armed Forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan received four inspections on its territory under the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE Treaty). Azerbaijan participated in the annual exchange of military information, conducted mutual inspection trainings and submitted necessary notifications in accordance with the CFE Treaty.

b) Vienna Document 2011

The Republic of Azerbaijan is a participating state of the Vienna Document 2011 on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures (Vienna Document 2011). In 2013 the Armed Forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan received three inspections and one evaluation visit in the framework of the Vienna Document 2011. Azerbaijan shared its annual military information with OSCE participating countries under the Vienna Document 2011 on January 1, 2013.

c) OSCE Code of Conduct on Political-Military Aspects of Security

The Republic of Azerbaijan participates in the information exchange on the implementation of the Code of Conduct under the relevant OSCE decision.

The Republic of Azerbaijan takes appropriate measures based on the principles, norms and commitments set out in the Code of Conduct and works both multilaterally through international organisations and bilaterally with other governments to promote closer coordination for implementation of these measures.

d) OSCE document on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW)

Azerbaijan fully shares international community's concern that illicit SALW trafficking represents a grave threat to security, stability and prosperity. The Republic of Azerbaijan participates in the annual information exchange pursuant to the OSCE Document on SALW and provides information related to its policy, legislation and practical actions on transfers of SALW to and from other state parties, seized/surplus and destroyed SALW, brokering, manufacturing, licensing, marking, record keeping, stockpile management and other relevant issues.

The SALW problem is of a specific relevance to the South Caucasus region. Flows of SALW to conflict zones undermine the conflict settlement process and threaten the regional and international security. Azerbaijan stresses that efficient regime to curtail proliferation of SALW in the South Caucasus could be possible only when all the countries in the region demonstrate their clear intention to renounce territorial claims to their neighbours and through the restoration of territorial integrity of the countries.

e) UN Register of Conventional Arms

The Republic of Azerbaijan annually submits its national report to the UN Register of Conventional Arms. This report includes the information on transfers of the seven types of conventional arms and SALW.

f) OSCE Document on Principles Governing Conventional Arms Transfers

The Republic of Azerbaijan regularly submits information on the national practices, policies and procedures on conventional arms transfers to OSCE in accordance with relevant OSCE questionnaire.

g) Global Exchange of Military Information

The Republic of Azerbaijan regularly participates in the exchange of military information and provides information to the OSCE on command organisation, major weapon and equipment systems and personnel of its conventional armed forces in accordance with the OSCE Document on Global Exchange of Military Information.

h) UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

Azerbaijan recognizes the important contribution of the UN POA and of the International Tracing Instrument for countering illicit transfer of small arms and light weapons and submits reports on the implementation of these documents.

i) OSCE Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Landmines

The Republic of Azerbaijan annually submits its responses to the OSCE Questionnaire on Anti-Personnel Landmines and Explosive Remnants of War.