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Statement by the delegation of Armenia

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Mr. Chair,

At the outset my delegation would like to congratulate you and the members of the Bureau on your election and wish you all success in guiding the work of the Committee.

This year's session of the Committee is held in the context of multiple global and regional challenges, in particular, those posed by armed conflicts, instabilities, natural and human-made disasters and humanitarian crises. While the UN Charter might not provide with the direct answers to the multitude of the very complex challenges the humanity is facing today, it does, nonetheless, continue to serve as guidebook for action and must be upheld at all times, as the cornerstone of the international law and the multilateral system.

Armenia is fully committed to the purposes and principles of the Charter, which are mutually reinforcing and have primary significance for the maintenance of international peace and security. The UN Charter rests upon the objective of developing friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples. This inalienable right is enshrined in a number of binding fundamental international instruments, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States, entitling all peoples to freely determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development. The use of force against this inalienable right under any pretext constitutes a fundamental threat to the international peace and security.

In a world, where conflicts and disputes, in their various forms, regrettably continue to persist, prohibition of the use of force and a strict adherence to peaceful settlement of disputes are indispensable to the maintenance of international peace and security.

Armenia has on several occasions alerted the international community on the instances of gross violations of international law in our part of the world. We have repeatedly brought it to the attention of the international community that Azerbaijan has been engaging in the illegal attempts of acquisition of territories by force, in complete and utter disregard to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. We have equally emphasized that, emboldened by the results of the use of force in the past, Azerbaijan now seeks to normalize violence and aggression to impose unilateral solutions and conduct the policy of ethnic cleansing in Nagorno-Karabakh and a war of aggression against the territorial integrity of Armenia.

It is of utmost importance to strengthen accountability for violations of the UN Charter, which necessitates in-depth understanding of the patterns of past as well as recurring violations, particularly, in conflict situations. Full adherence to the norms and principles of the international law requires concerted efforts to ensure that grave violations do not go unchecked. We are fully committed to the strengthening of capacities of the United Nations to address the global challenges to peace and security in order to fulfil the aspirations enshrined in the UN Charter.

Thank you.