



Asamblea General

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Consejo de Derechos Humanos

43^{er} período de sesiones

24 de febrero a 20 de marzo de 2020

Tema 4 de la agenda

**Situaciones de derechos humanos que
requieren la atención del Consejo**

Nota verbal de fecha 28 de febrero de 2020 dirigida a la Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos por la Misión Permanente de Armenia ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas en Ginebra

La Misión Permanente de la República de Armenia ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas y otras organizaciones internacionales en Ginebra saluda atentamente a la Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos y tiene el honor de transmitirle la declaración emitida por el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de la República de Armenia sobre la conmemoración de los pogromos antiarmenios de Sumgait (véase el anexo).

La Misión Permanente de Armenia solicita a la Oficina del Alto Comisionado que tenga a bien distribuir la presente nota verbal y su anexo* como documento del 43^{er} período de sesiones del Consejo de Derechos Humanos, en relación con el tema 4 de la agenda.

* Se reproduce como se recibió, en el idioma en que se presentó únicamente.



Annex to the note verbale dated 28 February 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia on commemoration of anti-Armenian pogroms in Sumgait

Today we are commemorating the victims of the anti-Armenian pogroms in Sumgait. In the closing days of February, 1988, the Armenian population of Sumgait was subjected to mass killings and atrocities, perpetrated with unspeakable cruelty.

The Sumgait pogroms marked the beginning of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, when Azerbaijan responded to the peaceful appeal of the people of Nagorno-Karabakh to self-determination with mass violence and pogroms of Armenians. This in fact also formed the essence of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict: to ensure the security of the people of Artsakh through exercise of their right to self-determination.

The Sumgait atrocity was the first identity-based mass crime in Europe since the end of the Second World War, and it was followed by better planned new crimes of wider scale in Baku, Kirovabad and occupied territories of Nagorno-Karabakh Republic - Shahumyan region, parts of Martakert and Martuni regions.

Azerbaijani authorities' assessment of Sumgait massacre clearly reflects the absence of their willingness to solve the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. For three decades Azerbaijani authorities shifted their assessment tactics - from glorification of perpetrators to blaming victims in organizing the pogroms. Only the absence of will of the Azerbaijani side to take responsibility for massive and grave human rights violations, and their genocidal intent against Armenians remain unchanged.

Today we commemorate the victims of the Sumgait massacres with a strong commitment to prevent such crimes against the Armenian people.
