



ARMENIA

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October 2, 2020

**15th meeting of the Working Group on IWRM under the Water Convention**

*Delivered by Mr. Arman Shahnubaryan*

Chair,

We did not have an intention to make intervention at this juncture, however, our colleague from Azerbaijan made highly biased allegations against my country, which I cannot leave unaddressed.

First, I would like to stress that this meeting is not anyhow designed for raising political issues. Azerbaijani delegate simply abused this forum by putting forward an unrelated false narrative in a sheer defiance of this gathering, its objective and participants.

Second, it is our conviction that these allegations meant at misleading the international community on the recent days' aggression unleashed by Azerbaijan against Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh) and Armenia. In reality, since September 27, Baku with the political and military support of Turkey and the use of terrorist mercenaries indiscriminately attack towns and villages of Artsakh, targeting with artillery shelling and aerial attacks civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, pipelines, water reservoirs. These attacks caused numerous casualties among the peaceful population.

The UN Security Council, the Secretary General and the mediator countries – France, USA and Russia urged to cease the hostilities. Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh agreed to start the peace talks, while Azerbaijan and Turkey rejected these calls.

Thank you.