Mr. Chairman,

Azerbaijan joins other delegations in congratulating you on your election as a Chairman of the First Committee session. We also congratulate other members of bureau on their well-deserved election.

The regional disarmament and security plays a vital role in establishing peace in all conflict areas. Unfortunately, there are still many unresolved conflicts in the world and especially in our region. Unresolved conflicts have become the centre of concentration of the uncontrolled arms. One of them is located in Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan and in the territories around it, which still also are under the Armenia’s occupation. It constitutes almost 20% of our territory. This territory has become a key transiting point for the illegal trade in arms, which have acquired threatening proportions to the security of my country.

During the last five years Armenia has been intensively arming its military forces in the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. The analysis of the data indicates that during this time the numbers of unaccounted for and uncontrolled arms in the occupied territories have been consistently increasing.

Recently the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms announced its annual official report (A/62/170). In Accordance with this report,
Armenia has been included to the list of the countries which did not publicize import of arms for its army and keep it confidential. This fact proves that Armenia does not observe UN principles on transparency in military sector and still continue being a threat source for the all region.

Experts preparing annual report on cooperation in military-technical field stressed that Armenia conceals its import of 35 combat aircrafts X-25 ML and X-29 L from Slovakia. Official Bratislava stated in 2005 that missile launchers were exported to Armenia, but Yerevan still have refused to publicize import of missile. Armenia also imported 10 missile launchers from Slovakia late in 2005. The imported launchers are combat aircraft SU-25 and SU-27 and MI-24-military transport helicopter. But official Yerevan refused to publicize details on the import of those aircraft that time. Moreover, there are a lot of factors which show that Armenia bought military technology, firearms for strengthening its army unofficially.

In 1993-1996 Armenia imported from Russia firearms – 9, 5 thousand missile launchers, 72 battle tanks, 600 wagon military supplies. Armenia also imported 21 thousand and 314 ton of military equipments, 64 thousand ton of fuel, 15 thousand 977 combat vehicles and 41 thousand meter cable. It is the fact that 660 flights were carried out for delivering 130 thousand ton military supplies by IL-76 and AN-12 aircrafts to Yerevan through Mozdok airport. This information was not indicated in the UN Register of Conventional Arms. The International Institute for Strategic Studies reports that Armenia also did not state about buying 8 P-17 missile launchers from Russia in 2006 and mortars and 32 missiles.

Little known fact that Armenia recently has received from Russia modern types of military equipment; special blankets for the battle tanks. These blankets reflect the radio waves and make the tanks invisible for the radars of the opposite side.

Armenia also concealed fact that it imported 273 mm “WM-80” reactive attack systems and missile launchers “Tayfun” from China. Only after Azerbaijan’s statement on this issue, government of China applied penalty sanctions against the company, which was involved into this illegal trade.
The company of Serbia qualified in Defense Industry - "Zastava" concluded $1 million 750 thousand dollar agreement with Armenia on the sale of weapons in early 2007. This company is negotiating with Armenia for concluding $900 thousand dollar agreement. New military enterprise "DG Arms Corporation" was commissioned in Abovyan city of Armenia in September, 2007. This enterprise will produce 100 million bullets in a year and it plans to sell its products to Serbia.

I would like also to draw your attention to the recent reports on weapon and armaments sale from Albania to Armenia. My country considers any supply of arms and military equipment to Armenia as an act against Azerbaijan and as action, which could aggravate the situation and provoke resumption of hostilities.

Mr. Chairman.

Armenia, implementing illegal military projects to supply its armed forces, is continuing to be a threat for the stability and security in our region.

Azerbaijan is today in the situation of war and despite this fact, it is continuing to fulfill its commitments under the CFE Treaty.

In conditions of undeclared war by Armenia, Azerbaijan had and still has all the reasons to cease the implementation of the CFE Treaty on its territory. However, we were refusing and still refuse from taking this step. Beyond, even in this difficult situation we are doing our best for the implementation of all CFE commitments.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.