



October 28, 2024

Hon. Ajay Banga
President, World Bank
1818 H Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433

Dear President Banga:

All other things being equal, you would likely dispatch representatives of your organization to attend the 29th United Nations Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP29), currently scheduled to take place in Baku, Azerbaijan, between November 11-22.

Considering the recent actions and declared intent of the Azeri regime, however, that action would be tantamount to an endorsement of acts of genocide, first against Christians in the Republic of Artsakh (also known as Nagorno-Karabakh) and, possibly in the near future, against the nation that gave them safe haven: Armenia.

To its lasting shame, the United Nations rewarded the government of Azerbaijan, the regime that perpetrated these monstrous crimes against humanity, by allowing it to host the COP29 event.

The practical effect of such a decision has been to *greenwash genocide*. By legitimizing the criminal Azeri regime, the U.N. has implicated themselves, as well as everyone connected with COP29.

Worse yet, in the wake of the rape of Artsakh, the government of Azerbaijan and its enabler, the Turkish regime of Recep Tayyip Erdogan, have made clear their determination to invade the Republic of Armenia. Such threats include abominable promises to “finish” the genocide that killed some 1.5 million Armenian Christians in 1915.

Anyone attending or sponsoring COP29 in Baku is guilty of greenwashing the previous genocide inflicted on the people of Artsakh. They are also complicit in *greenlighting* the next and even more deadly genocide expected to be unleashed after the delegates head home.

As you know, these atrocious acts only compound the already astounding reality that Azerbaijan is one of the least deserving countries to host COP29, given their massive production of fossil fuels and record of egregious pollution. Turning a blind eye to the Azeri’s desecration of ancient, holy Christian sites in Nagorno-Karabakh in the name of creating a “green zone” is another example of unconscionable hypocrisy, tantamount to effectively endorsing the persecution of Christians. Their blood will be on the hands of all those who help greenwash and greenlight Azerbaijan’s genocide.

The Coalition to Boycott Baku is determined to prevent further, now-impending crimes against humanity. Will you stand with us and refuse to send official delegates to COP29 unless it is moved elsewhere – or forever be known as one of genocide’s enablers?

Sincerely,

The Coalition to Boycott Baku

BOYCOTTBAKU.ORG | INFO@BOYCOTTBAKU.ORG

The Coalition to Boycott Baku is an informal group of like-minded individuals and organizations committed to holding Azerbaijan accountable for its past crimes against humanity and determined to peacefully prevent it from committing further atrocities.