

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**11 May 2020**

On 4 May 2020, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Ilham Aliyev speaking at the NAM Summit organised by his initiative in response to COVID-19, announced the donation by the Government of Azerbaijan to the World Health Organization for the NAM Member States that are most in need in the situation of pandemic.

In this regard, “The Donor Agreement between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the World Health Organization (WHO)” was signed on 11 May 2020 in the WHO Headquarters in Geneva.

The Donor Agreement signed by Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva Ambassador Vaqif Sadiqov and WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus envisages the allocation of 5 million USD to the WHO’s COVID-19 Appeal Fund in the framework of the WHO’s Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan and the use of this donation in consultation with Azerbaijan for the most affected NAM Member States in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

During the signing ceremony, the WHO Director-General commended this decision by Azerbaijan and highly appreciated the attention and care given by this country to healthcare sector, in particular to the current global fight against COVID-19. Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus stated that the voluntary financial contribution for the fight against COVID-19 made by Azerbaijan is an example of global solidarity, and on behalf of the WHO extended gratitude to the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Permanent Representative Vaqif Sadiqov underlined the importance that Azerbaijan attaches to cooperation with the WHO, and expressed his country’s appreciation for global efforts taken by the WHO in the fight against COVID-19.

Being the UN specialized agency responsible for international health in global scale, the World Health Organization is the main international partner of Azerbaijan in the field of healthcare. Azerbaijan’s cooperation with the WHO is carried out through the Organization’s Headquarters in Geneva and its Regional Office for Europe in Copenhagen. There is also a country office of WHO operating in Azerbaijan.

