

Remarks by Azerbaijan  
20<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council  
ID on the HC report on Belarus  
Geneva, 27 June 2012

Madame President,

The Delegation of Azerbaijan would like to note the following remarks concerning the interactive dialogue on report of the High Commissioner on Belarus:

The Republic of Azerbaijan notes the recent measures by Belarus on the promotion and protection of human rights.

Belarus has regularly cooperated with the existing human rights mechanisms of United Nations through the submission of its periodic reports and required information on the requested matters. We welcome the submission of the mid-term progress report by Belarus on the implementation UPR recommendations in February 2012. In that regard, Belarus invited OHCHR to hold some events in order to contribute the efforts of the Government on the implementation of UPR recommendations. In similar vein, we are looking forward to the active engagement of the delegation of Belarus in the second cycle of UPR.

We note the move by the Government of Belarus to extend the standing invitation to eight special mandate holders of the Human Rights Council in November 2009.

Belarus has updated and informed the Office of High Commissioner, mandate holders and member states on the recent developments in the country. Belarus regularly takes part in the seminars and workshops organized by OHCHR and shares its position on the matters of discussion.

We welcome the extension of the official invitation to the High Commissioner for Human Rights by the Government of Belarus in order to study on site the measures taken by the Government to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights. Throughout the first half of 2012 Belarus repeatedly reiterated its position on this issue.

The Republic of Azerbaijan believes that all outstanding issues can be considered within the spirit of cooperation and collaboration between Belarus and the human rights mechanisms of the Human Rights Council.

Thank you.