



*Check against delivery*

**UN Human Rights Council  
Twenty-seventh Special Session**

**on the human rights situation of the minority Rohingya Muslim population and other minorities in the Rakhine State of Myanmar**

**S t a t e m e n t**

**delivered by Mr. Emin Aslanov, Second Secretary of the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

**December 5, 2017**

Mr. President,

The Republic of Azerbaijan is seriously concerned that in recent years, the world has been witnessing a growing number of large-scale forced displacements as a result of the ongoing armed conflicts and ethnic and religious violence. This major increase in displacement is accompanied with unprecedented scale of human rights violations around the world and must be properly and extensively addressed by the international community both to restore the rights of those who have fled the violence and to prevent further upsurge in numbers of displaced persons.

Against this background, we believe that holding this special session is a necessary though belated initiative and we thank the delegations which initiated and supported it.

We are deeply worried by the outbreak of violence in Myanmar that has caused displacement of hundreds of thousands of Rohingya Muslims, mainly women, children and elderly to neighboring Bangladesh. The UN reports on grave human rights violations and abuses through a disproportionate use of force, extrajudicial killings, destruction of property, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment against Rohingyas are highly alarming.

Having gone through its own experience of hosting hundreds of thousands of people fleeing conflict and violence, Azerbaijan acknowledges the challenges Bangladesh has been facing under these difficult circumstances and expresses its solidarity with the Government and people of Bangladesh, which have granted humanitarian assistance and protection to the forcibly displaced Rohingya population.

There is an urgent need for this humanitarian calamity to be addressed with early implementation of the recommendations of the Kofi Annan Commission, as well as of the recently concluded bilateral arrangement on return of displaced persons between Bangladesh and Myanmar.

We hope that the abovementioned initiatives will prompt all concerned parties to take urgent measures to ensure safe, dignified and sustainable return of all displaced Rohingyas to their homes in Myanmar.

We urge the Government of Myanmar to address the root causes of the Rohingya crisis including through addressing the issue of statelessness of the Rohingya population by ensuring their equal access to full citizenship and related rights. We also call upon Myanmar to undertake necessary measures to independently and impartially investigate the alleged crimes and bring the perpetrators to justice.

In conclusion, we call on the international organizations and the international community to keep focus on the plight of displaced persons around the world resulted from armed conflicts and violence and take necessary measures to ensure restoration of their violated human rights, as demanded by the relevant documents of the UN Security Council and the General Assembly.

Thank you.