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**UN Human Rights Council
Thirty-ninth Session**

**General Debate on Item 2
Interactive Dialogue with the High Commissioner**

Statement

**delivered by Ambassador Vaqif Sadiqov, the Permanent Representative of the Republic of
Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

September 11, 2018

Mr. President,

I would like to express my congratulations to High Commissioner Michelle Bachelet on her appointment and wish her every success in carrying out her mandate.

My country believes that at a time when human rights violations are on the rise in the context of violent confrontations and forceful displacement of millions of people, the role of the High Commissioner as a chief UN official with principal responsibility for human rights protection has become even more crucial.

In particular, the plight of millions of IDPs and refugees as victims of the protracted armed conflicts necessitates more focused and efficient UN action for restoring their violated rights and imposing sanctions against their perpetrators. At the last HRC session my Delegation delivered a joint statement supported by a cross-regional group of 126 Member States on new challenges facing the UN human rights system.

In particular, the statement underlined that while exercising duties in relation to the UN Member States, the new High Commissioner is called:

- a) to bear in mind the existing challenges and national contexts and circumstances of the Member States;
- b) to display more objectivity, independence and impartiality in his/her actions;
- c) to strictly uphold the UN Charter, UNSC and UNGA resolutions to respect sovereignty, territorial integrity and domestic jurisdiction of the Member States;
- d) to ensure that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated;
- e) to favour constructive dialogue and cooperation with the Member States and to support their national human rights programmes.

In this context, I would like to inform you that, this year my country has again made a voluntary contribution to support OHCHR's advisory services and technical cooperation, in particular in the African continent.

In conclusion, let me assure you that Azerbaijan is ready to continue its dialogue with the High Commissioner and her Office.

Thank you, Mr. President.