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**Remarks by the delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan
as delivered by Mr. Seymur Mardaliyev,
Counselor of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UNOG in
Geneva**

**Agenda item 3: Clustered dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty
and Special Rapporteur on the human rights of IDPs
41st session of the Human Rights Council**

Geneva, 1 July 2019

Mr. President,

Azerbaijan aligns itself with the statement delivered by Ukraine on behalf of the GUAM member states.

As a country supporting all efforts to raise the visibility to the suffering of IDPs, Azerbaijan reiterates its commitment to support the activities of all relevant UN mechanisms and other relevant actors aimed at designing and implementing the effective protection mechanisms to ensure the rights of IDPs. We call Special Rapporteur to continue addressing the complex problem of internal displacement particularly by mainstreaming the human rights of IDPs into all relevant parts of the United Nations system, playing catalytic role in awareness raising of the plight of IDPs and elevating the profile of internal displacement in the Human Rights Council and OHCHR agendas.

We welcome a leading role of the Special Rapporteur in advancing GP20 plan of action as an important framework to reinforce multi-stakeholder engagement towards reducing and resolving internal displacement. We invite the Special Rapporteur to use the plan of action in a best possible extent to refocus attention to the protracted internal displacement situations in all parts of the world including in the region of South Caucasus.

We share the view contained in her report that role of the national human rights institutions at all phases of displacement remain important as to ensure that all human rights issues are properly addressed. This is particular case of Azerbaijan where the Office of the Ombudsman plays prominent role in addressing the internal displacement in the country hosting one of the largest IDP populations per capita in the world due to the occupation of Azerbaijani lands by Armenia. It monitors human rights situation with IDPs, provides legal assistance, advises the national authorities, conducts researches as well as promotes a culture of rights through training and awareness-raising activities. Special IDP unit and the position of the special advisor were exclusively established at the Office of Ombudsman for these purposes.

In the light of the goals of GP20 plan of action, Azerbaijan is open to sharing its lessons learned and good practices in its multi-stakeholder approach in addressing protracted IDP situation with interesting parties.

In closing, we reaffirm Azerbaijan's full support to the mandate of the Special Rapporteur.

I thank you.