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**29th session of the UPR Working Group
UPR of the Serbia**

Statement

**delivered by Mr. Yalchin Rafiyev, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of
the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International
Organizations in Geneva**

24 January 2018

Thank you, Mr. vice-president,

Azerbaijan warmly welcomes the delegation of Serbia at the UPR Working Group and thanks the delegation for the presented report.

Azerbaijan is pleased to see the significant progress achieved by friendly Serbia in the promotion and protection of human rights since the last UPR cycle. We appreciate Serbia's solid commitment to the UPR process, as well as its active engagement with the human rights treaty bodies and HRC special procedures mandate holders. In this regard, we particularly commend the establishment of Council for the implementation of the recommendations of the UN human rights mechanisms.

Azerbaijan also follows with interest the reform process Serbia goes through by legislative changes and institutional buildup for better promotion and protection of human rights on the ground.

Azerbaijan would like to offer the following recommendations for Serbia:

- 1.** To initiate the application of innovative approaches and technological innovations for the efficient, accountable and transparent delivery of public services.
- 2.** To continue enhancing the role of women in strengthening democracy and ensuring sustainable development.

In conclusion, we wish the delegation of Serbia a successful review.

I thank you, Mr. vice-president.