



**UN Human Rights Council
Thirsty-fourth Session**

**Enhanced interactive dialogue on the
human rights of migrants in the context of large movements**

**S t a t e m e n t
March 10, 2017**

Thank you Mr. President,

Azerbaijan's strategic geographical location, successful economic policy, stability, safety and tolerance of the country have an impact on dynamics of migration processes in the country. In this regard, a lot of work was carried out to strengthen the migration policy and the government has established the requisite legal basis for the implementation of the provisions of international instruments on the protection of the rights and freedoms of migrants.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, State Migration Service, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs, State Committee for Refugees and Displaced Persons, State Border Service, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan are the state bodies that involved in regulating and executing programs with regard to migrants.

The legislation on labour migration consists of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, "Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on "Exit from, entry to and Passports", "Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the legal status of foreigners and stateless persons", "Law on labor migration", "Law on immigration", Labor Code, relevant decrees and orders of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, decisions of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as international conventions (to which Azerbaijan is a party), other bilateral and multilateral agreements.

Under the Constitution and domestic legislation, every person, including migrants in Azerbaijan are guaranteed freedom and security. Pursuant to article 4 of the Legal Status of Foreign Nationals and Stateless Persons Act, foreign nationals and stateless persons enjoy the same rights and freedoms and have the same obligations as Azerbaijani citizens, irrespective of social or material status, racial or ethnic origin, sex, language or attitude to religion.

Mr. President,

In compliance with the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on "Protection of health of the population" migrants resided in our country has the same right as the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the field of healthcare. Migrants have the right to healthcare in compliance with the rules envisaged by international agreements to which the Republic of Azerbaijan is a party. According to Article 10 of the Law on "Healthcare of the population" medical services are provided

free of charge in public medical institutions of the Republic of Azerbaijan. According to legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan migrants can receive immediate and special medical assistant without any restriction and discrimination.

In compliance with Article 19 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on “Legal status of foreigners and stateless persons”, migrants permanently residing in the Azerbaijan Republic have the right to get education on equal grounds with the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan. According to the legislation, children of migrants, as well as migrant workers have the right to free secondary education.

Azerbaijani legislation on labour migration is in keeping with the provisions of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families ensures that all the obligations arising from the Convention are fully complied with. Currently, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population carries out active cooperation with a number of international organizations, including the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) for further improvement of the mechanisms on labour quotas via new methodologies for ensuring compatibility and determination of quotas for the working migrants. In 2016, The State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations under the President of Azerbaijan launched the ASAN Visa system, which makes it possible for foreigners and stateless persons to get an e-visa to the country through a single online portal within three days without applying to state organizations.

Mr. President,

Azerbaijan treats all migrants with respect and decency, regardless of their status, racial, ethnic and religious origin. Multiculturalism is a state policy of Azerbaijan. It's also a way of life, peaceful and coexistence principle, which is commonly recognized and based on tolerant attitude towards different cultures. We believe that it is the only way for the development of mankind in the future, especially in the age of globalization, when the integration of cultures and, in general, the processes of migration is active, engaging in self-isolation is simply disastrous. Common values of tolerance, mutual understanding and multiculturalism are the only options to further increase the promotion of the rights of migrants.

In conclusion, we would like again to reiterate our commitment to further protection of the rights and freedoms of migrants.

Thank you.

