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## Statement

### 26<sup>th</sup> session of the UPR Working Group UPR of Lithuania 2 November 2016

Mr. Vice President,

Azerbaijan welcomes the delegation of Lithuania to the 26<sup>th</sup> session of UPR Working Group and thanks for the comprehensive national report prepared with the involvement of representatives of the civil society.

Azerbaijan commends Lithuania for the strengthening normative and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights, especially for the establishment of the Department of National Minorities and the Council of Child Welfare, as well as the adoption the Interinstitutional Action Plan on Non-discrimination (2015), the Action Plan for Roma Integration (2015–2020), the fourth National Programme on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men (2015– 2021).

Azerbaijan congratulates Lithuania on the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Convention against Torture (OPCAT) and the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. We **recommend** Lithuania to continue its accession to the core international human rights instruments.

Azerbaijan welcomes the Seimas Ombudsperson's Office application to the UN for its accreditation as a National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) under the Paris Principles. We believe that the establishment of such NHRI would further contribute to the human rights records of the country and **recommend** Lithuania to accelerate the efforts to establish it in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

At the end, we wish the delegation of Lithuania a very successful review.

Thank you, Mr. Vice President.