



**UN Human Rights Council
Forty-third Session**

**Interactive Dialogue with the
Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an
adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context**

Statement

**delivered by Mrs. Kamala Huseynli-Abishova, Second Secretary of the Permanent
Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International
Organizations in Geneva**

March 5, 2020

Madame Chairperson,

We welcome Special Rapporteur on adequate housing Ms. Leilani Farha at the Council and thank her for the reports and the Guidelines presented. We would also like to congratulate Ms. Farha on successfully fulfilling her mandate and wish her success in her future endeavor.

Using this opportunity we would like to extend our gratitude to the Special Rapporteur for positively considering a number of proposals voiced by many delegations during the consultation process, including our own, and incorporating guideline No.10 on ensuring the right to adequate housing for migrants and internally displaced persons. Moreover, we support the implementation of the measures suggested by the Special Rapporteur herewith.

Based on our historic experience we know that forced eviction can also be used as a means for ethnic cleansing of local and indigenous population followed by war and occupation.

For the past thirty years, in addition to numerous social, economic and environmental challenges, my Government continues to implement projects aimed at providing shelter and housing for over one million refugees and internally displaced persons arising from the ongoing armed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan who were forcefully displaced from their homes in Armenia and Azerbaijan as a result of ethnic cleansing in the course of the occupation by neighboring Armenia of the south-western part of Azerbaijan which makes twenty percent of the territories of my country. As a country with the population of ten million, Azerbaijan is among the countries with the highest per capita population of IDPs and refugees.

We agree that the right to adequate housing should not be interpreted narrowly, as a right to mere physical shelter and we express our solidarity with the Special Rapporteur that the right to housing must be understood as inherent dignity of human kind.

My Government will give due consideration to the Guidelines prepared by the SR and remains ready to cooperate on its implementation.

Thank you.

