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**UN Human Rights Council
Thirty-seventh Session**

**Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of the persons with
disabilities and interactive dialogue on albinism**

**S t a t e m e n t
by Yusif HUSEYNOV**

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Thank you Madam Vice-President,

The delegation of Azerbaijan welcomes the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Ms. Devandas-Aguillar, and thanks her for the newest comprehensive report.

Madam Vice-President,

Given the theme of the report of the Special Rapporteur, we want to underline that the Azerbaijan strongly supports the protection of the rights of the persons with disabilities and constantly improves its legislative framework in key areas affecting the persons with disabilities. Having that in mind, we reaffirm our commitment to the promotion, protection and fulfillment of the right of persons with disabilities to have equal recognition as a person before the law.

In the implementation of article 13 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) on access to justice, Azerbaijan has been concentrating into implementation development of international standards and national level laws and policies for the realization of substantive equality for persons with disabilities, together with National level practices and experiences.

The legislative reforms and other such activities play an important role in the resolution of issues related to the protection of persons with disabilities. In the framework of such activities carried out in this direction increasing the opportunity of persons with disabilities to courts, including their entrance to court buildings and full representation in court process. It should be emphasized that appropriate activities are being carried out for establishing modern judicial infrastructure in a framework of “Modernization of the Judicial System” project.

It should be noted that, the Justice Academy of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan proper consideration is given to studying precedents of European Court on Human Rights and other international document on human rights during mandatory trainings for recruitment to the prosecutors’ offices and advocacy candidates, as well as during first long-term training programs of candidates to judge’s position and during continuous education program of judges.

Madam Vice-President,

Government of Azerbaijan also carries active state policy to ensure the effective access to justice for persons with disabilities to achieve the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Azerbaijan’s National Coordinating Council for Sustainable Development Goals defines the national priorities until 2030, which are of great importance for Azerbaijan

to ensure the compliance of state programs and strategies covering the socio-economic spheres with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore. As disability is referenced in various parts of the SDGs and specifically in parts related to access to justice, education, growth and employment, inequality, accessibility of human settlements, Azerbaijan highlights the importance of the 2030 Agenda for the realization of the rights of the persons with disabilities.

Ms. Devandas,

Considering the undergoing technological advancement and driving progress on Article 13 of the CRPD, do you think that digital transformation of courts and justice systems would further ensure the effective access to justice for persons with disabilities on equal basis with others?

Thank you.

