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**UN Human Rights Council
Thirty-sixth Session
Individual dialogue with the
Special Rapporteur on Right to development**

S t a t e m e n t

**delivered by Amb. Vaqif Sadiqov, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the
UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

September 15, 2017

Mr. President,

We thank Mr. Alfarargi for presentation of his first report on the right to development which outlines challenges ahead of the mandate and his vision to address them.

We view the right to development as “an inalienable human right”, which is both as an individual and a collective one belonging to all individuals and peoples.

The right to development identifies the “human being” as a central subject and covers all the aspects of his/her life. This right also identifies development as a comprehensive economic, social, cultural and political process, aiming at the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population.

The 2030 Agenda for SDGs, along with the Declaration on the Right to development identify the States as main stakeholders, emphasizing that the states have primary responsibility for the creation of conditions favorable to the realization of the right to development.

Having embedded the notion of the right to development even in its Constitution, Azerbaijan has achieved impressive results on many Development Goals, especially on eradicating extreme poverty, ensuring universal primary education and promoting gender equality.

Currently, Azerbaijan is adapting its national sustainable development strategy taking into account the SDG targets, aimed at developing a more sustainable, inclusive and diversified economy. In this regard, the National Coordinating Council for Sustainable Development has been established in Azerbaijan headed by the deputy prime-minister.

The main purpose of the Council is to define the national priorities until 2030, corresponding to global goals and targets, and to ensure the compliance of state programs and strategies covering the socio-economic spheres with the SDGs.

Likewise, Azerbaijan also takes an active part in international development efforts in responding to humanitarian and socio-economic challenges the developing countries face, in particular through the Azerbaijan International Development Agency and the biggest NGO of Azerbaijan - the Haydar Aliyev Foundation.

Thank you.