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

General debate on item 10

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**

March 22, 2018

Mr. President,

While acknowledging primary responsibility and role of States in promotion and protection of human rights, we are of the view that technical assistance and capacity building of States in the field of human rights should remain the core of activities carried out by the UN system, particularly by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Such assistance must be provided in consultation with and with the consent of Member States concerned.

In the meantime, it is unfortunate that, we continue to witness the ongoing protracted armed conflicts resulting, inter alia, in long-term sufferings of civilian population, accompanied by significant refugee and IDP situations, and large-scale violations of human rights, which mark the alarming global trends.

Bearing in mind violations of human rights generated by the protracted armed conflicts, Azerbaijan has always been highlighting the need for the UN High Commissioner and HRC to publicly express serious concern over violations of human rights of IDPs and refugees, to demand unconditional implementation of the existing UN documents, and to condemn the perpetrators of these violations.

With regard to the armed conflict in Georgia – our good neighbor, with which Azerbaijan shares relations of strategic partnership, we wish to underline that Azerbaijan condemns violent extremism and aggressive separatism and reaffirms its unequivocal support to independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized borders.

Thank you.