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**UN Human Rights Council
Thirty-sixth 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**

September 28, 2017

Mr. President,

First of all, I would like to welcome first Deputy Foreign Minister of the Republic of Georgia Mr. Davit Zalkaliani and thank him for his presentation. I would also like to thank the UN High Commissioner for his updates on Georgia.

Bearing in mind large-scale violations of human rights generated by the protracted armed conflicts, Azerbaijan has always highlighted necessity of significant efforts by the UN High Commissioner and HRC to adequately respond and publicly express serious concern over the violations of human rights of IDPs and refugees, and demand unconditional implementation of the existing UN documents, and condemn the perpetrators of the violations. In this context, we welcome recent increased interest of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to the plight of the victims of ongoing-armed conflicts.

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

Having experienced a 25 years long history of the occupation of 20 percent of its territory, accompanied by ethnic cleansing, large-scale massacres, and violations of human rights of one million Azerbaijani refugees and IDPs, Azerbaijan fully adheres to the solution of all existing conflicts on the basis of norms and principles of international law, in particular territorial integrity, sovereignty and inviolability of internationally recognized borders.

Thank you.