



**UN Human Rights Council  
Forty third Session**

**General debate on item 9**

**Statement**

**delivered by Shahriyar Hajiyev, Third Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

**16 June, 2020**

Thank you, Mr. Vice-President,

We thank the High Commissioner for preparation of a comprehensive follow-up report. The manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, religious and other related intolerance have been on the rise around the globe and requires the attention and collective action of the international community.

The elimination of discrimination is guaranteed by legislation and policy measures in Azerbaijan. Measures are constantly taken for preserving and promoting historical multi-ethnic and multi-confessional values of the country. In Azerbaijan, 942 religious organizations are registered comprising Islamic, Christian, Jewish, Krishna and Baha'i.

Believing in the importance of the intercultural dialogue in achieving better standards and preventing the above-mentioned dangerous trends, Azerbaijan hosts international fora and conferences regularly, in promoting intercultural and inter-confessional dialogue globally.

In November 2019, Azerbaijan hosted the II Baku Summit of the World Religious Leaders with the participation of influential religious and public figures from more than 70 countries and 10 international organizations. The Summit aimed at discussing ethnic and religious processes in different regions and modern challenges in globalized world to contribute to supporting mutual dialogue and understanding amongst various stakeholders.

We believe that international cooperation, including programs promoting dialogue and tolerance, should be encouraged and strengthened for achieving better standards in combating racism.

I thank you.