



**UN Human Rights Council  
Forty-fifth Session  
Organizational meeting – Presentation of Panel Discussions  
Statement**

**delivered by Emin Aslanov, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic  
of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

**Geneva, 31 August 2020**

Dear Madam President,

In its Resolution 42/23 on the right to development initiated by the Non-Aligned Movement, the UN Human Rights Council decided to organize a biennial panel discussion on the right to development at its 45th session.

In this regard, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, in cooperation with Azerbaijan, as the Chair of the NAM will organize a panel discussion on the right to development under the title “COVID-19 and the Right to Development: We Are All in This Together”, on 17 September 2020, from 10:00 to 12:00 on the margins of the 45th session of the Council.

The panel discussion on the right to development will focus on strengthening international cooperation and solidarity in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. It will also consider ways to operationalize the right to development to advance global solidarity and shared responsibilities.

The Concept Note of the panel discussion is available on the extranet for further information.

During the Panel, H.E. Michelle Bachelet, High Commissioner for Human Rights will make an opening statement followed by a video message by the Prime Minister of Barbados, H.E. Mia Amor Mottley.

Furthermore, Mr. Tedros Ghebreyesus, Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO) will participate at the Panel through a video message. Mr. Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-

General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Mr. Vaqif Sadiqov, Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan, and a representative of a civil society organization are expected to speak as panellists.

We encourage States and other stakeholders to actively participate in the discussions.

I thank you.