



Statement

33rd session of the Human Rights Council Agenda item 10 General Debate

29 September 2016

Mr. President,

The promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms have gained significant importance in the light of continuously expanding globalization and integration processes.

As one of the founding members of the Human Rights Council, the Republic of Azerbaijan highly commends the work of this august body as an effective mechanism towards the promotion and protection of human rights and freedoms. With this in mind, Azerbaijan attaches particular importance to enhanced cooperation with the UN Human Rights Council and its mechanisms.

Azerbaijan also appreciates the activities carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to support the Human Rights Council, Special Procedures, Universal Periodic Review, and Treaty Bodies, as the major tools of the UN human rights machinery.

The large scale human rights violations occur most commonly during and aftermath of the armed conflicts around the world. In this regard, we are of the view that the extensive expertise and achievements of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights should also be applied with regard to all armed conflicts, including those in the South Caucasus region.

As regards the Joint Statement on Georgia, delivered today under agenda item 10, the Republic of Azerbaijan reiterates its support to the territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty of Georgia, within its internationally recognized borders.

Thank you.