



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

**Clustered Interactive Dialogue
with the SR on internally displaced persons, and the SR on extreme poverty**

Statement

delivered by Mr. Emin Aslanov, Second secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

June 8, 2017

Mr. Vice - President,

We join other speakers thanking both rapporteurs for presentation of their comprehensive reports. Azerbaijan believes that addressing both topics in this esteemed setting is of crucial importance as they are closely linked with human rights of millions of people in the worldwide.

Ms. Jimenez-Damary, we congratulate you with your first report and wish you all the success in fulfillment of your important mandate. *(We thoughtfully read your report, in which, along with presenting the activities carried out by the former Special Rapporteur, you have also articulated an overview of your vision for the mandate.)*

We concur with your opinion that internally displaced persons are frequently the least, the last and the lost in terms of international attention to their sufferings, and addressing the overall root causes of displacement remains fundamental. *(Absence of an international legally binding instrument on the matter is another vivid example of the lack of necessary attention to the IDP issues.)*

Ms. Jimenez, no doubts, you are aware that, around 1 million of Azerbaijanis remain to be forcibly displaced as a result of continued aggressive policy pursued by a neighboring country which persists violating and disrespecting international law during the last 25 years.

Despite economic hardships, Government of Azerbaijan has assumed full responsibility for the improvement of livelihood conditions of IDPs and alleviating their sufferings, which has also been positively recognized by both of your predecessors who paid visits to Azerbaijan. *(Without going into details about the measures undertaken, let me underline that around 6 billion USD has been allocated*

to date for improving social protection and living conditions of one million IDPs in our relatively small country with total of 9 million inhabitants.)

However, myself being an IDP, I can assure you that, the only durable solution for us, for those 1 million people is to return to our hometowns, although we know that they have been viciously looted and ruined by aggressors.

In this context, I wish to recall that, on May 30, 2014, the former SR on IDPs Mr. Beyani made his own contribution as a UN Special Rapporteur to restoring human rights of Azerbaijani IDPs, by addressing UN Security Council and demanding it to ensure implementation of its pertinent UNSC resolutions (822, 853, 874, 884). Unfortunately, those resolutions still have not been implemented and this remains as an unfulfilled task before the HRC, High Commissioner and relevant mandate holders.

My question to Ms. Jimenes is - **What path do you plan to take with regard to ensuring restoration of human rights of one million Azerbaijani IDPs, as tasked by the relevant UN Security Council resolutions?**

Thank you.