

**Azərbaycan Respublikasının
Cenevrədəki BMT Bölməsi
və digər beynəlxalq təşkilatlar yanında
Daimi Nümayəndəliyi**



**Permanent Mission
of the Republic of Azerbaijan
to the UN Office and other
International Organizations in Geneva**

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**UN Human Rights Council
Fifty-seventh Session**

Item 2

General Debate on High Commissioner's global update

Statement

**by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to
the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

11 September 2024

Mr. President,

We took note of the global update by the High Commissioner and would like to offer the following comments.

We share the view on the importance of the dialogue and engagement with the international human rights system, including the OHCHR. Azerbaijan has consistently been advocating for cooperation between States and the human rights bodies and mechanisms based on constructive dialogue and mutual trust. We emphasize that in discharging their mandate they shall be guided by the UN Charter and norms and principles of international law.

Human rights should be treated fairly and equally, on the same footing, and with the same emphasis. Selective approach and double standards must be avoided – indeed, they serve no one, and certainly not victims of human rights violations.

We reject the statements by the EU and its member states which distort geographical names of sovereign territories of Azerbaijan and present a territorial claim, as well as their discriminatory approach against Azerbaijani refugees forcibly expelled from Armenia. We express serious concern over continued neo-colonial policies by some EU Member States, in particular by France vis-à-vis its colonies, and call on the OHCHR to remain seized of this situation.

In conclusion, let us reiterate that Azerbaijan is fully committed to upholding the human rights and fundamental freedoms, as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments. Nobody is persecuted in Azerbaijan for professional activities, and everyone has the right to challenge alleged restrictions of rights and freedoms in court.

Thank you.