



**UN Human Rights Council
Forty-seventh session
ID with SR on the right to health**

**Statement
delivered by Mr. Kamran Seyfullayev,
Third Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan
to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

23 June 2021

Thank you, Madame Vice-President.

We welcome the Special Rapporteur on right to health and thank her for the reports.

We agree with Madame Rapporteur that there is a need for equality to be in the centre of operationalization of the right to health and the challenges brought by the pandemic have clearly showed us the importance of this approach.

Since the very start of the global pandemic Azerbaijan took a number of steps to mitigate both health and economic impact of the spread of COVID-19. In addition, our country became one of the key actors contributing to international cooperation and multilateralism in global efforts against pandemic, including through advocating equitable access to vaccines for all countries.

In the middle of the pandemic Azerbaijan became victim of another act of aggression by Armenia when starting from September 2020, Armenia targeted densely populated areas of Azerbaijan with intensive fire ~~through the use of large-calibre weapons~~. Throughout the last year's war it committed innumerable war crimes and crimes against humanity while attacking our cities and towns, including hospitals and medical personnel, having heavy implications on the realization of right to health of our citizens. Moreover, Armenia has repeatedly used the prohibited cluster munitions and white phosphorus projectiles in their attacks. During these aggression of Armenia, our country suffered a great number of civilian losses as well as casualties.

Moreover, the landmines planted by Armenia in our territories remain to be the deadliest threat to life as well as physical and mental health of our population. Therefore, it is of utmost importance that the international community puts appropriate pressure on Armenia to release all the maps of minefields in our territories.

Madam Special Rapporteur,

While Armenian representatives here attempt to present the situation in the liberated territories of our country as a “humanitarian catastrophe”, let us inform that according to the recent data from UNHCR, less than 35 000 persons returned to our territories from Armenia who continue receive humanitarian aid, since Azerbaijan provided access for humanitarian goods from its own territory.

Armenia also presents blatant lies on the issue of access for humanitarian organizations. In this regard, we remind that Azerbaijan has already reached agreement on UNHCR’s mission to conflict-affected areas and is fully prepared to accept that mission.

Thank you.