



**UN Human Rights Council
Conversation with the Coordination Committee of the Special Procedures**

**Statement
delivered by Mr. Seymur Mardaliyev,
Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan
to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

Geneva, 2 June 2021

Madame President,

We thank you for convening this timely informal conversation with the Coordination Committee of the Special Procedures. We also thank the chair and members of the Coordination Committee.

Azerbaijan has been demonstrating firm spirit of cooperation with the Special Procedures Mandate Holders, and it is in this context that the Government of Azerbaijan has extended standing invitation to all mandate holders since 2013. Azerbaijan was mentioned by previous High Commissioner among 19 countries actively cooperating with the special procedures.

Madame President,

Special procedures mandate-holders represent the United Nations, and have to conduct their activities with full respect for the norms and principles of international law, the UN Charter, the relevant resolutions adopted by the UN and the Code of Conduct for special procedures mandate holders approved by the Human Rights Council's relevant resolution 5/2 (2007). However, we regret to observe constant cases of serious shortcomings and abuses of mandate and independence granted to the experts by the UN Member States, as well as cases of violation of the respective provisions of the Code of Conduct.

On many occasions, mandate-holders send communications with factual mistakes and consisting of accusatory language, based on an unverified information from unreliable sources and full of non-objective conclusions. On certain occasions, the communications contain baseless and politically biased accusations contrary to the language of the UN documents.

Some mandate-holders issue hasty news releases and make public urgent appeals based on one-sided allegations rather than verified facts, without conducting professional, impartial

assessment, as required by the Code of Conduct, and without providing the Government with appropriate opportunity to comment.

In many cases mandate holders try to avoid contacts with UN Member States pretending that this would “harm” their independence and disregard the factual data and evidences provided in response to their communications. There are also cases when no response is given to requests, letters and appeals of the UN Member States, as a result of which no action is taken by them in the situations which do require urgent actions.

Demonstration, through their communications, of systematic and purposeful disrespect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and persistent incorrect references to the geographical names of the territory of Azerbaijan, despite the repeated legitimate demands of the Azerbaijani side to correct such wrongful approach, is another issue of concern for my country.

Madame President,

We request the OHCHR Special Procedures Branch and the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures to increase supervision of the work of mandate-holders and align it with the requirements of the United Nations. The independence granted to the Mandate Holders does not mean an independence from the UN Charter, and the norms and principles of international law.

Thank you.