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**38th session of the UPR Working Group
UPR of Estonia**

Statement

**delivered by Marziyya Vakilova-Mardaliyeva, First secretary of the Permanent Mission of
the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in
Geneva**

4 May 2021

Madame President,

Azerbaijan welcomes the delegation of Estonia to the third cycle of the UPR.

We positively acknowledge a number of measures taken by Estonia to promote and protect human rights in the country. Yet we are concerned about the increase in gender-based violence against women, discrimination on the basis of religion or belief, and the trafficking in women and girls. We also regret the participation of children in the Estonian Defense League, which may include the participation in handling firearms and encourage Estonia to ban the handling of firearms for children.

We recommend Estonia to:

1. effectively combat incitement to hatred and ensure that all hate crimes and incidents of hate speech are thoroughly investigated and perpetrators prosecuted;
2. ensure that all State policies and programmes are compliant with the Convention on the Rights of the Child;
3. ensure that cases of trafficking are effectively investigated and the perpetrators adequately punished;
4. ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

We wish the delegation of Estonia a successful review cycle.

Thank you.