

**Remarks by Azerbaijan
20th session of the Human Rights Council
General debate under item 6
29 June 2012**

Madame President,

We would like to make the following remarks in national capacity concerning the UPR process and its follow-up.

The Government of Azerbaijan has submitted its interim report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the outcome of the universal periodic review on Azerbaijan to the Human Rights Council on 17 January 2012. Our interim report has been circulated as an official document of Human Rights Council A/HRC/19/G/8/Rev.1 under the agenda item 6.

A few days ago we updated the Office of High Commissioner for Human rights on the further measures undertaken on the implementation process of the recommendations contained in the outcome of the universal periodic review (UPR) on Azerbaijan.

The meeting dedicated to this very matter was held on 16 May 2012 at the Office of Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Baku. The event was attended by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Chair of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of Azerbaijan and also Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) as well as the representatives of relevant state agencies and civil society. In addition to providing the extensive update on the implementation process of the recommendations submitted by states and the efforts of the relevant state agencies in that regard, the discussions also focused on the participation of NGOs with a view of the implementation of those recommendations.

The requirement of submission of the second national report of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the UPR before 21 January 2013, as well as the importance of covering the recommendations reflected in the conclusions of the report of the Working Group on the UPR and also the achievements and developments in the field of human rights since the first national report were noted. Debates also focused on the preparation process of the second national report of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the UPR.

The Republic of Azerbaijan is eagerly looking forward to its active and productive engagement with all interested stakeholders during the 16th session of the Working Group of UPR on Azerbaijan.

Thank you Madame President.