 **Azərbaycan Respublikasının Permanent Mission**

**Cenevrədəki BMT Bölməsi of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

**və digər beynəlxalq təşkilatlar yanında to the UN Office and other**

**Daimi Nümayəndəliyi International Organizations in Geneva \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**UN Human Rights Council**

**Third intersessional meeting on human rights and the 2030 Agenda**

**Statement**

**delivered by Mr. Shahriyar Hajiyev, Third secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

**14 January 2021**

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson,

Azerbaijan is proud to be among States backing this intersessional meeting.

The theme of the intersessional meeting is very timely when the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continue. It is undoubted that the pandemic affects the overall economic and social situation around the globe, creating obstacles for the enjoyment of human rights and achieving SDGs.

On national level, creating opportunities for inclusive and sustainable economic growth for all and “leaving no one behind” is a priority for Azerbaijan and the Government has a firm commitment to transitioning to sustainable development and aligning the national development strategy to the SDGs. Azerbaijan submitted two Voluntary National Review reports in 2017 and 2019, as an overview of the efforts made with respect to policy pursued for the achievement of the SDGs.

Various national measures across different fields, in particular social protection, economy and education are implemented from the starting of the pandemic are being implemented in order to mitigate the results of this health calamity. Additionally, in its international efforts for the fight in the mitigation of the pandemic, the Government has donated 10 million US dollars to the World Health Organization for the needs of the most affected countries.

Taking into account the situation resulting from the COVID-19 around the globe and its negative impacts on the achievement of the SDGs, we reiterate our belief on the role of the enhanced international cooperation in finding sustainable solutions for this end.

I thank you.