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Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt

**The Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Sixteenth Session**

Review of Azerbaijan

(Geneva, 30th, of April 2013)

Mr. Amr ESSAM

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Mr. President,

My delegation extends its warm welcome to the delegation of Azerbaijan to the 16th session of the 2nd UPR cycle.

Egypt applauds all the steps taken towards implementing the accepted recommendations of the first cycle. In this regard, we welcome in particular the launch of the national program on increasing the efficiency of the protection of human rights and freedoms, as well as the enactment of the laws on domestic violence, rights of detained persons, and strengthening the efforts in the area of fighting against corruption. We also commend the fact that Azerbaijan is a state party to the vast majority of International human rights treaties, including most recently the CRPD, and we encourage the government to continue its timely cooperation with their respective treaty bodies.

On a different note, we note with satisfaction the process of judicial reform and modernization of the judicial system, and we invite the delegation to share with the council how these reforms will positively affect the domains of juvenile access to justice and redress for the victims of trafficking in persons.

In conclusion, Egypt presents the following recommendations for the kind consideration of the government of Azerbaijan:

- 1- To maintain its active cooperation with the Council's special procedures mandate-holders.
- 2- To continue its efforts to guarantee equality between women and men, and ensure the empowerment of women.
- 3- To further protect and promote the right to safe drinking water and sanitation.

I thank you.
