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**Statement by the Delegation of Kazakhstan
at the 16th Session of WG of HRC / UPR of Azerbaijan**

30 April, 2013

Thank you, Mr. President,

Kazakhstan's delegation welcomes the brotherly delegation of Azerbaijan headed by H.E. MR. KHALAF KHALAFOV.

We thank His Excellency for a comprehensive and detailed presentation. We appreciate the progress that Azerbaijan has achieved in the last four years since the time of the First Cycle of the UPR in building a democratic society based on the primary rule of law.

We note with satisfaction that Azerbaijan, which is a Party to almost 60 international human rights protecting instruments, works closely with the treaty bodies and provides all the required periodical reports.

In this regard we positively take note of the fact that Azerbaijan has ratified the UNESCO Convention on the protection and promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, the Convention of the Council of Europe on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, The ILO Convention No. 156 concerning Equal Opportunities and Equal Treatment for Men and Women Workers: Workers with Family Responsibilities and so on.

Kazakhstan recognizes Azerbaijan's efforts in securing and maintaining all possible conditions for realization of the right of freedom of religion with so far 730 religious communities being registered.

Concerning UPR's National Report, we recommend the delegation of Azerbaijan:

1. To strengthen the institutional measures in the field of human rights within the framework of the National Action Program and "Justice Reform Support Program".
2. To take steps to fully implement the ratified international documents.
3. To further secure promotion and protection of the rights of women, combat against domestic violence and guarantee the gender equality.

In conclusion, our delegation wishes to witness further progress and realization of human rights within the effective implementation of the National Action Plan against Human Trafficking.

Thank you.