

WG on UPR
17th session
Geneva, 24 October 2013

Mr. President,

Azerbaijan warmly welcomes the delegation of Malaysia and thank for the national report and excellent introductory statement.

We remain fully assured in the Government of Malaysia for the effective promotion and protection of the human rights in its own country. This confidence and trust of international community in Malaysia has also resulted in the election of this country as a member of the Human Rights Council. The level of cooperation and collaboration that Malaysia pursues with the international human rights mechanisms, including the UN mandate holders and treaty bodies should also be welcomed in that regard.

Azerbaijan welcomes the efforts of the Government to strengthen Malaysia's National Human Rights Commission since its establishment in 1999. We also note that the Commission has enjoyed 'A' Status accreditation by the International Coordinating Committee for National Human Rights Institutions since its establishment. We recommend Malaysia to continue the exemplary cooperation and interaction that exist between the Government and the Commission.

We commend the measures by the Government for increasing the quality level of education and widening access to education opportunities. It is especially noteworthy that the Government abolished all fees for primary and secondary school students. The Government has also increased allocations for construction of new schools and related infrastructure. In that regard, we recommend Malaysia to continue its successful measures in the field of education.

According to the national report, hard core poverty has been eradicated in 2010 and general poverty been reduced to 1.7% in 2012. It is also commendable that Malaysia achieved the Millennium Development Goals target on poverty reduction well ahead of schedule. In that regard, we recommend Malaysia to continue addressing income inequality in the development policy of the country.

Finally, we would like to assure the delegation of Malaysia of our full support and cooperation.

Thank you for attention.