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## Remarks by the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan

20<sup>th</sup> session of the WG on UPR

UPR of Iraq

3 November 2014, Geneva

Mr. President,

Azerbaijan warmly welcomes the Delegation of Iraq to the 20<sup>th</sup> session of the Working Group on UPR and thanks the esteemed Delegation for the comprehensive and informative presentation.

We congratulate Iraq for improvement of its normative legal framework and strengthening of national institutional infrastructure for the promotion and protection of human rights. In this regard, we welcome the accession to human rights instruments such as the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

Azerbaijan commends Iraq's active cooperation with the human rights mechanisms of the United Nations. The issuance of standing invitation should be particularly highlighted in this regard. We **recommend** Iraq to continue its active engagement with the human rights mechanisms of UN for the protection and promotion of human rights.

Azerbaijan appreciates also the works done by the Government of Iraq on the implementation of educational programmes and in this regard, **recommends** taking more effective measures in order to eradicate illiteracy and to address the obstacles preventing the access to education.

Finally, the Delegation of Azerbaijan would like to assure once again the Delegation of Iraq of its full support.

Thank you for attention.