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Statement by **AZERBAIJAN**

UPR of Austria

23rd session of the WG on UPR
09 November 2015, Geneva

Mr. President,

Azerbaijan welcomes the delegation of Austria.

Azerbaijan commends Austria for its efforts to develop normative and institutional framework for human rights. In this regard, we welcome the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT).

We would also like to note that a number of UN mandate holders have expressed their concerns on existence of problems related to the discrimination, xenophobia and racist attitudes in Austria. The Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) remained concerned about manifestations of racism, xenophobia and related intolerance towards migrant communities, refugees, asylum seekers and persons of certain ethnic backgrounds. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was concerned at the increase of xenophobic violence against migrant women and at cases of incitement to hatred and violence, particularly targeting Muslim and/or black women.

In the light of the above-mentioned we **recommend** Austria the followings :

1. to effectively combat all manifestations of Islamophobia, neo-nazism, and to investigate, prosecute and punish all hate crimes against minorities;
2. to take all appropriate measures to promote tolerance, intercultural dialogue and respect for diversity in the society;
3. to investigate of all cases of ill-treatment, human rights violations committed by law-enforcement agencies and prosecute those responsible;
4. to ratify the International Convention of the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and members of their family.

Thank you, Mr. President.