 **Azərbaycan Respublikasının Permanent Mission**

 **Cenevrədəki BMT Bölməsi of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

**və digər beynəlxalq təşkilatlar yanında to the UN Office and other**

 **Daimi Nümayəndəliyi International Organizations in Geneva \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **237 Route des Fayards, CH-1290 Versoix, Switzerland Tel: +41 (22) 9011815 Fax: +41 (22) 9011844 E-mail: geneva@mission.mfa.gov.az Web: www.geneva.mfa.gov.az**

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**Statement**

**26th session of the UPR Working Group**

**UPR of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

**1 November 2016**

Mr. President,

Azerbaijan warmly welcomes the delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and thanks the distinguished delegation for the comprehensive national report.

Azerbaijan commends the constructive approach of Venezuela to the UPR process and its continuing efforts to strengthen the legislative and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights. In this regard, Azerbaijan welcomes the accession of Venezuela to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol.

Azerbaijan also welcomes the establishment of the National Council for Human Rights in 2014 and the preparation of the National Human Rights Plan of Venezuela for 2016-2019 following the extensive consultations with all the stakeholders in the country.

Azerbaijan also positively notes the cooperation of Venezuela with the UN human rights mechanisms. The cooperation of Venezuela with human rights treaty bodies and its reporting status should be specifically highlighted in this regard.

Azerbaijan **recommends** Venezuela to continue further improvement of the protection and promotion of human rights in the country.

In conclusion, we wish the delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela a very successful UPR process.

Thank you, Mr. President.