**ARMENIA**

14 November 2023

44rd Session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Azerbaijan

***Delivered by H.E. Mr. Andranik HOVHANNISYAN, Permanent Representative***

President,

Armenia condemns ethnic cleansing of Nagorno-Karabakh and occupation of the sovereign territories of Armenia by Azerbaijan. We join the concerns expressed by States and watchdogs on the human rights situation in Azerbaijan.

We recommend Azerbaijan to:

* ensure conditions for safe and dignified return of the Armenian refugees;
* implement orders of ICJ of 7 December 2021;
* release and repatriate Armenian POWs and civilian detainees;
* stop incitement of anti-Armenian hatred and intolerance;
* investigate the violations of human rights and humanitarian law committed against Armenians, and ensure accountability for perpetrators and justice for victims;
* investigate the fate and whereabouts of Armenian missing persons and enforced disappearances;
* protect Armenian cultural and religious heritage from destruction;
* investigate the cases of mercenaries deployed to support armed forces of Azerbaijan.

Thank you