 **Azərbaycan Respublikasının Permanent Mission**

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

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**40th session of the UPR Working Group**

**UPR of Togo**

**Statement**

**delivered by Marziyya Vakilova-Mardaliyeva, First secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

 **24 January 2022**

Thank you, Mr. President,

Azerbaijan welcomes the distinguished delegation of Togo to the third cycle of UPR and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

We commend Togo the progress made since the previous cycle of UPR, in particular adoption of core instruments relating to the promotion and protection of human rights and harmonization of national legislation with the instruments ratified by Togo.

We positively note reforms undertaken by the Government of Togo in the judiciary and the prison service. We also welcome the steps taken towards strengthening national human rights institutions and establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform for collaboration between the Government, the National Human Rights Commission and other State institutions, and civil society organizations, on human rights issues.

We would like to recommend Togo:

1. to continue implementing reforms in the judiciary and the prison service,
2. to intensify efforts in ensuring gender equality and promoting the participation of women in political life, and
3. to continue steps towards increasing access to and improving the quality of education.

We wish Togo every success in this review process.

Thank you.