 **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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**35th session of the UPR Working Group**

**UPR of Lesotho**

**Statement**

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

**22 January 2020**

Madame President,

Azerbaijan welcomes the delegation of the Kingdom of Lesotho to the third cycle of the UPR and thanks this delegation for the detailed presentation of its national report.

Azerbaijan commends the commitment of Lesotho to the UPR process. We positively note that Lesotho is implementing the recommendations by international organisations regarding the correctional institutions. In light of this development, we would like to recommend Lesotho to consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

We also note with satisfaction that the Children’s Protection and Welfare Amendment Bill of 2019 makes child marriage a punishable offence. We recommend Lesotho to continue positive steps aimed at ending child marriage.

In conclusion we wish the delegation of the Kingdom of Lesotho every success in this review cycle.

Thank you, Madame President.