Information submitted by the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the Questionnaire prepared regarding the next report to be presented by the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants to the 50<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Human Rights Council

## Regarding Question 1:

According to the "Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan No. 1288 dated February 12, 2021 "On Amendments to the Regulation on Unified Migration Information System of the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan" amendments have been made regarding the entering information on registration of foreigners and stateless persons who are under protection of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the Republic of Azerbaijan upon their places of stay in the order specified in Article 21.6 of the Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan into the System by the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan and submission of that information by this System into the "Entry-exit and registration" interagency automated data search system.

## Regarding Question 2:

List of countries whose citizens and citizens of other countries, as well as stateless persons permanently residing in those countries and categories of foreigners which are allowed to enter and exit the Republic of Azerbaijan by air transport are reflected in the Decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan No. 151 of May 26, 2021 "On measures regarding extension of the special quarantine regime and removal of some restrictions". List of those countries is regularly updated in accordance with the requirements provided for by this Decision. At present citizens of 87 countries and citizens of other countries, as well as stateless persons permanently residing in those countries are allowed to enter and exit the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan by air transport.

## Regarding Question 3:

The Republic of Azerbaijan has taken all necessary measures to eliminate any restrictions or obstacles to the entry of asylum seekers into the country and to prevent return, extradition or deportation of individuals facing risk of torture in their countries of origin. Return, extradition or deportation of persons who have applied for refugee status and who have been granted refugee status is not allowed. Furthermore, according to Article 8 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On the Status of Refugees and IDPs (internally displaced persons)", "a person who cannot be granted refugee status and asylum in accordance with this Law can be sent from the Republic of Azerbaijan to another country". Persons who cannot be granted refugee status and asylum are provided with the opportunity to legally enter another country to seek asylum and to be resettled in a third country with the assistance of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in accordance with the Paragraph 3 of Article 32 of the 1951 Convention.

Furthermore, the UNHCR Representative in Azerbaijan within the framework of mutual cooperation with the State Migration Service, annually organizes familiarization

visits to the border checkpoints of the Republic of Azerbaijan, also holds for raising awareness of border service employees working in border areas and other law enforcement agencies officers, judges, as well as authorized representatives of relevant governmental agencies on asylum procedure, as well as on issues related to referral of asylum seekers to the relevant executive authority (SMS) in case of existence of appeal at the border.

At present, bilateral and multilateral agreements mentioned below on readmission of persons residing without authorization have been concluded by the Republic of Azerbaijan:

- 1. Agreement between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the European Union on the readmission of persons residing without authorization.
- 2. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Kingdom of Norway on the readmission of persons residing without authorization.
- 3. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Federal Council of Switzerland on the readmission of persons residing without authorization.
- 4. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Government of Montenegro on the readmission of persons residing without authorization.

At the same time, we would like to inform that during the years of 2020-2021 no collective readmission of foreigners from the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan has been carried out within the framework of the existing bilateral and multilateral agreements. During the relevant period readmission of 293 citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan was carried out via 10 charter flights (9-Federal Republic of Germany, 1-Sweden) within the framework of the "Agreement between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the European Union on the readmission of persons residing without authorization".