

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations

GENEVA

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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to the request of Ms. Dubravka Šimonović, Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its causes and consequences, has the honour to transmit responses by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the relevant questionnaire.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Enclosure: 1 page

Geneva, 17 May 2019

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights GENEVA

Responses submitted by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the questionnaire prepared by the Special Rapportaur on violence against women, its causes and consequences

 Reproductive health care services in Azerbaijan are regulated in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on "Protection of health of population". Besides, the raised issues are covered within the "National Action Plan for 2014-2018 on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in the Republic of Azerbaijan".

Thus, regular informative trainings are organized for medical staff and visual aids are handed out. If any unethical behavior towards a woman is identified during the medical service, the case is revised and disciplinary measures are taken against the involved medical personnel.

- 2. Medical personnel provide all necessary information on the effects, counter-effects to woman's body, possible complications and side effects during any intervention or operation related to the reproductive health care (e.g. Caesarian section, artificial ending of pregnancy-abort, methods of use of contraceptives, etc.), all procedures are carried out based on full and informed consent. In the case of health threatening conditions, decisions are made by the concilium of experts.
- 3. The decision on providing financial compensation to victims of violence is made in accordance with the decision of the relevant judicial bodies. Ombudsperson's office carries out regular monitorings and holds meetings at medical institutions.
- 4. Based on UN and WHO principles and resolutions the drafts of the following national action plans have been prepared and submitted to the Government: "Eliminating gender-based violence in Azerbaijan", "National Action Plan for the years of 2019-2022 on preventing Gender-Biased Sex Selection in Azerbaijan", "National Action Plan for the years of 2019-2024 on gender equality" and others.