

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

GENEVA

Ref: 0270/12/23/31

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 Note Verbale dated 20 March 2023, has the honour to transmit herewith the information received from the relevant authorities of the Republic of Azerbaijan in response to the questionnaire on older persons in the context of climate change induced disasters and building back better.

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.

Geneva, 18 May 2023

Enclosure: 2 pages

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights GENEVA

hrc-ie-olderpersons@un.org

Information of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding draft report on "Call for inputs for a report on older persons in the context of climate change-induced disasters and building back better"

Is there a national plan, policy or strategy to address the prevention, mitigation, and/or response to climate change-related disasters, and does it include older persons? Please provide detailed information and relevant documents, if applicable.

Notwithstanding that the Republic of Azerbaijan has not undertaken quantitative obligations on reduction of greenhouse gas emissions after ratification of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and Kyoto protocol, the addition to the Convention the country has implemented a number of measures to mitigate the impact of climate change by supporting international initiatives and efforts for combating climate change.

In the run-up to the Paris Agreement, Azerbaijan submitted its Nationally Defined Contributions (NDC) and as a contribution to global climate change prevention initiatives committed to achieving a 35 percent reduction in the GHG level by 2030 compared to the 1990 base year. Azerbaijan's updated NDC is expected to be released by the end of 2022. Azerbaijan announced the country's new goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2050 and create a "Net zero-emission" zone in the liberated territories of Karabakh and Eastern Zangazur.

New strategy titled "Azerbaijan – 2030: National Priorities for Socio-Economic Development" specifically envisages reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The actions under this strategy are fully aligned with international initiatives on climate change and its implementation will directly contribute to the fulfillment of our international commitments and achievement of our goals.

To contribute to the global effort on the mitigation of climate change risks, Long-term Low Emissions Development Strategy was drafted by the Republic of Azerbaijan. The document outlines the legislative, political, and programmatic measures aimed at the reduction of GHG emissions over the course of 50 years, with the goal to minimize the potential negative socio-economic effects.

Our country has also developed and implemented its Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA), which primarily target three key sectors: energy efficiency in buildings (retrofitting), transport through the modification of transport fleet (introduction of hybrid cars) and eco-driving, and oil industry through capturing and use of associated gas.

At the moment, Azerbaijan is undertaking strong mitigation activities, notably increasing the share of renewable energy sources in its total electricity capacity from the current 17% to 30% by 2030, as well as energy efficiency measures, transition to low-emission transport and introduction of alternative solutions in the urban transport systems, application of low-carbon clean technologies in the industrial sector, improvement of the waste management system as well as increasing the territories of forests and green areas.

Moreover, in order to mitigate the effects of climate change, the new composition of the State Commission on Climate Change was established by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated March 11, 2020, and a Working Group consisting of representatives of relevant entities was established. Action plan has been prepared on solving issues at the level of State Commission by the Working Group.

In accordance with the requirements of the Paris Agreement, preventive and other measures to reduce the effects of climate change on vulnerable groups of the population has been included into to the National reports and "National Strategy for low-carbon development".

In the activities carried out by the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the field of disaster prevention, preparedness and response measures, relevant work is being carried out to improve the relevant legislation by focusing on vulnerable groups of the population and using international experience in this area.

It is necessary to mention that a special approach is being applied in accordance with the necessary needs of elderly people belonging to a vulnerable group of population, by the relevant institutions during the emergency situations or evacuation work.