**Inputs for the report on "A place to live in dignity for all: Making housing affordable"**

1. **Does your country’s national law, including constitutional, housing or social protection law, refer to affordability of housing or provide any other guarantees to ensure a minimum standard of living? Or in its absence, are there national policies that refer to affordable housing or minimum standard of living? Please provide references and links to the respective key laws or constitutional provisions as well as policies.**

According to Article 17 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the family is the basic unit of society that is given special protection by the state.

According to Article 31 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, it is forbidden to infringe on a person's life, physical and moral health, property, or housing and to use violence against the person, except for the cases stipulated by the Law.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Azerbaijan improves the social and living conditions of privileged individuals covered by the Decrees of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan of June 20, 2014, January 25, 2021, and August 25, 2021 as well as the Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan of August 16, 2021. The privileged individuals covered by these orders are:

* From the 1st of January 2014 to the 1st of January 2020, individuals and families of martyrs who were registered by local executive authorities as needing housing, and whose disabilities were established in connection with the defence of the territorial integrity, independence, and constitutional order of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
* Individuals whose disability was determined as a result of elimination of the consequences of the Chernobyl NPP Accident (including those performing duties of military service);
* Individuals and families of martyrs registered with the local executive authorities as being in need of housing and whose disability was determined in connection with the defence of the territorial integrity, independence and constitutional order of the Republic of Azerbaijan during military operations carried out in 2020;
* Individuals who awarded with the title of “Hero of the Patriotic War” as well as family members of those awarded after their deaths;
* Graduates of social service institutions and educational institutions for visually impaired persons and children who have lost their parents and are deprived of parental care, registered before the 16th of August 2021.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population provides apartments or private houses to the abovementioned beneficiaries in accordance with current legislation and taking into account the composition of the family.

**5. Has housing affordability increased or decreased in your country over the past 10 years? In which regions or cities has housing affordability changed and for whom?**

 Following the 44-day Patriotic War, upon the instructions of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, as part of the large-scale social support programme related to the families of martyrs and war veterans, 4,500 apartments and private houses were provided to the families of martyrs and people with war-related disabilities, totalling 13,300 apartments and private houses over the last period.

According to the decree of the head of state dated January 25, 2021, additional 11 thousand apartments and private houses will be given to families of the perished and disabled war veterans during 2021-2025.

**13. Please share an overview of the laws, policies, programmes and practices adopted in your country/region/city to ensure that housing is affordable for all without any discrimination. (e.g. affordable housing, social and energy cost subsidies, preferential mortgage, building support schemes, provision of social and public housing, of serviced land for self-construction, rent containment and rent control measures, taxation, measures to reduce housing vacancy, multi-stakeholder initiatives by States, local Governments, construction industry, housing providers, tenant unions etc.)**

The State Housing Development Agency under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan was established by Executive Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan No. 858 dated April 11, 2016. The Agency organises the development of affordable housing projects in Azerbaijan with the goal of developing the housing fund and forming and implementing the main mechanisms that create conditions for the housing market to function efficiently (state support, pooling of project resources, participation of private sector partners and ensuring the efficiency of the mortgage market).

The Agency’s key strategic goals include further improvement of the housing conditions of citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan, particularly low-income families, increasing the competitive environment in the construction sector and ensuring the sustainability of the sector’s development dynamics, and ensuring the implementation of state policy in this field.