



**CHAIR
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT
GENEVA CHAPTER**



**UN Human Rights Council
46th Session**

**General debate on Item 5
Human rights bodies and mechanisms**

**Statement
delivered by Vüqar Hacıyev, Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of the
Republic of Azerbaijan on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement**

Geneva, March 17, 2021

Madame President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

The NAM highlights the necessity of enhancing and improving the work of human rights mechanisms, as appropriate, including human rights treaty bodies, special procedures, expert groups, and the confidential procedures, bearing in mind the need to prevent politicization and double standards in the work of human rights mechanisms, so as to enhance the effectiveness of the UN human rights system.

The NAM stresses the need for special procedures mandate holders to exercise their functions in full respect for, and with strict observance of their mandates and the Code of Conduct for the Special Procedures Mandate-Holders contained in the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council, including on resources and funding for special procedures. Mindful of an independent character of mandate holders, the NAM underlines that in their work mandate holders acting on behalf of the United Nations have to follow the provisions of the UN Charter and UN official documents, including those of Security Council and General Assembly, and base their work on the principles of cooperation with the Member States, transparency in their actions and accountability for their recommendations. The OHCHR and the Coordination Committee have an

important role to play by increasing the efficiency of mandate holders' work through better coordinating and harmonizing their activities.

The NAM also highlights the need to ensure that the human rights mechanisms and bodies aim at strengthening the capacity of the Member States to implement their obligations on the promotion and protection of human rights upon their request and consent, as well as in consultation with them. These mechanisms should not be used as a tool to interfere in the internal affairs of the Member States or to question their political, economic and social systems, their sovereign rights, and their national, religious and cultural peculiarities.

The NAM is of the view that while it is necessary to harmonize guidelines on reporting procedures of the human rights treaty bodies, more efforts should be made to ensure that their work is more effective, objective, transparent, and accountable, as well as to ensure a more balanced membership therein, in accordance with the principles of equitable geographical representation, gender balance, representation of different legal systems, as well as ensuring that members nominated to serve with the treaty bodies will serve in their personal capacity, and possess high moral character, acknowledged impartiality, and competence in the field of human rights.

The NAM expresses serious concern over non-representation or under-representation of its Member States in the staff of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, in the human rights treaty bodies, and in the special procedures of the HRC, and stresses the need for ensuring the adequate representation of the NAM Member States on the basis of the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

NAM believes that the forthcoming HRC review process would be an important opportunity to thoroughly assess and further improve the efficiency of special procedures system. To conclude, NAM also reiterates the importance of the Office of the High Commissioner in promoting and protecting the enjoyment and full realization of the rights established in the Charter of the United Nations and strictly in line with the mandate upon which it was created.

Thank you.