

CHAIR NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT GENEVA CHAPTER



UN Human Rights Council Forty-sixth Session

General Debate on item 6 Universal Periodic Review

Statement

delivered by Mr. Kamran Seyfullayev, the Third Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

Geneva, 18 March 2021

Madam President,

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

The NAM reiterates the need to preserve the Universal Periodic Review as the only international mechanism of intergovernmental cooperation to examine human rights issues at national level in all UN Member States on an equal footing.

Therefore, it is essential to ensure that the Universal Periodic Review is carried out by the Human Rights Council as a result-oriented cooperation mechanism, based on an interactive dialogue with full participation of a country under review and taking into account its capacity-building needs, as well as the need to eradicate selectivity, double standards and politicization in the consideration of human rights issues.

The Universal Periodic Review should aim at strengthening capacity of Member States, upon their request, consent and in consultation with them, to implement their obligations on the promotion and protection of human rights. 2

The NAM highlights the need to ensure that the Universal Periodic Review is conducted objectively, on the basis of reliable information, and taking due account of information, comments and observations provided by a country under review. It should not be used as a tool to interfere in the internal affairs of States or to question their political, economic and social systems, their sovereign rights and their national, religious and cultural peculiarities.

Guided by its aforementioned principled positions and proceeding from the need to preserve the cooperative approach in the Human Rights Council, the Non-Aligned Movement reaffirms the need to prevent the mechanism of the Universal Periodic Review from its misuse and manipulation.

Thank you.