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Human Dimension Implementation Meeting Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan Working session 11

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For the Republic of Azerbaijan freedom of peaceful assembly and association is one of the democratic achievements. Azerbaijani government is determined to implement further commitment concerning development of democracy. There are not any restrictive measures towards NGO-s. Therefore, amendments on NGO legislation serve to enhance transparent activity of NGO-s, social control, accountability, increasing of responsibility and efficiency.

Azerbaijani state has created every condition for freedom of assembly, association and expression. It is an integral part of the Azerbaijan's democratic state-building.

International organizations confirm that law on peaceful assembly appropriates to modern European standards. In 2008 after amendments on the law coordinated with Council of Europe Venice Commission, the Commission highly appreciated and called positive changes. OSCE Baku office declared that preparation of the ;aw there were taken into account proposals of OSCE. This year opposition held several rallies with the consent of Executive Power of Baku city. During the rallies there were not any obstacles. Azerbaijani state has always created and will create conditions for holding such rallies at sites and places not disturbing the work of urban transport, movement of residents of the city and harmony of dynamic city life. Our point of view is that opposition has to hold rallies according to the law. The government has to create appropriate opportunity to provide peaceful assembly and association, freedom of expression.