



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

### Fiftieth session

13 June–8 July 2022

Agenda item 2

**Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner  
for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the  
High Commissioner and the Secretary-General**

## **Note verbale dated 24 June 2022 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, in its capacity as Chair of the Geneva chapter of the Non-Aligned Movement, submits herewith a written statement by the Youth Network of the Non-Aligned Movement addressed to the Human Rights Council for the interactive dialogue on the oral update of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the role of the State in responding to pandemics (see annex).

The Permanent Mission kindly requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to circulate the present note verbale and the annex thereto\* as a document of the Human Rights Council under agenda item 2.

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\* Reproduced as received, in the language of submission only.



**Annex to the note verbale dated 24 June 2022 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

**Written Statement by the Youth Network of the Non-Aligned Movement for the Interactive Dialogue on the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Report on State response to pandemics dated 13 June 2022.**

The Youth Network of the Non-Aligned Movement expresses its appreciation for dedicating one of the Interactive Dialogues within the 50<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN Human Rights Council to the topic of state response to pandemics.

Most recently, the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated how global health crises can affect our life, *inter alia*, by putting immense burden on the healthcare, social and economic systems of all countries.

As youth, we have seen how, among other things, this pandemic has affected the education process. In countries, which could not provide distant education due to the limited or no access to the Internet, the situation was far more acute.

The pandemic has further hampered the progress, and in some cases even undermined hard-won achievements in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

COVID-19 pandemic has also yet again proved that global challenges require global response through international cooperation and solidarity. Strong multilateral system is critical in effectively overcoming global challenges and their consequences.

We commend many global initiatives, including those put forward on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, such as convening of the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly, as well as adoption by the United Nations Human Rights Council and the General Assembly of the resolutions on equitable, affordable, timely and universal access for all countries to vaccines, which aimed at drawing the attention of the international community to the importance of urgent concerted efforts and burden sharing to address the pandemic.

We also commend the countries which, through vaccine donation and other forms of assistance, helped low- and middle-income countries, as well as other countries in need, in combatting the virus and containing its spread.

As the world is now emerging from this pandemic, it is important to focus on effective recovery, which too, can be possible if the broader international community is united in its efforts. Youth engagement will be crucial for success of these efforts.

We praise the continued active engagement of the the Non-Aligned Movement in advancing international solidarity and cooperation aimed at the soonest complete elimination of the pandemic and effective recovery process.

Lastly, we stress the importance of drawing lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic and from how the world tackled it in order to be better prepared for any possible global health emergencies in the future.

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