



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/2006/37
23 December 2005

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sixty-second session
Item 10 of the provisional agenda

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to the Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/14. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights received a response from the Government of Azerbaijan; the response of the Government of Cuba is summarized in the report on this subject submitted to the General Assembly (A/60/305).

Introduction

1. The present report is submitted in response to Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/14, in which the Commission requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of all Member States and to solicit information on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on their populations and to report thereon to the Commission at its sixty-second session.

2. On 4 July 2005, the Secretary-General sent a note verbale to States seeking their views and information as requested in the resolution. As at 1 December 2005, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights had received a response from the Government of Azerbaijan, which is summarized in the present report; the response from the Government of Cuba was summarized in the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly (A/60/305, paras. 1-6).

Response from the Government of Azerbaijan

[Original: English]

[29 November]

3. In its response the Government of Azerbaijan restated the information summarized and presented in the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly. In particular, the Government of Azerbaijan stressed that the report should reflect the violations of the rights and freedoms of the citizens of Azerbaijan who used to live in the 20 per cent of the territory of Azerbaijan occupied by Armenia as well as the presence of about 1 million refugees forced to leave their permanent residences due to armed aggression by Armenian military groups.

4. As a result of the armed conflict, the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic is being blockaded and therefore was only linked to the rest of the country by air. Such isolation, as well as terrorist attacks against infrastructure, had a serious impact on the regular supply to the population of gas, water and heating. Freedom of movement and trade are constrained and unexploded ordinance also limits economic activities.
