Sustainable Development Goals—2030
Actions Taken in the Republic of Azerbaijan

• A National Coordination Council was established by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan in October last year to coordinate implementation of commitments undertaken by the state entities stemming from Sustainable Development Agenda.

• Main tasks ahead of the Council are to: (1) determine national priorities as well as their indicators conforming to global goals and targets, (2) ensure harmonization of state programs and strategies encompassing socio-economic sectors in the country with the Sustainable Development Goals and (3) develop and submit to relevant annual reports.

• To ensure an effective organization of the work of the Council, 4 thematic working groups were established comprised of the representatives of the state entities, namely: (1) economic development and descent employment, (2) social issues, (3) environmental issues, (4) monitoring and evaluation.

• Secretariat was established to support the activities of the Council, and the Ministry of the Economy was assigned with the responsibilities of the Secretariat.

• To implement commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals undertaken by the state entities and select targets compatible with the national priorities as well as to organize the work of working groups more effectively, a seminar was held on November last year organized by the UN Office in Baku and Ministry of Economy with attendance by the representatives of the respective state entities.

• In the second meeting of the National Coordination Council, it was decided to prepare the initial report by Azerbaijan on the 17th Goal to be reviewed annually and 6 SDGs (goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14) in accordance with the thematic plan defined by the UN for the High-Level Political Forum to be held in July 2017 in New York.

• Broad consultations were held by the working groups on January to determine national priorities and their indicators, and to align state programs and strategies covering socio-economic sectors of the country with the Sustainable Development Goals. As a result of discussions, an early draft of goals, targets and indicators for Azerbaijan was prepared.

• Actions related to gathering information and preparing the report are well coordinated between the National Coordination Council and the respective state entities in order to develop a voluntary report for the High Level Political Forum to be held in New York in July 2017.
- To support identification of national priorities and their indicators, and the alignment of state programs and strategies covering socio-economic sectors of the country with the Sustainable Development Goals, preliminary preparations have been completed for implementation of the UNDP Project on Support to SDG National Coordination Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

- The Project envisages 3 main areas: 1) Monitoring and evaluation of harmonization and nationalization of SDGs into national priorities (April, 2017), 2) Harmonization of the SDGs with the national policies and demonstration of political support for selection of main priorities (June, 2017), and, finally, 3) support to capacity building on SDGs at local and international levels (October 2017).

- An Initial Table of Contents of the Report by Azerbaijan was developed for the High-Level Political Forum to be held in July 2017 in New York.

- A special event on "The role of Science and Research in attaining Sustainable Development Goals in Azerbaijan" was organized by the National Coordination Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Sustainable Development Goals and UN Office in Azerbaijan and attended by scientific community.

- The actions on holding meetings on attainment of SDGs with stakeholders, academia, private sector, NGOs and bringing all groups of society to this process are continued.