



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF

Azerbaijan

TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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High-level Segment: THE WAY FORWARD

Statement by Mr. Yashar Aliyev, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations, Head of Delegation

Mr. Chairman,

Energy is central to the promotion of global development and growth and thus, ensuring access to energy services is a priority task ahead of us. Efficiency of supply chain and consumption is a prerequisite for combating energy poverty globally; and it continues to constitute a multifaceted challenge for energy producing/exporting and consumer countries alike. Furthermore, stability in respective regions, security of energy corridors, tight refining capacities, natural disasters are among key factors impacting energy security, and thus meriting international attention in all relevant debates.

Azerbaijan, as an oil and gas producing country, believes that while considering energy security related challenges and obstacles and solutions, it is important to be realistic both in terms of financial and technological capacities of developing countries and of current global energy consumption trends and patterns, where fossil fuels account for the largest share.

Global partnership is crucial not only for securing efficiency of supply, but also for reinforcing efforts towards environmental protection. It is important to support and strengthen capacity building, cooperation and research efforts of countries in need. In this line, it is of crucial importance to facilitate access of oil producing and exporting countries to advanced, cleaner and more efficient fossil fuel technologies, including *inter alia*, those for carbon capture and storage, at affordable price; to support transfer of such technologies, including through innovative sources of funding such as the Clean Development Mechanism. We should increase our attention to natural gas,

which is a clean energy source and strengthen international support to the efforts of exporting countries toward strengthening their capacity in controlling gas flaring and venting.

Mr. Chairman, energy represents a key input to the industrial production and GDP growth. Thus, it is crucial to explore cost-effective opportunities to reduce energy use, pollutant loadings and to foster financial and environmental performance of industrial units. We are convinced that higher policy priority should be assigned to energy efficiency in development programmes and strategies and more resources should be allocated to the activities on energy efficiency at the national, regional and global levels. Private sector has also an important role to play in promoting sound HSE (health, safety and environment) policy and respecting the CSR (corporate social responsibility).

Mr. Chairman, implementation of commitments under the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol and environmental transparency should be a priority objective in the process of development planning in all countries.

Mr. Chairman,

On its part Azerbaijan will continue to contribute to regional energy security, primarily through the BTC and BTE projects and support the diversification of energy supply to global markets. Looking ahead Azerbaijan believes that for the cycle to be successful we should focus on practical, commercially viable and doable options and lay a passable way forward.