



THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATION

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Statement
by
H.E. Mr. Yashar Aliyev
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan
to the United Nations
at the International Ebola Recovery Conference
New York, 10 July 2015

Mr. Secretary General,
Mrs. Helen Clark,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me start by thanking Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon for his leadership and commitment in addressing Ebola outbreak by convening such an important and timely conference. We express also our thanks to the UNDP Administrator Mrs. Helen Clark for her leading role in organizing and presiding over the conference.

I would like to commend the people and the governments of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone that have demonstrated a great courage and strong national leadership and express my country's utmost solidarity and support in assisting them to combat this vicious disease.

Over the past months, Ebola epidemic in West Africa has been unprecedented in its scale, its reach and impact, which evolved to much more than a health crisis. The socio-economic and humanitarian cost of the crisis is of paramount concern.

It goes without saying that we fully support the proposed concept of operations initiated by the United Nations system.

In this regard I am pleased to announce the Government of Azerbaijan's voluntary contribution of 1 (one) million US dollar to the United Nations, which will support both the response and recovery actions.

With this contribution – made in the spirit of partnership and South-South cooperation -- the Government of Azerbaijan, as an emerging donor, stands in solidarity with the governments and people of the affected countries as they continue on the path of recovery from this devastating crisis.

Ebola epidemic has highlighted common shortcomings not only on national levels but also in the global institutional machinery for identifying and quickly neutralizing health hazards.

We believe that recovery efforts should not only be about re-building the destroyed but rather focused on addressing the structural vulnerabilities which allowed Ebola to take hold and first of all on re-enforcing the health sector and establishing a reliable risk management system to prevent future Ebola outbreaks.

To conclude, let me express our strong believe that the international community will maintain the current momentum and commit to support Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone to a full recovery from the crisis and a rapid return to sustainable development pathways, and reiterate my country's full and unwavering support to overcome this ordeal.

I thank you.