



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 11, 2007

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**Azerbaijan and International Partners
Sign Anti-Corruption Memorandum of Understanding**
*“Support the Anti-Corruption Strategy in Azerbaijan” Signed by Azerbaijan,
USAID and Council of Europe*

BAKU, AZERBAIJAN The Government of Azerbaijan, USAID and the Council of Europe today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dedicating all three parties to supporting an anti-corruption strategy in Azerbaijan.

The memorandum, entitled “Support the Anti-Corruption Strategy in Azerbaijan,” was signed by Mr. Ramiz Mehdiyev, head of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Giovanni Palmieri, head of the Technical Cooperation Department of the Council of Europe and Scott Taylor, head of the USAID office in Azerbaijan.

The MOU pledges support for the implementation of Azerbaijan's national strategy to enhance transparency and fight corruption.

USAID has allocated \$800,000 for the initiative, referred to as “AZPAC,” which will be carried out over the course of 2 years.

The lead agency on the project is Azerbaijan's State Commission on the Fight against Corruption. Other counterparts include the National Bank, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Taxation and the Commission on State Civil Service.

The executive group leading the project will be located in Baku. Implementation and coordination of AZPAC will be conducted by the Council of Europe in cooperation with the Commission on State Civil Service.