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### Press Release

Armenian separatists in the occupied Nagorno Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan held “elections” to the so-called “Parliament of the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh” on May 23, 2010.

The “elections” violated the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan as well as norms and principles of international law and interfere with an ongoing peace process. This act and its results will not be considered valid since it is being held in conditions of continuing aggression, occupation and the forceful expulsion from the Nagorno Karabakh region of the indigenous Azerbaijani population.

The world community has rejected previous attempts by Armenian separatists to hold “elections” and “referendums” in Nagorno Karabakh, thus has made it clear that Nagorno Karabakh is a part of the Republic of Azerbaijan as envisaged in the UN Security Council Resolutions (822 (1993), 853 (1993), 874 (1993), 884 (1993)), relevant decisions and statements by OSCE, OIC, GUAM.

37<sup>th</sup> Session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers, held in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan on May 18-20, 2010 condemned “the elections” in occupied Nagorno-Karabakh and adopted resolutions related to the aggression by the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan and its consequences.

On May 20, 2010 the European Parliament adopted a Resolution on “The Need for an EU Strategy for the South Caucasus” in which such elections are considered unconstitutional and illegal.

The Republic of Azerbaijan reiterating its support to the peaceful settlement of the conflict based on sovereignty and territorial integrity of

Azerbaijan, calls upon the international community to reject the results of “elections”, which may undermine the negotiation process conducted under the auspices of OSCE Minsk Group Co-chairs.

Jakarta, May 25, 2010