



AZƏRBAYCAN RESPUBLİKASININ BAŞ KONSULLUĞU
CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

President Aliyev re-elected with an overwhelming margin

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October 15, 2008 – Today, citizens of Azerbaijan exercised their constitutional rights by participating in the nation's presidential election. In total, the names of seven candidates were on the ballot. According to preliminary information released by the Central Electoral Commission, the incumbent President Ilham Aliyev won with 89.04% of the votes cast. He was followed by Mr. Iqbal Agazade, Chairman, the UMID Party (2.8% of the votes), Mr. Fazil Gazanfaroglu, Chairman, the Great Creation Party (2.4% of the votes), Mr. Gudrat Gasanquliyev, Chairman, the Popular Front of the United Azerbaijan Party (2.22% of the votes), Mr. Gulamhuseyn Alibeyli, an independent candidate (2.18% of the votes), Mr. Fuad Aliyev, Chairman, the Liberal Democratic Party (0.74% of the votes), and Mr. Hafiz Hajiyev, Chairman, the Modern Musavat Party (0.61% of the votes).

The electoral process was monitored by 45,000 observers, including 1,258 international delegates. Overwhelmingly, the initial reports and reaction by observers indicate an open and transparent voting process in full accordance with international standards. Many observers also noted that the conduct of the election reflects a significant progress in Azerbaijan's democratic practices.

Some 75% of 4.8 million eligible voters participated in the elections at 5,359 polling stations with 33 established at Azerbaijan's diplomatic missions abroad. In the United States, Azerbaijani citizens had an opportunity to vote at the Embassy of Azerbaijan in Washington, DC and at the Consulate General of Azerbaijan in Los Angeles. Opening of the polling station at the Consulate General marked the first time an Azerbaijani election is being held on the West Coast.

Mr. Aliyev's comfortable victory builds upon his strong support among Azerbaijani electorate. Numerous public opinion surveys in Azerbaijan throughout 2008 have indicated President Aliyev's high popularity and widespread support for his policies.

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