



## **Press Release on the case of Mr. Mehman Aliyev**

Vienna, 28 August 2017- The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the OSCE expresses its serious concern over the tone and assessments of the Press Release issued by the RFoM on the case of Mr. Mehman Aliyev. The Representative attempted to interfere with ongoing judicial process on the matter and demonstrated politically motivated approach to activities of the tax authorities of Azerbaijan.

With regard to the call of RFoM for “immediate release” of Mr. Aliyev, the Permanent Mission reminds that as per his mandate, the RFoM does not exercise a juridical function, nor can his involvement in any way prejudice national or international legal proceedings.

The Permanent Mission urges the RFoM to strictly observe his mandate entrusted to him by all OSCE participating States. Interference with the juridical processes in participating States is unacceptable and must be condemned. Such an approach by an OSCE institution will not be tolerated.

The Permanent Mission reiterates that no one in Azerbaijan is above the Law and under the national legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan any citizen is entitled to file a complaint on a decision of lower Courts to higher Court instances.