



Press Release

21 September 2016-According to mass-media reports, the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia started next military exercises in the occupied Aghdam region of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The heavy artillery shots and dust caused by the exercises were clearly observed from the civilian settlements in the vicinity of the frontline.

Azerbaijan strongly condemns this provocative step of Armenia and considers it a threat to ongoing mediation efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group co-Chairs. Armenia's this provocation is nothing except direct insult to the peace initiatives of the co-chair countries. Such acts by Armenia call into serious question its sincerity to co-chairs and peace talks.

In this regard, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the OSCE calls on the German Chairmanship of the OSCE, the Minsk Group and its co-chairing countries (France, the Russian Federation and the United States of America) to unequivocally condemn this irresponsible act of Armenia and take all necessary measures at their disposal to dissuade Armenia from any step that would harm momentum achieved in the negotiations over last months.