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MEDIA ADVISORY

June 7, 2011

President Barack Obama sent the following letter to President Ilham Aliyev on the Occasion of the opening of the 18th Annual Caspian Oil and Gas Show:

Begin Text:

Dear Mr. President:

I congratulate you and the people of Azerbaijan on the opening of the 18th International Caspian Oil and Gas Exhibition and Conference in Baku. The vision and determination of Azerbaijan's late President Heydar Aliyev helped to give birth to the East-West Energy Corridor. Robust international investment in major energy projects, such as the Azeri-Chirag-Guneshili oil fields, the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline, the Shah Deniz gas field, and the South Caucasus gas pipeline have brought significant commercial, economic, and strategic benefits to Azerbaijan and its international partners.

The world community has likewise benefited from Azerbaijan's successful public-private partnerships, which have helped to meet global energy demand. Your decision to contribute to the Southern Corridor, one of the boldest and most complex natural gas projects in the world, will launch a new phase in reliable access to natural gas. Azerbaijan's investment in the energy sector holds the promise of further integrating Azerbaijan into the world economy and raising living standards for your nation and its citizens. The United States looks forward to continued cooperation with Azerbaijan to promote energy security and diversity, as well as stability and prosperity throughout the Caucasus.

Sincerely,
Barack Obama

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