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# **MEDIA ADVISORY**

July 8, 2010

## **New U.S. Embassy Charge de Affaires Arrives in Baku**



On July 6, Adam Sterling assumed the duties of Chargé d'Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Baku. A career member of the State Department Foreign Service, Mr. Sterling served most recently on loan to the White House as the Director for Central and Eastern European Affairs on the National Security Council staff (2006-09). He has also served in Washington as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of State for Europe (2005-06) and as desk officer in the Office of Central Asian Affairs (1995-97). In addition, he has served at U.S. Embassies in Israel, Kazakhstan, Belgium, and Peru.

Mr. Sterling replaces Don Lu, who was Chargé from July 2009 until his recent departure.

We want to welcome Adam and to thank Don Lu for his distinguished service in Baku.

### **Biography**

**Adam Sterling**  
**Chargé d'Affaires**  
**U.S. Embassy, Baku**

Adam Sterling took up his assignment as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. embassy in Baku, Azerbaijan on July 1, 2010. He will serve as Chargé d'Affaires until the arrival of the next U.S. ambassador to Azerbaijan.

A career member of the State Department Foreign Service, Mr. Sterling served most recently on loan to the White House as the Director for Central and Eastern European Affairs on the National Security Council staff (2006-09). He also served in Washington as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of State for Europe (2005-06) and as desk officer in the Office of Central Asian Affairs (1995-97).

His overseas assignments have included tours as political officer in the U.S. embassies in Israel (2001-05) and Kazakhstan (1998-2001). He also served in political, consular and administrative assignments at the U.S. embassies in Belgium (1993-95) and Peru (1991-93).

Prior to joining the Foreign Service in 1990, Mr. Sterling worked in the liaison office of the Mayor of New York to the United Nations and consular corps. He earned a Master of Public Policy degree from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and a Bachelors degree from Grinnell College in Iowa. He speaks French, Spanish, Azerbaijani and Russian.

Mr. Sterling is a native of New York City and Lawrence, Kansas. He is married to Veerle Coigneux, a native of Belgium and an international development consultant specializing in public health. They have a 12-year-old daughter, Elka, and 9-year-old son, Bram.

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