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# PRESS RELEASE

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## U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission Visits Guba

U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission to Azerbaijan Dereck Hogan visited Guba on September 27.

Mr. Hogan met with Guba Executive Committee Chief Mubariz Agayev, local constituency election commission officials, independent election monitors, and civil society representatives to learn about Guba and the pre-election environment in the region. During his meetings, Mr. Hogan conveyed the U.S. Government's support for free and fair elections in Azerbaijan.

Mr. Hogan also had lunch with local U.S. Peace Corps volunteers and visited a U.S. Agency for International Development-funded Azerbaijan Competitiveness and Trade program site at the IKAR-S Cold Storage Facility in Valvala.

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