

Statement of the Azerbaijan National Commission on EITI

9 June 2011

We are surprised by the statement of the NGO's Coalition of Azerbaijan regarding lack of improvement of EITI process in the country and their potential request for a re-validation. The Azerbaijan National Committee on EITI declares that such a statement is a result of unreasonable expectations from the NGO Coalition and misrepresentation of facts.

Validation process in Azerbaijan in 2009 has proved compliance of the country with EITI principles and criteria, thus making Azerbaijan the first EITI Compliant country. Since then a number of improvements have broadened the process by extending the coverage beyond oil and gas sector and expanded reporting.

We state that Azerbaijan continues not only to fulfill obligations within the framework of EITI, but to bring significant changes in the implementation of the initiative.

We assure that the Government of Azerbaijan stands ready to complete Validation every year in case it will be necessary to confirm Azerbaijan's full compliance with principles and criteria of EITI.