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Illegal “Elections” on the Occupied Territories of Azerbaijan

**Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
the Republic of Azerbaijan**

According to the reports circulated by the mass media outlets of the Republic of Armenia so-called "elections" to the "local self-governing bodies" are being arranged to take place in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan on September 18, 2011.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan reiterates in this regard that the unrecognized separatist regime in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan represents nothing but an illegal structure established by the Republic of Armenia on the basis of ethnic cleansing of Azerbaijani population. The so-called "elections" are conducted in order to camouflage the annexation policy of Armenia and are aimed at consolidation of the results of the continued occupation of the internationally recognized territories of Azerbaijan.

The Republic of Azerbaijan calls upon the Armenian side to stop its destructive illegal steps, which do not have any prospects, and instead to demonstrate a good will and take a constructive position in the negotiation process in order to find a soonest and durable solution to the conflict on the basis of the norms and principles of international law.

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