THE COMMITTEE ON
THE EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES
TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE
OF THE
REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN
Independent Accountants' Report
for the six months ended
30 June 2008

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

To the Committee on the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative ("EITI") of the Republic of Azerbaijan:

We have examined the accompanying Assertion of the Committee on the EITI of the Republic of Azerbaijan (the "Committee") shown in Appendix 1, that the schedule of payments/allocations received during the six months ended 30 June 2008 by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan (the "Government") from the extractive industry companies (the "Companies") is prepared in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding dated 24 November 2004 signed between the National Committee on EITI, the local and foreign Companies operating in the Extractive Industries of the Republic of Azerbaijan, specified in Appendix 2, and the non-governmental organisations and individuals specified in Appendix 3 (the "MOU"). The Committee on the EITI of the Republic of Azerbaijan is responsible for this assertion. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the assertion based on our examination.

Except as described in the following paragraph, our examination was conducted in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the assertion of the Committee on the EITI of the Republic of Azerbaijan and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The information available to test the Assertion of the Committee consisted of written submissions by the Companies party to the MOU and the supporting details of payments/allocations received by the Government that were provided by the Committee. Our work did not extend to reviewing all payments/allocations received by the Government nor all payments/allocations made by the Companies. If payments/allocations were made by the Companies but omitted from both the Companies' and Government's submissions, our work would be insufficient to detect them.

Summary of Work Performed

To examine the Assertion of the Committee on the EITI of the Republic of Azerbaijan (Appendix 1) we have compared the schedule of payments/allocations received during the six months ended 30 June 2008 by the Government (the "Government's schedule") and the schedules prepared by the Companies (parties to the MOU) (the "Companies' schedule") specified in Appendix 2. We carried out procedures as considered necessary under the circumstances to determine the reasons for the differences between the above schedules. Our findings are presented in the notes set out on pages 5-10.



OPINION

In our opinion, based on our work described in this report, except for adjustments, if any, which may have been required had we tested all payments/allocations made by the Companies and all payments/allocations received by the Government, the accompanying Assertion of the Committee on the EITI of the Republic of Azerbaijan that the schedule of payments/allocations received during the six months ended 30 June 2008 is prepared in accordance with the aforementioned requirements, is fairly stated in all material respects.

This report is intended for the use of the signatory parties to the MOU and should not be used by other parties or for uses other than as prescribed by the MOU.

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3 December 2008

NOTES

Government's interest in the foreign Companies' extractive output

Note 1 Monetary inflow as Government's entitlement in foreign Companies' oil production stream

This represents the Government's entitlement in foreign Companies' oil production transferred to it as monetary funds. Extractive companies transfer Government share either in kind or in money terms in accordance with respective Production Sharing Agreements ("PSAs").

	million USD
Government's schedule	25.2
Companies' schedule	1.8
Net difference under reported by companies	23.4

The difference of 23.4 million USD is a result of errors made by reporting companies and is explained as follows:

This amount was paid but not reported as the company concerned incorrectly interpreted the term "government's interest in the foreign Companies' oil production" as bonuses paid of which it had made none in the first six months of	million USD
2008.	13.2
This amount was paid but not reported by the company concerned in error.	12.0
Reported by one company in error as this amount represented its forecast share of oil production in money terms.	(1.8)
	23.4

We confirmed these differences by receiving a breakdown of the payments made by the companies, from State Oil Fund of the Azerbaijan Republic (SOFAZ), obtaining additional information from the relevant companies and examining the payment orders.

Note 2 Monetary inflow as Government's entitlement in foreign Companies' gas production stream

This represents the Government's entitlement in the foreign Companies' gas production transferred to it as monetary funds. Extractive companies transfer Government share in money terms in accordance with the Shah Deniz PSA.

	million USD
Government's schedule	60.3
Companies' schedule	60.3
Difference	0.0

No differences found.

Note 3 Crude oil

This represents the Government's oil production entitlement in the foreign Companies' oil production stream, transferred in kind.

	barrels
Government's schedule	65.7
Companies' schedule	61.7
Net difference under reported by companies	4.0

The difference of 4.0 million barrels is explained as follows:	
	million barrels
This amount was wrongly reported as the government's share of the company's oil production. It is compensation oil transferred from one company to SOCAR and it is not profit oil government share. It relates to SOCAR's commercial activity and should be deducted from the foreign Companies' schedule. We have confirmed this	
difference by obtaining confirmation from the parties concerned.	(2.4)
As indicated in Note 8 below, 6.5 million barrels was incorrectly reported by a foreign extractive company, an ACG partner, as royalty instead of the Government's production entitlement in its production stream and, therefore, should be added to the foreign extractive Companies' schedule. We verified this difference by obtaining a breakdown of oil transferred by the ACG partner from the Azerbaijan International Operating Company ("AIOC") and direct confirmation from the	
company concerned.	6.5
The difference is due to the Shah Deniz profit condensate lifting that was added to the ACG profit oil lifting. We confirmed this difference by receiving additional information and explanation both from AIOC and the State Oil Fund.	

million

(0.1) **4.0**

Note 4 Gas

This represents both natural and associated gas. The latter is transferred free of charge according to the agreements with the Government. Natural gas is the Government's entitlement in the foreign companies' production stream, transferred to the Government in kind.

	cubic metres (thousands)
Government's schedule	853,143.0
Companies' schedule	795,537.8
Difference under reported by companies	57,605.2

This difference is the result of the parties using different measuring units: a foreign extractive company reported the volume measured in Normal Cubic Metres (Nm³) at 0°C whereas the Government reported the volume measured in Standard Cubic Metres (Sm3) at 20°C meters. The resulting difference shown above should accordingly be added to the foreign Companies' schedule.

Other inflows to the Government from the foreign extractive industry Companies

Note 5 Bonuses

Bonuses represent fees paid by the oil Companies for delegation and transfer of extractive rights. These fees are paid at certain stages of oil and gas field development according to appropriate agreements with the Government.

Government's schedule	million USD 0.5
Companies' schedule	-
Difference under reported by companies	0.5

The difference represents reporting errors by two companies of 0.2 million USD and 0.3 million USD respectively. We confirmed this difference by obtaining a breakdown of the bonus payments made by the companies from SOFAZ, direct confirmation from the companies and inspecting payment documents.

Note 6 Transportation tariff

This represents the fees paid by the foreign extractive companies to SOCAR for oil transportation.

	million USD
Government's schedule	-
Companies' schedule	4.3
Difference over reported by companies	(4.3)

The difference of 4.3 million USD is a result of errors made by reporting companies and is explained as follows:

	million USD
The amount of 0.1 million USD was incorrectly included in the Companies' schedule by one company (an ACG partner). This payment represents a tariff fee paid to SOCAR for the use of its Northern Route Pipeline and relates to SOCAR's commercial activity and, therefore, is not reportable. We confirmed this difference by receiving additional information from AIOC.	0.1
The amount of 4.2 million USD was incorrectly included in the Companies' schedule by one company (an ACG partner). The payment is not a transportation tariff and related to SOCAR's commercial activity, and hence was not made to the government. We confirmed this difference by receiving additional information from this company as well as the explanation from the SOFAZ and SOCAR.	4.2
	4.3

Note 7 Acreage fees

This represents fees paid by the foreign extractive companies for the use of land/sea acreage during the exploration stage.

	million USD
Government's schedule	0.9
Companies' schedule	0.5
Difference under reported by companies	0.4

The difference of 0.4 million USD was paid by the operating company on behalf of one company and was not reported by the latter in error. Confirmation of this was obtained from the companies concerned and by inspecting payment documents.

Taxes paid to the Government by the foreign extractive companies

Note 8 Royalty

Royalty (mining tax) is paid for extracting minerals from subsurface strata of the earth on the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic (including the Caspian sea sector belonging to the Azerbaijan Republic).

	oii (million barrels)
Government's schedule	-
Companies' schedule	6.5
Difference over reported by companies	(6.5)

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As indicated in Note 3 above, 6.5 million barrels was incorrectly reported by one company, an ACG partner, as royalty instead of the Government's production entitlement in its production stream. We verified this difference by obtaining a breakdown of oil transferred by the ACG partner from AIOC and direct confirmation from the company concerned..

Note 9 Profit tax

Profit tax is levied on the difference between a taxpayer's income (except for the income which is exempt from tax) and expenses (deductions) allowed for in the Tax Code of the Azerbaijan Republic.

Government's schedule Companies' schedule Net difference under reported by companies	million USD 1,551.7 1,539.6 12.1
The difference of 12.1 million USD is explained as follows:	
This difference arose because one company omitted to report the payment of profit tax relating to 2007 in January 2008 and accordingly should be added to the Companies' schedule. We confirmed this difference by inspecting payment documents obtained from the company and obtaining supporting information from the Ministry of Taxes.	million USD 42.0
One company included profit tax accrued in its schedule resulting in this difference which accordingly should be excluded from the Companies' schedule We confirmed this difference by inspecting payment documents obtained from the company and obtaining supporting information from the Ministry of Taxes.	(29.9) 12.1

Government's interest in the local Companies' extractive output

Note 10 Gas

This represents both natural and associated gas. The latter is transferred free of charge according to the agreements with the Government. Natural gas is the Government's entitlement in the local companies' production stream, transferred to the Government in kind.

	thousand
	cubic
	metres
Government's schedule	3.8
Companies' schedule	3.8
Difference	0.0

No differences found.

Taxes paid to the Government by the local Companies

Note 11 Royalty

Royalty (mining tax) is paid for extracting minerals from subsurface strata of the earth on the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic (including the Caspian Sea sector belonging to the Azerbaijan Republic).

	million AZN
Government's schedule	67.0
Companies' schedule	67.0
Difference	0.0

No differences found.

Note 12 Profit tax

Profit tax is levied on the difference between a taxpayer's income (except for the income which is exempt from tax) and expenses (deductions) allowed for in the Tax Code of the Azerbaijan Republic.

	million AZN
Government's schedule	87.6
Companies' schedule	87.6
Difference	0.0

No differences found

Note 13 Other taxes

Other taxes comprise property, land, road fund taxes and VAT. Withholding, personal income tax and social protection taxes and duties should not be included.

	million AZN
Government's schedule	229.8
Companies' schedule	229.8
Difference	0.0

No differences found.

SUMMARY OF REPORTS BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE EXTRACTIVE COMPANIES

Foreign Extractive Co		Reported b	y Governme	ent	Reported	extractive C	ompanies	Difference				Notes	
	Value		Volume		Value		Volume		Value		Volume		Notes
	million USD	million AZN	oil (mboe)	gas (thousand m³)	million USD	million AZN	oil (mboe)	gas (thousand m³)	million USD	million AZN	oil (mboe)	gas (thousand m³)	
Monetary inflow for oil production	25.2	-	-	-	1.8	-	-	_	23.4	-	-	-	1
Monetary inflow for gas production	60.3				60.3				0.0				2
Crude oil		1	65.7	-			61.7	-	1	-	4.0	-	3
Gas	-	-	-	853,143.0	-	1	-	795,537.8	-	-	-	57,605.2	4
Bonuses	0.5	-	-	-			-	-	0.5	-	-	-	5
Transportation tariff				-	4.3		-	-	(4.3)	_		-	6
Acreage fees	0.9	-	-	-	0.5	-	-	-	0.4	-	-	-	7
Royalty	-		1	-	-	-	6.5	_	-	_	(6.5)	-	8
Profit tax	1,551.7	_	_	_	1,539.6	_	_	_	12.1	_	-	_	9

Local Extractive Co	ompanies												
		Reported by	y Governme	ent	Report	ed by local ex	xtractive Co	mpanies	Difference				Notes
	Va	Value		Volume		Value		Volume		lue	Volume		
	million USD	million AZN	oil (mboe)	gas (thousand m³)	million USD	million AZN	oil (mboe)	gas (thousand m³)	million USD	million AZN	oil (mboe)	gas (thousand m³)	
Gas	-	-	-	3.8	-	-	-	3.8	-	-	-	-	10
Royalty	-	67.0	-	-	-	67.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Profit tax	-	87.6	-	-	-	87.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Other taxes	-	229.8	-	-	-	229.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	13

Acronyms and abbreviations used in this table

USD - dollars of the United States of America

AZN - Azerbaijani new manats

mboe - millions of barrels of oil equivalent

m³ - cubic metres

Appendix 1
Assertion of the Committee on the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative ("EITI") of the Republic of Azerbaijan

The schedule of payments/allocations received during the six months ended 30 June 2008 by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan (the "Government") from the local and foreign Companies operating in the Extractive Industries of the Republic of Azerbaijan, specified in Appendix 2 (collectively - the "Companies"), is prepared in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding dated 24 November 2004 signed between the National Committee on EITI, the local and foreign Companies operating in the Extractive Industries of Republic of Azerbaijan and the non-governmental organizations detailed in Appendix 3.

The Chairman of the EITI Committee

Appendix 2

List of Extractive Industries Companies Party and not Party to the Memorandum of Understanding

Parties to the MOU

- 1. BP Exploration (Caspian Sea) Limited,
- State Oil Company of the Republic of Azerbaijan,
- Total E&P Azerbaijan B.V, 3.
- 4. ITOCHU Oil Exploration (Azerbaijan) Inc.,
- 5. Statoil,
- Turkish Petroleum A.O., 6.
- Commonwealth Oil and Gas, 7.
- 8. Exxon Azerbaijan Limited,
- Amerada Hess (ACG) Limited, 9
- 10. Devon Energy Caspian Corporation,
- Lukoil Overseas, 11.
- Petro-HongKong-Pirsaat Oil Ltd, 12.
- 13. Salvan Oil Limited,
- Karasu Operating Company, 14.
- Shell Azerbaijan Exploration and Production, 15.
- Middle East Petroleum. 16.
- Anshad Petrol JV. 17.
- Shirvan Oil JV, 18.
- Azgerneft JV. 19.
- 20. Inpex.
- Chevron Overseas Petroleum Azerbaijan Limited 21.
- Binegedi Oil Operating Company 22.
- Royal Association of Finance Investors (RAFI OIL FZE) 23.
- Naftiran Intergrade Co Ltd (NICO) 24.
- Apsheron Investments LTD 25.

Not Parties to the MOU

1.

Azerbaijan International Operating Company ("AIOC")1

¹ AIOC is the operating company of the ACG oilfield. The partners of AIOC are BP Exploration (Caspian Sea) Limited, Exxon Azerbaijan Limited, Statoil, Inpex, SOCAR, Devon Energy Caspian Corporation, ITOCHU Oil Exploration (Azerbaijan) Inc., Amerada Hess (ACG) Limited, Turkish Petroleum A.O., Unocal Khazar (Chevron Overseas Petroleum Azerbaijan Limited).

Appendix 3

List of Non-Governmental Organisations ("NGO"s) and Individuals Party to the Memorandum of Understanding

NGOs

- 1. Development of Society and Civic Relations
- 2. Institute of Democracy and Human Rights
- 3. Eurasia Lawyers Association
- 4. "World of Carpet" Association (district of Guba)
- 5. Research Centre of Women's Problems
- Centre for Economic and Political Researches
- 7. Centre of Economic and Social Development (CESD)
- 8. National Group of International Human Rights Society
- 9. Association for the Protection of Women's Rights after D. Aliyeva
- 10. "Centre of Support to Democratic Elections" Public Union
- 11. Association of Social Economic Researches
- 12. Foundation of Scientific-and- Technical Progress and Education
- 13. International Ecoenergy Academy
- 14. Foundation for Protection of Democratic Values
- 15. Public Finance Monitoring Center
- 16. Academic Technical Progress Education Fund
- 17. "Progress" Social Research Centre Public Union
- 18. Society for Democratic Reforms
- 19. Multimedia Information Systems and Technology Centre
- 20. Institute of Political Pluralism
- 21. Humanitarian Research Society
- 22. Organization of Mine Victims
- 23. For Healthy Life
- 24. Dalga Youth Movement
- 25. Democracy and Women's Initiatives
- 26. Democratic Progress and Economical Cooperation
- 27. Socio- Strategic Researches and Analytical Investigations
- 28. Centre for Development of Democracy and Legal Assistance
- 29. Institution of Complex Problems of Transportation (transport)
- 30. Union of Independent Consumers
- 31. Agroeco Consulting Center
- 32. Public Union of "Progress", Ganja
- 33. Azerbaijan Construction Association
- 34. Greens' movement
- 35. Solidarity Among Women
- 36. Democratic Reformist Young People PU
- 37. Azerbaijan Public Union for Healthy Evolution
- 38. Educational- Monitoring Centre on Socio- Economical Rights
- 39. Economic Research Center
- 40. «Buta» Humanitarian Children Fond
- 41. Centre of Islam, Democracy and Human Rights
- 42. "Ecolex" environmental law center
- 43. Friends of the Earth/ Azerbaijan
- 44. "Umid" (Hope) Humanitarian and Social Support Centre
- 45. Azerbaijan Young Lawyers Union

- 46. Centre for Development of Youth
- 47. "Liberator" Public Union
- 48. "Finance" Transparent Budget Public Union (district of Imishli)
- 49. Media Development Center
- 50. Free Economy Center
- 51. Centre of Pluralism "Inam"
- 52. Institute of Economical Technologies
- 53. "Free Person" Organization for Human Rights Protection
- 54. Committee for Oil Industry Workers Rights` Protection
- 55. Centre for Support to Democratic Initiatives
- 56. HQMB
- 57. Centre for Assistance to Democratic Elections
- 58. Centre for the Development of Azerbaijan Football PU
- 59. Center of Democratic Reforms
- 60. "Echo" International Journalist Investigations Centre
- 61. "Expert" Economic Journal
- 62. "Bilik" Ganja
- 63. "Progress" Public Union for Legal Assistance to Youth
- 64. Citizens' Labour Rights Protection League
- 65. Democracy and Women Rights Protection Centre
- 66. Yevlakh district Regional Development Centre PU
- 67. "Ruzgar" Ecological Public Union
- 68. "Human Rights 2003" Public Union
- 69. "Women's World" Public Union
- 70. Ganja Children Fond
- 71. Fund of Constitution
- 72. Association of Democratic Reforms and Development
- 73. Caucasus Media Investigations Center
- 74. Association of Traders and Producers
- 75. Foundation of Legal Initiatives
- 76. Centre for Economic and Business Research and Education, Khazar University
- 77. Crude Accountability
- 78. "Saniye" Humanitarian Information Analytical Agency
- 79. Center of Oil Researches
- 80. Foundation of Citizens' Rights Protection in Media
- 81. XXI Century Education Centre PU
- 82. "Electronic Elections" Public Union
- 83. Economic Innovations Center
- 84. Center for Equal Opportunities
- 85. HVA Regional Branch (Ganja)
- 86. Centre of Support to Civil Society Building (Regional NGO, Agstafa district)
- 87. Political Cultural Centre of Azerbaijan Women
- 88. Azerbaijan Fund of Monitoring of Ecological Standards

- 89. Institution of Pease and Democracy
- 90. Society for Caring of Garabag War- Disabled Persons
- 91. Eco- World Public Union
- 92. Human Rights XXI century-Azerbaijan Fond
- 93. Centre of National Ecological Forecasts
- 94. Eco-Renaissance
- 95. Azeri-Ellada intellectual centre
- 96. Caucasus International Strategic Research centre
- 97. Progress Social Development Public Union
- 98. Journalist in an extreme state Public Union
- 99. Region Ses newspaper
- 100. Internally Displaced and Refugee Women's Development Centre
- 101. "Dalga" Ecology and Environment Protection Public Union
- 102. Returning back to Homeland Public Union
- 103. Regional Development and Human Rights Public Union
- 104. Regional Enlightenment Public Union
- 105. Economic and Social Enlightenment Centre
- 106. Assistance to Democracy Public Union
- 107. Citizen Enlightenment Public Union
- 108. Assistance Centre to Young Journalists
- 109. Economic and Juridical Enlightenment Centre for Journalists
- 110. Democracy and Ecology Balance Public Union
- 111. Election Researches Centre Public Union
- 112. Juridical Assistance to Oilmen Public Union
- 113. Garabagh Internally Displaced People Union
- 114. Baku Aquarium Keepers Union
- 115. Progress Monitoring and Researches Public Union
- 116. "Care for elderly intellectuals"
- 117. "Welfare" Social Research Center
- 118. Youth Club

Individuals

- 1. Bakirzade Shabnem
- 2. Dunya Sakit
- 3. Aliyev Elmidar
- 4. Hamidova Hicran
- 5. Huseynli Fikret
- 6. Khalilov Ruslan
- 7. Isayev Samir
- 8. Ibrahimov Zaur
- 9. Gahramanov Niyazi
- 10. Movsumov Shamil
- 11. Musayev Jeyhun
- 12. Seyidova Suheyla
- 13. Safarov Afig
- 14. Arzu Soltan
- 15. Pashayeva Sadagat