Order

of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

on Approval of "National Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for 2017-2020"

Following item 32 of Article 109 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and according to Article 6 of UN Convention "On Biodiversity", **I hereby decide**:

- 1. To approve the "National Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for 2017-2020" (attached).
- 2. To appoint the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan as a coordinating authority for the implementation of the National Strategy approved by the 1st part of this Order.
- 3. The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan should inform the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the activities performed for the implementation of the National Strategy not less than once per year.
- 4. The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan should resolve other matters arisen from this Order.

Ilham Aliyev President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Baku City, 3 October, 2016

APPOVED

by Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, dated 3 October, 2016

NATIONAL STRATEGY of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for 2017-2020

1. Introduction

The protection and sustainable use of natural resources is one of most important global challenges of the 21st century, and is considered a high priority of the state. Biodiversity, which is an integral part of natural resources, is very important but still undervalued rich reserve. Recently, human activities have resulted in , degradation of ecosystems and loss of fauna species. So rapid loss of biodiversity have caused serious threat to our life and planet and all could result in global tragedy. For conservation of biodiversity on the planet, the UN Convention on Biological Diversity was signed at the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 1992. The Republic of Azerbaijan ratified this Convention on the 14th of March, 2000 and in order to fulfill the obligations of the Convention at the national level, a "National Strategy and Action Plan of Republic of Azerbaijan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity" was approved on 24th of March 2006 by Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The activities identified in the National Strategy and Action Plan have been successfully completed.

Thus, according to the Action Plan, I and II volumes of "Red Book" of the Republic of Azerbaijan have been published. Tracking action of population of leopards being a rare pearl of nature and included in "Red Book" of the Republic of Azerbaijan and "Red List" International Union for Conservation of Nature within the "Great Five" program covering the protection of 5 fauna species (bear, wolf, gazelle, eagle and leopard) facing perish danger has been taken in their historical habitats and populated areas.

In the course of researches for banding the migrating species, in the territories of Gizilagach State Nature Reserve and Aghgol National Park, birds were banded with rings featuring the attributes of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Within the framework of the projects for reintroduction of rare and endangered species of animals, the number of the largest gazelle population in Europe has increased from 4 thousand to 7 thousand in a short period of time in the Shirvan National Park, and the natural habitat of this important species has naturally expanded significantly. Gazelles were gradually spread in the Aghgol National Park, Gobustan-Jangichay valley and Ajinohur-Sarija plain, and more than 150 head of gazelles were returned to the historical habitat.

For rehabilitation of fauna species populated in historical territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which have been disappeared due to human reasons, the work for reintroduction of the European bison in the country has been started since 2012.

Within the period covered by the Action Plan adopted in 2006, the areas of Zangazur National Park named after Academician Hasan Aliyev, Hirkan National Park and Zagatala State Nature Reserve have been expanded, Samur-Yalama National Park was established in the area of state forest fund, Goygol National Park was established on the base of Goygol State Nature Reserve and adjoining territories, and Korchay State Nature Reserve was established in the administrative territory of Goranboy District.

For covering a whole ecosystem in the territory between Zagatala State Nature Reserve and the border territory of the Republic of Georgia, the Zagatala State Sanctuary was established. and. At the same time, "Yanar Dagh" State Historical-Cultural and Nature Reserve, "Keshikdag" State Historical and Cultural Reserve, "Khinalig" State Historical-Architectural Preserve, "Ateshgah temple" State Historical-Architectural Reserve; "Arpachay" State Nature Sanctuary in the territory of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic and "Rvarud" State Sanctuary in Lerik District have been established.

At the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 10) to the CBD held in Nagoya, Japan, the Parties to the CBD committed to revising their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAP) to expand the cooperation, conservation and sustainable use of flora and fauna species, and to meet all the defined goals in order to achieve important results in the field of biodiversity in the period 2011-2020. , , The "National Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for 2017-2020" (hereinafter – the National Strategy) aims at taking concrete measures and achieving positive results in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in the Republic of Azerbaijan as well as the fulfillment of the obligations under the Convention.

2. Goals of the National Strategy

The main goals of the National Strategy are: sustainable use of genetic resources; conservation of biodiversity and transfer to future generation; poverty alleviation; maintenance of ecological balance; ensuring transition to a "green economy"; promotion of environmental education; restoration of endemic and local fauna species; development of the protected areas network; and reducing the threats to biodiversity.

3. Priority Objectives of the National Strategy

- 3.0. The National Strategy has the following priority objectives:
- 3.0.1. ensuring broad extension of environmental education in the society for for improving awareness of population on biological diversity and ecosystem services;
- 3.0.2. improving biodiversity monitoring systems;
- 3.0.3. restoring and conserving biodiversity, ecosystems, genetic diversity;
- 3.0.4. developing and effectively managing the protected areas and expansion of the current network:
- 3.0.5. reducing the negative impacts on biodiversity and its sustainable use;
- 3.0.6. improving regulatory framework for ensuring the sustainability of biodiversity;
- 3.0.7. increasing public participation in biodiversity conservation at the national and local level;
- 3.0.8. developing collaborative management in biodiversity conservation;
- 3.0.9. providing adequate resources for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;
- 3.0.10. strengthening institutional capacities in the planning, management and use of biodiversity.

4. Financing of National Strategy

- 4.0. The costs of activities proposed in the National Strategy will be financed from the following sources:
- 4.0.1. funds allocated in the centralized expenses of the state budget and cost estimates of relevant state authorities to solve ecological problems;
- 4.0.2. the state fund for protection of environment;
- 4.0.3. micro-credits;
- 4.0.4. grants from international donors and financial institutions.

5. Implementation of the National Strategy and Mobilization of the Resources

National Strategy defines the upcoming events to be held in the Republic of Azerbaijan within the framework of the Action Plan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, the responsible state agencies as well as the execution period.

6. Action Plan of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity

No.	Activities	Outcomes	Implementing organizations	Implementation period (per year)
1	2	3	4	5
6.1. Ens	uring broad extension of environmental education in the	ne society for improving awareness of osystem services	population on b	iological diversity
6.1.	By 2020 reflection of the issues related to biodiversity and resources and increasing	l ecosystem services at all levels of educa the knowledge of the relevant staff.	tion, mobilization	of the required
6.1.1.1.	Increasing number of issues related to environmental protection, biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services at different levels of education.	knowledge of the students on the protection of environment, conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services will increase	MEdu, MENR	2017-2020
6.1.1.2.	Providing detailed information on biodiversity and environment in the textbooks	detailed information on biodiversity and environment will be provided in the textbooks	MEdu, MENR	2017-2020
6.1.1.3.	Supporting environmental education centers in order to increase knowledge and education of school children on ecology.	the efficiency of the environmental education centers will increase	MEdu, MENR	2017-2020
6.1.1.4.	Establishing of information, resources and training centers on conservation of biodiversity and strengthening technical potential to increase capacity and skills of human resources	the level of knowledge and skills of personnel working in the fields related to environment will increase	MEdu, MENR, MAgr	2017-2020
6.1.2. By	2020 strengthening the actions for increasing the capacity	of existing eco-tourism and use of the pot	ential in the coun	try
6.1.2.1.	Developing of public awareness and promotional materials about biodiversity, and particularly about the national parks of the Republic of Azerbaijan	components of national parks and biodiversity will be promoted, promotional information will be disseminated	MENR, MNS, MEdu	2017-2020
6.1.2.2.	Expanding the database on tourism potential of specially protected areas.	database on different ecotourism opportunities aiming at the development of tourism of the republic	MENR, MNS,	2017-2019

		will be established.		
6.1.2.3.	Inventory of nature monuments	updated list of nature monuments will be prepared.	MENR, MNS, MEdu	2017-2020
6.1.2.4.	Conducting of advertising info-tours	various tourism packages will be prepared for tour operators.	MENR, MNS,	2017-2020
6.1.2.5.	Identifying the tour operators engaged in eco-tourism in National Parks, and holding info-tours for media representatives, local and foreign tourists	awareness on biodiversity and ecosystem services will increase, and vast opportunities for development of various kinds of tourism in the protected areas will be ensured	MENR, MNS	2017-2020
	6.2. Improvement of mo	onitoring system of biodiversity		
6.2.1.	Improvement of monitoring system by using the progressive methods based on international practice	the implementation of the proposals on improvement of biodiversity monitoring system will be ensured	MENR, ANAS, MCHT, SAARES	2017-2018
6.2.2.	Assessment of the current status of biodiversity components	environmental assessment document related to the assessment of the current status of biodiversity components will be prepared	MENR, ANAS	2017-2019
6.2.3.	Development and application of modern monitoring methods	modern monitoring methods will be prepared	ANAS, MENR	2017-2020
6.2.4.	Inventory of plant and animal species and designing electronic database	Inventory of fauna and flora species in the Republic of Azerbaijan will be conducted and electronic database will be designed	MENR, ANAS	2017-2020
6.2.5.	Designing Information and Advance Warning System on biodiversity	the system monitoring the loss and reduction rate of biodiversity will be designed	ANAS	2017-2020
6.2.6.	Maintaining accurate records of bioenergy resources	overall ecological balance will be ensured as a result of the work done in the field of efficient use of bioenergy resources	SAARES, MENR	2017-2020
·		odiversity, ecosystems, genetic divers		
	6.3.1. By 2020 Increasing the effectiven	ess of protection of environment and biod	diversity	
6.3.1.1.	For the inland water bodies of Azerbaijan, and within the Azerbaijani sector of the Caspian Sea, improvement of		MENR, ANAS,	2017-2020

	the biodiversity components management, prevention of industrial and domestic waste pollution; and development and implementation of action plans to protect biodiversity of water bodies around large residential settlements.	inland water bodies will be reduced, effective protection of biodiversity will be ensured through improvement of monitoring and management systems as well as through availability of a reliable scientifically-sound database.	MES, SOCAR, "Azersu" OJSC, AMWM OJSC	
6.3.1.2.	Study the factors impacting on the sustainable management of forests and wetlands; preparation of action plans on rehabilitation and restoration of areas impacted by human-induced activities; and implementation of pilot projects.	degradation will be prevented as a result of effective management of forest areas and wetlands Guidelines and management plans on conservation and sustainable management of forests and wetlands will be prepared.	MENR, ANAS, MoA	2017-2018
6.3.1.3.	Implementation of best practices in management of pastures; implementation of activities for improved management of pastures; preparation of pasture management plans; and implementation of pilot projects.	comprehensive database on winter and summer pastures will be established, maps will be produced, and based on the results of pilot projects will be broadly implemented	MENR, ANAS, MoA	
6.3.1.4.	Improvement of control mechanism for observance of the "Procedures on letting the pastures and hay fields on lease and for use"	the standards on using pastures for intended purposes and for grazing livestock will be observed	MoA, MENR, LEA	2017-2020
6.3.1.5.	Implementation of best practices and preparation of management plans for sustainable use of vulnerable ecosystems and areas without special protection status but where rare and threatened species occur	biodiversity-rich areas without protection status will be effectively managed with the help of management plans and relevant guidelines	ANAS, MENR	2017-2020
6.3.1.6.	Implementation of up to date methodologies for inventory and monitoring of forested areas.	current status of forest areas will be assessed and maps will be produced	MENR, ANAS	2017-2020
6.3.1.7.	Development and implementation of urgent measures for ensuring natural restoration and conservation of rare species of biodiversity components and their sustainable use in trans-boundary areas	effectiveness of forest and shrub land management will be improved	MENR, ANAS	2017-2020
	2020 conservation of genetic systems in agro-biological div species and varieties having economic and cultural values	ersities and of genetic diversity of culture	ed plants and don	nestic animals
6.3.2.1.	Taking necessary actions for promotion of the use of crop rotation and other efficient agro-technical actions	efficient agro technical methods will be used in agriculture	MoA, ANAS, MENR	2017-2020

	and cultivation of crops created by traditional methods by taking into account land and climatic conditions of the regions			
6.3.2.2.	Preparation of pilot projects for the development of organic farming	the results of the pilot projects will be widely used	MoA, ANAS, MENR	2017-2020
6.3.2.3.	Development of proposals and implementation of pilot projects for leaching saline soils, and for artificial reforestation using locally adapted tree and bush species; implementation of of ameliorative activities for returning the soil to sowing circle. Implementation of pilot projects on use of organic fertilizers in agricultural areas including high mountain areas	as a result of effectively implemented action plans in erosion-affected areas, productivity will be increased in degraded areas and protective forests will be planted	AMWM OJSC, MoA, MENR, ANAS	2017-2020
6.3.2.4.	Implementation of the projects for the use of organic fertilizers in agricultural areas, including high mountain areas.	productivity will increase in the agricultural areas and organic products will be obtained.	MoA, MENR, ANAS	2017-2020
6.3.2.5.	Implementation of activities that increase the use of traditional agricultural plant varieties and animal breeds that are resistant to the detrimental effects of global climate change.	inventory of traditional plant varieties and animal breeds will be ensured, as a result of pilot projects, new and updated lists will be presented and best practice will be provided	ANAS, MoA, MENR	2017-2020
•	2020 improvement of the status of rare and threatened flora	a and fauna species in the Republic of Az	erbaijan as a res	ult of conservation
6.3.3.1.	Improvement of activities for protection of of important rare and threatened plant and animal species in order to ensure their effective conservation	rare and threatened species will be researched and latest updated lists will be included in the third edition of Red Book.	MENR, ANAS, MoA	2017-2020
6.3.3.2.	Research and assessment of habitat fragmentation and restoration of important habitats in order to protect national Red Book listed species.	detailed information will be collected about habitat fragmentation and necessary action plans will be implemented in order to prevent related negative impacts.	ANAS, MENR	2017-2020
6.3.3.3.	Development of action plans for restoration of rare and threatened plant and animal populations; implementation of reintroduction projects in the country	activities aimed at the restoration of rare and threatened plant and animal populations, including re-introduction projects, will be implemented	ANAS, MENR	2017-2018
	6.4. Developing and effectively managing the	protected areas and expansion of the c	urrent network	I

6.4.1.	Expansion of protected areas, including in the Azerbaijani sector of the Caspian Sea and terrestrial areas.	total extent of protected areas in the republic will be enlarged by 12% in terrestrial areas and by 2% in coastal areas.	MENR, LEA	2017-2020
6.4.2.	Improvement of the system of management of protected areas	the work of management of the protected areas will be improved, taking into account the international practice	MENR	2017-2020
6.4.3.	Development of Emerald Network areas within European Neighborhoods Policy framework.	protected areas will be included into the Emerald Network.	MENR, ANAS	2017-2019
	6.5. Reducing the negat	ive impacts on biodiversity and its sus	tainable use	
	2020 elimination of the negative impacts and threats on bio ole to ensure sustainable biodiversity	diversity and bringing the environmental of	conditions in line v	vith the level which
6.5.1.1	Assessment of existing and potential negative impacts in biodiversity-rich areas and development of action plans to prevent or to minimize negative impacts.	negative impacts will be identified and all necessary measures to avoid or to minimize those impacts will be implemented.	MENR, ANAS, MoA	2017-2020
6.5.1.2.	Assessment of impacts of climate change on biodiversity in sensitive areas (e.g. wetlands, high mountains, coastal zones of Caspian Sea) and development of adaptation programs.	assessment will be made on impact of climate change on biodiversity in different ecosystems and the number of mitigation measures will be increased	MENR, ANAS, MoA	2017-2020
6.5.1.3.	Assessment of current status of invasive species of flora and fauna; identification of their pathways on sea, terrestrial lands and wetland ecosystems; establishment of control mechanisms to prevent their entrance to the country; and designing electronic database on the number and population of the invasive species.	database on distribution, number and population of invasive species will be designed; control mechanisms to prevent their entrance to the country will be strengthened; and the necessary legislative framework to address threats will be in place.	ANAS, MENR, MoA	2017-2020
6.5.1.4.	Assessment of the population of invasive species that have significantly negative ecological and economic impacts, costing of the impacts and development of mitigation plans.	mechanisms will be developed to improve the management of invasive species.	ANAS, MENR	2017-2020
6.5.1.5.	Studying and promotion of the use of bio-energy from agriculture and domestic waste.	in case of positive result of the study, bioenergy will be generated from agricultural and domestic waste and	ANAS, MENR, MoA, AMWM OJSC	2017-2020

		this energy will be used		
6.5.1.6.	Assessment of the transition potential of industry to a "green economy" for protection of biodiversity and sustainable use of natural resources,	with the help of international experts preliminary assessment document will be prepared	MoA, MENR, LEA, municipalities	2017-2020
6.5.1.7.	The wide promotion of eco-friendly agricultural products	the share of total production of organic agricultural products will increase	MoA, MENR, ANAS, SCSMP	2017-2020
	6.5.2 Sustainable Use of Natural Re	lesources related to Biodiversity and Ecosy	/stems	
6.5.2.1.	Assessment of water bio-resources; research of population dynamics of commercial fish species; identification of hunting quotas; and development of aquaculture.	scientifically-sound methodologies will be developed to identify commercial fish stocks and fishing quotas; in the Caspian Sea and inland waters and necessary activities to develop aquaculture will be implemented.	MENR, ANAS	2017-2020
6.5.2.2.	Preparing and realization of activities for development of sustainable hunting from the perspective of efficient use of biodiversity	necessary legislative framework will be developed to ensure the sustainability of hunting activities.	MENR, ANAS	2017-2019
6.5.2.3.	Strengthening controls on the collection and trade of medicinal plants and ensuring sustainable use of such plants	medicinal plants will be collected only by certified physical and legal persons. Regulations and necessary guidelines for collection and use of wild plants will be developed.	MENR, ANAS, MoA, MoH, SCSMP	2017-2019
	6.6. Improving regulatory framework	for ensuring the sustainability of biodi	versity	•
6.6.1. Im services	provement of legislative acts concerning directly or indirectly	y to biodiversity in relation to sustainable u	use of biodiversity	and ecosystem
6.6.1.1.	Analysis of the existing regulatory framework, the improvement of legislation related to the international obligations of the country, and development of proposals for improvement of legislation	new legislative acts will be adopted by taking into account the applicable legislative acts and international obligations undertaken by the country in international programs	MENR, MoA	2017-2020
6.6.1.2.	Conducting researches across the country on biodiversity and development of the next National Report	as the implementation of the obligations stipulated in the "Convention on Biodiversity", the	MENR	2018-2020

		corresponding report will be presented and transparency in this field will be ensured		
6.6.2. By	2020 for protection of biodiversity from genetically modified	crops, the formation of biological safety s	ystem	
6.6.2.1.	Development of measures for ensuring the execution of UN Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	the execution of Cartagena Protocol will be ensured	MENR, ANAS, MoA	2017-2019
6.6.2.2.	The strengthening of cooperation of state agencies in the fight against genetically modified crops	state agencies will cooperate in the field of monitoring genetically modified crops	MENR, MoA, ANAS, SCC	2017-2020
6.6.2.3.	Expanding the network of accredited laboratory for the identification of genetically modified crops	the number of specialized laboratories for genetically modified crops will increase	MENR, MoA, ANAS, SCC, SCSMP	2017-2020
6.6.2.4.	Strengthening international cooperation for the development of appropriate scientific and technical potential, training of qualified specialists and appropriate technical infrastructure to regulate the turnover of the genetically modified crops in the republic	the number of specialists in regulation of genetically modified crops' turnover will increase	MoA, MENR, ANAS	2017-2020
6.6.3. Bri	nging the regulatory acts on protection of biodiversity in line	with the EU Directives		
6.6.3.1.	Improvement of regulatory framework on biodiversity and bringing the national standards in line with the international standards in this field	necessary steps will be taken by improvement of the legal framework	MENR, MoA, SCSMP	2017=2019
6.6.3.2.	Identification of opportunities to accede to the international initiatives on biodiversity by the republic	certain opportunities will be identified and actions will be taken for their implementation	MFA, ANAS	2017-2020
6.7. Inc	creasing the level of participation of the public and civil process at national and local level acco			decision-making
6.7.1.	Development of effective mechanisms requiring the public participation by taking into account the provision of gender equality while adopting decisions on	participation of the public will be ensured by taking into account gender equality in the course of adoption and	MENR, ANAS, MoA	2017-2020

	protection and use of natural resources	execution of decisions on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity		
6.7.2.	Arrangement appropriate events at various forms of environmental education and enlightenment clubs for increasing the interest of certain age groups in nature	proposals on effective activity of environmental clubs will be made, and competitions, exhibitions and meetings will be held in various formats	MENR, LEA	2017-2019
		anagement in biodiversity conservatio		
6.8.1. De	evelopment of cooperation between the relevant state agencie	es in the field of conservation of biodivers	ity	
6.8.1.1.	Defining opportunities and developing proposals for cooperation between governmental organizations in biodiversity conservation - including: developing ecotourism; aforestration; preventing forest fires and establishing early warning systems; pasture management, and other issues.	decisions on conservation of biodiversity will be adopted between the relevant state agencies as a result of increasing cooperation and common approach will by applied	MENR, MEdu, MoA, MES, ANAS, MNS, SOCAR	2017-2019
6.8.1.2.	Expanding bilateral and multilateral cooperation between different governmental organizations for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	necessary measures will be implemented by determining the opportunities of cooperation in certain sphere	MENR, MEdu, MoA, MES, ANAS	2017-2019
6.8.2. Stı	rengthening cooperation with neighbor counties in relation to	concernation of hindiversity		
		conservation of blodiversity		
6.8.2.1.	Taking measures aimed at identification, assessment and addressing trans-border environmental problems	environmental investigations will be conducted and reports will be prepared and cooperation in solving the issues will be expanded	MFA, MENR	2017-2020
6.8.2.1.	Taking measures aimed at identification, assessment	environmental investigations will be conducted and reports will be prepared and cooperation in solving	MFA, MENR	2017-2020
	Taking measures aimed at identification, assessment and addressing trans-border environmental problems Taking measures aimed at identification, assessment	environmental investigations will be conducted and reports will be prepared and cooperation in solving the issues will be expanded environmental investigations will be conducted and reports will be prepared and cooperation in solving the issues will be expanded	MFA, MENR	
	Taking measures aimed at identification, assessment and addressing trans-border environmental problems Taking measures aimed at identification, assessment and addressing trans-border environmental problems	environmental investigations will be conducted and reports will be prepared and cooperation in solving the issues will be expanded environmental investigations will be conducted and reports will be prepared and cooperation in solving the issues will be expanded	MFA, MENR	

	sources in the regions for conservation of biodiversity	energy sources will be expanded in the regions	MENR	
	6.10. Planning the use of biodiversity		cities	
6.10.1. De	6.10.1. Development and implementation of biodiversity-related action plans under the Development Concept "Azerbaijan - 2020: vision.			
6.10.1.1.	Define and implement the necessary measures for the implementation of the commitments related to the Convention on Biodiversity	The targets of the concept addressed to the conservation of biodiversity will be fully achieved	MENR	2017-2020
	6.10.2. Expansion of opportur	nities for conservation of biodiversity		
6.10.2.1.	Expansion of existing opportunities for the conservation of biodiversity, assessment of the current and required opportunities, preparation of proposals and inclusion them in the relevant programs, cooperation with international organizations and with non-governmental organizations in this regard	development of administrative, financial and human resources will	MENR	2017-2020
6.10.2.2.	Strengthening cooperation with international organizations and non-governmental organizations for improving knowledge and skills of human resources operating in the field of biodiversity		MENR, ANAS	2017-2020

	Abbreviations		
MENR	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan		
MoES	Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Azerbaijan		
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan		
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Azerbaijan		
MCHT	Ministry of Communication and High Technologies of the Republic of Azerbaijan		
МоН	Ministry of Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan		
MEdu	Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan		
MCT	Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan		
SCC	State Customs Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan		
SCSMP	State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Patent		
SOCAR	State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic		
SAARES	State Agency on Alternative and Renewable Energy Sources		
ANAS	Azerbaijan National Academy of Science		
AMWM OJSC	Azerbaijan Melioration and Water Management OJSC		
LEA	local executive authorities		