**H.E. Tahir TAGHIZADEH**

Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan
4, Kensington Court
London

W8 5DL

Your Excellency,

I am most concerned to hear that Mehman Huseynov has been charged with a new criminal offence. He is a prisoner of conscience and should never have been prosecuted and convicted in the first place.

With only three months left until his release, Amnesty International believes the new charges against Mehman Huseynov are politically motivated and have been brought in an effort to both further punish him for having expressed his critical views of the government, and to deter others from speaking up and seeking justice for police abuses - a persistent and well-documented problem in Azerbaijan.

I am writing to respectfully request that you raise his case urging the Azerbaijani authorities to take all necessary steps to ensure that the charges against Mehman Huseynov are dropped and that he is immediately and unconditionally released, as he has been detained solely for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression.

Yours sincerely,