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2741 34th Street, NW, Washington DC, 20008 – Tel.: (202) 337-3500 Fax: (202) 337-5911

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CONTACT: Nasimi Aghayev  
[n\\_aghayev@azembassy.us](mailto:n_aghayev@azembassy.us)

## **Celebrating the 87<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Heydar Aliyev**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Photo exhibition dedicated to the 87<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Heydar Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan (1993-2003), was opened in Washington D.C. on May 7, 2010 by the Embassy of Azerbaijan in cooperation with the U.S.-Azerbaijan Chamber of Commerce.

Photos reflecting historic visits of Heydar Aliyev to the United States are displayed at the exhibition, which will continue through May 14, 2010.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the exhibition, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to the U.S. Yashar Aliyev talked about Heydar Aliyev's extraordinary life path, his outstanding role and tireless work in the establishment and comprehensive development of Azerbaijan's independent and sovereign statehood.

Gregory H. Laughlin, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives (1989-1997), shared his memories of personal meetings with Heydar Aliyev. He stressed the enormous contribution by Heydar Aliyev to Azerbaijan's prosperity and the strengthening of the positions of the young republic in the region and the world, as well as to the elevation of Azerbaijani-American relations to a qualitatively new level.

Officials, members of the Azerbaijani diaspora, employees of the Embassy of Azerbaijan, and the U.S.-Azerbaijan Chamber of Commerce, as well as Azerbaijani students studying in the U.S. attended the event.