PRESS RELEASE  
August 28, 2013

U.S. Trade and Development Agency  
Connecting U.S. companies with export opportunities overseas

MEDIA INQUIRIES:
Thomas Hardy | (703) 875-4357

USTDA PROMOTES COMMUNICATIONS IN AZERBAIJAN  
Supports the development of the Azerspace-2 Communications Satellite

BAKU, AZERBAIJAN – The U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) awarded a grant to Azercosmos Open Joint Stock Company, an Azerbaijan Government-owned company, to provide a feasibility study for a second communications satellite that would cover Azerbaijan, its surrounding region and Africa. The grant was signed earlier today by the Honorable Leocadia I. Zak, Director of USTDA, and by His Excellency Mr. Ali Abbasov, the Minister of Communications and Information Technology.

The USTDA grant will allow Azercosmos to determine the economic, technical and financial feasibility of the procurement, financing, launch and operation of the Azerspace-2 communications satellite. The study will confirm and characterize market demand, assess options and determine the optimal configuration of the satellite.

“This project will assist the Government of Azerbaijan in increasing communications options to meet burgeoning market demand,” said Director Zak. “We are pleased to support a project to develop Azerbaijan’s network and communications in the region and to connect Azercosmos with U.S. expertise and solutions.”

The opportunity to conduct the USTDA-funded feasibility study will be competed on the Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) website. A link to the FBO announcement will be posted to USTDA's website at www.ustda.gov. Interested U.S. firms should submit proposals according to the instructions in the FBO announcement.

# # #

The U.S. Trade and Development Agency helps companies create U.S. jobs through the export of U.S. goods and services for priority development projects in emerging economies. USTDA links U.S. businesses to export opportunities by funding project planning activities, pilot projects, and reverse trade missions while creating sustainable infrastructure and economic growth in partner countries.