Ilham Aliyev

President of Azerbaijan

Office of the President of Azerbaijan

19 Istiqlaliyyat Street

Baku AZ1066

Azerbaijan

Dear President Aliyev,

On 30 March, police detained Azerbaijani activist Bayram Mammadov. On the same day, he was sentenced to 30 days of administrative detention for resisting lawful police orders. Amnesty International believes the charges are fabricated. Bayram Mammadov had been released following the presidential pardon on 16 March after spending more than three years in prison on other fabricated charges.

Bayram Mammadov claimed at the appeals court hearing that he was ill-treated during this latest detention. Family and friends who attended the hearing told Amnesty International that Bayram Mammadov had bruises on his face. Bayram Mammadov’s lawyer has been denied access to visit him.

I urge you to ensure that the Bayram Mammadov is immediately and unconditionally released as he has been detained solely for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression. I also urge you to ensure that he is protected from torture and other ill-treatment and ensure that allegations of ill-treatment in detention are effectively investigated. He must be given immediate access to his lawyer.

Yours sincerely,