**BP response**

*Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited BP to respond to the following item:*

*- «2017 Annual Report», Oil-Workers’ Rights Protection Organization (OWRPO), January 2018*

<http://www.nhmt-az.org/frontend/pages/human-rights-inner.php?id=149>

*In response, BP sent the following statement:*

With regard to BP’s employee relations we would like to state that BP always adheres to the laws and regulations relevant to the topic referred in the report. In BP we create an inclusive working environment where everyone can make a difference and give their best. In Azerbaijan BP employs more than 530 women professionals, with 87 of them in senior positions. In total BP employs 2,448 Azerbaijani nationals including fixed-term employees. This makes 89 percent of BP’s professional employees in Azerbaijan. Many of them are in senior positions, including six vice-presidents who are members of the regional leadership team. In addition, there are 265 national employees working for the projects.

BP remains committed to achieving a nationalization target of 90 percent for the professional staff by the end of 2018. This envisages nationalizing some professional roles that are currently occupied by expatriate employees. Non-professional staff of BP in Azerbaijan is already 100 percent nationalized.

On the environmental impacts of our operations, we would like to state that we have more than 25 years of experience of reliably and efficiently operating in the Caspian. As such we do recognize that managing environmental impacts is an essential part of what it means to responsibly produce oil and gas. We work hard to avoid, minimize and mitigate environmental impacts wherever we do business. In Azerbaijan, our environmental management system is independently audited against ISO 14001. In addition, for many years, environmental surveys have been helping us to identify and understand the impacts of our activities on local environments. We run a programme for ambient environmental monitoring around our onshore and offshore facilities.