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Having welcomed the conference attendees Education Minister Misir Mardanov highlighted the development of physical training and sport as one of the priorities of the state policy. Noting national leader Heydar Aliyev had always taken care about the development of sport, the minister outlined that President Ilham Aliyev is attaching a special meaning to the sport as well.

He gave detailed information on the history of chess in Azerbaijan and successes achieved during the independence. According to him, our chess players have won 33 gold, 25 silver and 24 bronze medals in the World and European championships. Moreover, he underlined that Azerbaijan ranked 9th out of 159 countries of the world in the International Chess Federation (FIDE) ratings list. Shahriyar Mammadyarov (8), Vugar Hashimov (11) and Teymur Rajabov (12) are among the top 20 chess players.

Mr. Mardanov talked about the role of chess in the recognition of the country in the international arena. From this point of view, he emphasized the importance of holding European Youth Chess Championship in Baku in 2002, and World Chess Championship in Nakhchivan in 2003, as well as international tournaments devoted to the memory of national leader Heydar Aliyev. Noting the actions implemented within the State Program for the development of chess in Azerbaijan for 2009-2014, approved by the Presidential decree of May 5, 2009, the minister stressed works done to strengthen the material and technical base of chess schools of cities and districts, and provide them with modern appliances and computer equipments. According to him, based on these works our chess players could achieve excellent results in the international competitions by winning five medals in the European and World championships in 2009, and 15 medals in 2010.

Mr. Mardanov has praised the preparation of Chess World Multimedia System as one of the actions done for the development of chess, and expressed confidence that this tutorial prepared based on global experience will be an important visual aid. According to him an electronic manual includes examples of tactics and combinations, 101 miniatures from the world champions and other sections. At the end, he expressed his gratitude to everyone for making a contribution to this work and noted that the second part of the Chess World Multimedia System will be prepared as well.

Deputy Education Minister Elmar Gasimov noted chess players of Azerbaijan became famous in the 70s and 80s of the last century and our achievements in these directions are increased due to the purposeful care of the state. He underlined chess in Azerbaijan has become a massive game; chess schools have been provided with the modern technologies, and electronic manuals have been prepared and given to use.

Further, Deputy Youth and Sport Minister Ismayil Ismayilov, deputy chairwoman of State Committee for Family, Women and Children Aynur Sofiyeva, director of Chashioglu Multimedia Company Rahila Safaraliyeva, and director of Shamakhli Children-Youth Chess School Asif Agayev have delivered a speech setting out their view on Chess World Multimedia System. According to them, the system will play an important role in terms of chess development.

At the end, Education Minister Misir Mardanov has presented the first copies of the Chess World Multimedia System to young chess players and wished them every success.