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On February 22, the Ministry of Finance hosted a seminar on "Implementation of the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) in the education sector and the transition to results-based budgeting mechanism".

The seminar was attended by heads and representatives of the Presidential Administration of Azerbaijan, the Cabinet of Ministers, the Chamber of Accounts, the central executive authorities, and other state institutions. In addition, the members of the committees of Azerbaijan's Milli Mejlis (Parliament) on science and education and economic policy, and representatives of international organizations, as well as experts and researchers also took part in the seminar.

The main objective of the seminar was to inform about the work done on the implementation of the MTEF and the process of transition to the results-based budgeting mechanism, including the results of the activities carried out in the MTEF in the education sector, and to discuss the emerging challenges and the next steps in the reform process.

In his speech, Finance Minister Samir Sharifov noted that in recent years, under the leadership of President Ilhamy Aliyev, large-scale reforms have been implemented in improving public finance management in Azerbaijan as well. Samir Sharifov also noted that one of the priority directions of these reforms is the implementation of the MTEF and the transition to results-based budgeting mechanism.

Speaking at the seminar, Minister of Science and Education Emin Amrullayev outlined the work carried out and objectives being undertaken towards the development of education in our country. The Minister stressed that the state programmes approved by the President in the field of education, decrees and orders signed by him in recent years, especially the document "Strategy of socio-economic development of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2022-2026" are of great importance for the transition to results-based management.

Sarah Michael, the World Bank's Country Manager for Azerbaijan, and other speakers shared their views on the implementation of the MTEF and the budget reforms underway in Azerbaijan.

Then Rashad Hasanov, Deputy Director of the Centre for Designing Medium-Term Expenditure Framework of the Office of the Ministry of Finance, made a presentation on "Implementation of MTEF in the education sector and the transition to results-based budgeting mechanism". The presentation briefly reviewed the work done so far in the areas mentioned, the history of reform and its main elements. In addition, the main challenges and next steps in the budget reform were touched upon.

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Then, Kanan Kerimzadeh, Acting Chief of Staff of the Ministry of Science and Education and Head of the Economics and Education Statistics Department, made a presentation on "Education reforms and results achieved in the implementation of the MTEF". The presentation reflects the Ministry's experience of transition to the results-based management mechanisms, achievements in this field and measurement indicators applied, the need to harmonize the strategy and documents of the MTEF, issues related to the work to be done in the coming years in the direction of improving knowledge and skills in the MTEF.

Andj Ubelis, Senior Public Administration Expert at the World Bank and Task Team Leader of the MTEF Capacity Building Project made a presentation on "MTEF Reforms in Azerbaijan from the World Bank's perspective".

It was noted at the seminar that from this year it is planned to complete the transition process to results-based budgeting in the pilot sectors and to fully implement programme-based budgeting while involving other sectors. in the reform process.

The seminar continued with questions and answers and debates on the subject following the speeches and presentations.