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The opening ceremony of the 88th International Conference on Medical Education (ICME) was held in Baku on 9 October.

The event is being held for the first time in Azerbaijan and is jointly organized by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan Medical University (AMU) and Riphah International University of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Health Minister Teymur Musayev spoke about the work being done in the Republic of Azerbaijan to bring medical education in line with global standards, train highly qualified medical personnel and expand ties with prestigious higher medical schools of the world. Noting that the event will hold relevant discussions on future directions of medical education, the Health Minister also wished success to the conference.

Speaking at the conference, Minister of Science and Education Emin Amrullayev spoke about the importance of medical education in addressing the country's strategic objectives and protecting the health of the population. The Minister noted that for receiving higher education in the future, medicine is usually chosen by the holders of the highest results in entrance examinations. This in its turn leads to the formation of highly qualified doctors in the country.

Rector of Azerbaijan Medical University Garay Garaybeyli, in his turn, expressed confidence that the event will serve as a platform for exchange of innovative ideas, best practices and latest achievements in the field of medical education.

President of the World Federation of Medical Education (WFME), Professor Ricardo Leon-Borges said that the current ICME conference, held for the first time in Baku, aims to provide a stable platform for interaction between world-renowned experts in the field of medical education.

Other guests who spoke afterwards spoke about the importance of the conference and said that the conference was important in terms of sharing experiences.

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After the opening ceremony, the conference continued with symposia on various topics.

It should be noted that the conference will run until 10 October.