Deputy Education Minister Gulu Novruzov warmly welcomed the guests and expressed his pleasure at meeting them at the Ministry of Education. He noted that a Minute of Agreement on Educational Cooperation for the years 2010/2011 between the Ministry of Education of Azerbaijan and Ministry of Education of Belarus has been confirmed by the appropriate order of the President of Azerbaijan Republic. Noting the Minute provides the organization of mutual trip to get familiar with the vocational and secondary education system of both countries and implementation of joint projects, Deputy Minister underlined, in this regard, the creation of Working Group and selection of pilot initial vocational education establishment.

Noting the initial vocational education of the country has progressed in recent years, Gulu Novruzov talked about works done to strengthen the logistic base and refurbish the initial vocational education establishments, which have been implemented within the State Programme for the development of vocational education of the Republic of Azerbaijan (2007-2012 years). G. Novruzov underlined the role of this field in the economic growth and talked about joint projects done in collaboration with several countries. He expressed his belief that the ties with Belarus in this direction could be very important as well.

Head of Vocational Education and Training Department of the Ministry of Education of Belarus Eduard Ganchar thanked the Deputy Minister for the warm reception. He gave detailed information on current situation and steps taken in vocational education field of Belarus. The guest also underlined that the necessary support will be rendered to implement joint projects.

Next, Rector of Republican Institute for Vocational Education of Belarus Arcady Shklyar gave information on vocational education personnel training, relevant textbooks, scientific and methodical materials and Resource Centre operating at the Institute headed by him. He put forward his ideas for implementation of joint project in the vocational education field, and expressed his opinions on specialties that will be taught at the pilot school.

At the meeting, there was noted that specialties that will be taught at the pilot school are defined, and discussed the prospects for further cooperation. Moreover, there were exchanged views on preparation of the concept of this school, development of its curriculum, retraining of engineering and teaching staff, and organization of mutual visits.