The ceremony was attended by the Education Minister Misir Mardanov, Head of Nizami District Executive Power Tahir Budagov, Executive Director of German-Azeri Business Association (DAWF) Florian Schroeder, CIS Director of KNAUF Academy Andrey Bykov, General Manager of KNAUF Marketing Baku, LLC Samir Guliyev, representative of the German Embassy in Azerbaijan Peter Ziegler, heads of KNAUF Group in Germany, Russia and Georgia and others.

The KNAUF Resource Centre was established in accordance with the protocol of intention signed between the Ministry of Education and KNAUF Group on 8 December 2010. The main goal of the centre is to train personnel in the field of construction industry in accordance with the requirements of labor market, the use of global best practices in this field, improve the competitiveness of graduates in the local and international labor market, and provide the construction sector of the country with the qualified personnel. Currently, at the Baku Vocational Lyceum No.4 has started the training of personnel on the KNAUF technologies.

Education Minister Misir Mardanov cut a red ribbon to symbolise the official opening of the KNAUF Resource Centre and congratulated the ceremony attendees on this occasion.

Next, participants became acquainted with the centre. They visited the workroom and theoretical training room of the Centre, as well as have acquainted with the conditions created here for pupils.

General Manager of KNAUF Marketing Baku, LLC Samir Guliyev gave information on works and projects implemented by the KNAUF Corporation in Azerbaijan, as well as on the goal and purpose of the Resource Centre. According to him, there are some plans to establish such centers at other vocational education institutions in future.

The Minister has remained satisfied with the conditions created at the Centre for students and stressed his satisfaction with the done works.

Next, CIS Director of KNAUF Academy Andrey Bykov presented a report on the cooperation of KNAUF Group with the education management organizations and education institutions of CIS countries. In his presentation, he gave detailed information on the activity of KNAUF in different countries, works done in the education field, etc.

Speaking at the event, Education Minister Misir Mardanov stressed that the development of vocational education is one of the priority issues of the government. He gave information on works done within "State Program on the development of technical vocational education in the Republic of Azerbaijan (2007-2012 years)," and noted measures taken to develop the vocational education in recent years. According to him, many international organizations and companies have expressed their interest in implementing various projects in this field.

Noting the vocational education is of great importance on building social and economic infrastructure of the country, the Minister touched upon issues demanding urgent solutions. In conclusion, the Minister expressed his belief that the opening of resource centre equipped with the latest equipments will play an important role in training professional labor personnel, and the cooperation in the vocational education field with the international organizations and companies will bring great benefits.