Speaking at the opening of the meeting the Minister of Education Misir Mardanov gave a warm welcome to the guests and stated the importance of meetings held by the delegation led by Turkey's Higher Education Council (YOK) Chairman Gokhan Cetinsaya in Azerbaijan. The Minister spoke about the relationship between Azerbaijan and Turkey stressing the existence of multilateral and developed relations in the education field established based on the ties of mutual friendship and fraternity.

He gave detailed information about the education system of Azerbaijan and underlined steps taken for a successful integration of the country into the global education. Noting there are currently more than 4000 Azeri students studying at universities of Turkey, the Minister underlined the existence of extensive opportunities to expand the student exchanges between the two countries. In that regard, he pointed out the activity of Caucasus Universities Union and noted the need to pay special attention to the joint scientific research projects.

Turkey's Higher Education Council (YOK) Chairman Gokhan Cetinsaya thanked the Minister for his warm welcome and expressed his satisfaction with his visit to Azerbaijan. He expressed his views regarding Turkey-Azerbaijan relations, improvement of educational relationship and conduction of joint student exchange programs.

Noting these types of meetings will contribute towards the expansion of bilateral relations G. Cetinsaya said that he will do everything possible to establish educational relationships between the two fraternal countries that will be capable of responding to the modern demands. The guest stressed the importance of attention paid to the improvement of science and education levels in the modern world and underlined the need to improve the relations between universities of both countries.

Next, rectors of Azeri universities, who are members of Caucasus Universities Union, have been presented relevant diplomas.

Rector of Ardahan University and head of Caucasus Universities Union Ramazan Korkmaz, Rector of Nakhchivan State University Isa Hebibbeyli, Rector of Erzurum Ataturk University Hikmet Kocak, Rector of Khazar University Hamlet Isakhanli, Rector of Azerbaijan University of Architecture and Construction Gulchohra Mammadova, and Rector of Azerbaijan State Economic University Shamseddin Hajiyev made a speech at the meeting on the development prospects of inter-university relations and other cooperation areas.

Misir Mardanov talked about the challenges ahead for the further strengthening of relations in the field of education between the two countries, expansion of mutual cooperation and number of issues that should be solved. The Minister also exhorted universities of the two countries to promote close cooperation, and expressed his hope that existing rich potential will be properly used.