The ceremony was opened by Education Minister Misir Mardanov. He welcomed the participants and noted that the State Program for the study of Azeri youth abroad for years 2007-2015 approved by the order 2090 of President Ilham Aliyev of 16 April, 2007 is successfully implemented. According to him, 1824 students were sent abroad to study at the top universities of foreign countries within the State Program that jointly carried out with the relevant state bodies.

The main goal of the State Program is to meet the needs of the country in professionals to form a competitive economy and provide sustainable development, as well as improve the effectiveness of process aimed at the study of talented young people in the developed countries. The Minister talked about the Information Management System and the new website created to implement the organized measures regarding data management of students admitted to, excluded and graduated from overseas universities within the Program, and through the multilateral monitoring improve the transparent process for the selection, implementation and funding. Stressing the system has great potential for e-services the Minister also underlined the importance of launching the Information Management System in the “Year of ICT” proclaimed by the relevant Order of President Ilham Aliyev.

Deputy Education Minister Gulu Novruzov gave a presentation devoted to the creation of Information Management System and new website of State Program for the study of Azeri youth abroad for years 2007-2015. In his presentation, he gave statistical data of students received a right to study abroad within the Program in the 2012/2013 academic year on countries, specialties and levels of study.

Noting the IMS meets the requirements of the Executive Order 429 of the President on Some measures in the sphere of provision of e-services to government agencies of 23 May, 2011, Deputy Minister underlined submission of applications and other relevant procedures for the State Program on study abroad for the 2012/2013 academic year were implemented in the online form. Noting the IMS will provide a single e-source for necessary information about all students sent abroad within the State Program, the Deputy Education Minister praised the creation of the system as one of the important steps taken in this direction.

G. Novruzov noted that the main feature of e-application developed by using international experience from other e-applications is that the applicants can choose a suitable time for them to submit documents to the Ministry of Education, and one copy of the completed online application is sent to the email address provided by the applicants. Noting the IMS will provide more transparency in the implementation of State program, the Deputy Minister highlighted that the System also meets requirements of the government strategy for simplification of e-services and financing procedures of students’ study within the State Program. Gulu Novruzov gave detailed information about the main features and benefits of the System noting the State Oil Fund and other relevant state bodies are able to connect to the system. Moreover, the System makes possible the e-circulation of relevant documents.

Next, the Deputy Minister talked about the new website (www.xaricdetehsil.edu.gov.az) noting the site provides data dissemination through social networks, relevant legal framework, necessary instructional information, and etc.

The Executive Director of the State Oil Fund Shahmar Movsumov, Minister of Communications and Information Technologies Ali Abbasov and Deputy Head of Azerbaijan Presidential Administration Novruz Mammadov talked about the advantageous of the Information Management System of the State Program for the study of Azeri youth abroad for years 2007-2015. According to them, taken measures are primarily intended to provide the transparency. They also praised the State Program as a care provided by President Ilham Aliyev for the Azeri youth and touched upon issues concerning simplification of certain procedures within the Program.

Education Minister Misir Mardanov underlined the annual increase in funding allocated to the State Program by the President. Noting the existence of close contact with students studying abroad in order to achieve good results from the policy that aims in the present and future development of Azerbaijan, the Minister expressed his belief in successful implementation of the State Program.