

# Paper Presentations

After lunch the conference went on with paper presentations in four sessions. Reports made by presenters were met by interest and some of them led to discussions.

Dr. Maleyka Abbaszade made comprehensive report on history, current activities and goals of SSAC. Experts of Educational Testing Service, US Ms. Linda Cook and Mr. Luis Saldivia talked about cooperation between SSAC and ETS aimed at improvement of assessment system managed by SSAC.

Hot discussion took place in the II session dedicated to the problem of corruption in education.

Really admirable discussion was led by prof. Gabrielle Matters. Tandi Clausen-May (National Foundation for Educational Research UK) had a speech on Old tests and New curricula. She underlined problems of disadvantaged children in learning process.



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## PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN To the participants of the International Conference on the National Assessment Systems and Educational Standards



Dear participants!

I welcome you all in the capital of Azerbaijan and wish you success in your conference. I am sure that you will provide your contribution to the improvement of national assessment systems and methods. This is of a great importance as the process of integration and globalization speeds up, and education overcomes national barriers and becomes universal value.

Education has always been one of the most important fields in society. The Republic of Azerbaijan always focuses on problems in providing high level of education and attaches a great importance to reforms, formation of new standards and efficient utilization of international practice.

In a country where economic development is swiftly under way, the extent of investment in education is regularly increasing and a strong stimulus has been set up towards implementing reforms. A great number of investments have been allocated for strengthening material-technical basis of mandatory secondary education as it was set out in the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan. We are successfully implementing the statement of converting "the black gold" into "the human gold" pronounced at the international summit on information society.

It has been already fifteen years since we started using national assessment systems to test knowledge of applicants to the higher educational institutions. During last years we apply the same method to selection of candidates to public organizations. We are proud that the Azerbaijani admission system is highly appreciated by the community at large nationally and internationally.

I hope that the conference will provide an impetus to establishing a favorable condition for further improvement of education system and reforms.

I wish you good health, happiness and success in your future activity.

Ilham Aliyev

# Registration

to the conference in a lovely atmosphere



# Cocktail Reception



The Welcoming Cocktail Reception of the 33rd IAEA Annual Conference was held at 6:00 pm, 16 September. About 200 delegates participated in the Welcoming Cocktail Reception. Maleyka Abbaszade, the chairperson of SSAC welcomed guests. Sydell Carlton, the president of IAEA made a greeting speech. The reception was sponsored by DRS, Stephen Austin, Pindar Graphics, "Abiturient", Azercell, Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan, RISK Company, UNITECH, Halal-printing equipment and paper.

# PRESS conference



Ms. Maleyka Abbaszade and Ms. Sydell Carlton gave brief information on the IAEA annual conferences that are being held in different countries. Both Ms. Sydell Carlton and Ms. Maleyka Abbaszade answered questions of media representatives.

with the attendance of the President of IAEA, Ms. Sydell Carlton and the chairperson of the SSAC, Ms. Maleyka Abbaszade



# Opening Ceremony



The Conference opened at 9 a.m. on Monday, September 17. The President of IAEA Ms. Sydell Carlton welcomed the guests and highlighted the significance of the conference. She thanked the SSAC for hosting the Conference. Ms. Carlton pointed out the importance of the Conference. The Chairperson of the SSAC, Ms. Maleyka Abbaszade welcomed the participants in the beautiful palace. After the cheerful concert, head of the Humanitarian Policy Department at the Office of the President, Ms. Fatma Abdullazade made a speech on interdependence of national assessment and educational standards. Ms. Aliyeva wished success to the participants and appreciated their efforts for further development of educational assessment system.

