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The opening ceremony of Small Group Home was attended by Education Minister Misir Mardanov, General Manager of Hilfswerk Austria International Mrs. Heidi Burkhart, Ambassador of Austria to Azerbaijan Mrs. Silvia Mayer-Kaybich, representatives of UNICEF, European Union, Khazar District Executive Power, and other guests.

At first, guests had a tour of the home and became acquainted with home conditions.

According to information given to attendees, the goal of creating Small Group Home is to provide a child with individual care in a home environment until she/he will be adopted or given under guardianship as it specified in the development plan. It was noted that ten girls aged 8-13 living in state-owned child institutions were selected to live in Small Group Home. They will live and continue their study at local secondary schools. Moreover, tutors will watch over them 24 hours a day. At Small Group Home, children have their own bedroom, personal belongings, computer and writing desk. Moreover, costs to maintain Small Group Home will be covered at the expense of funding allocated to the project within one year. After the project is completed, costs to maintain a home will be covered at the expense of state budget. In order to regulate these matters, the Model Statute of Small Group Home was developed and submitted for signature to the Cabinet of Ministries of Azerbaijan.

Education Minister Misir Mardanov shared his impressions about Small Group Home and talked on positive effects of the project jointly conducted with Hilfswerk Austria International. He expressed his gratitude to European Union, Austrian Development Agency, Hilfswerk Austria International and UNICEF office in Azerbaijan for their support in creation of this service for children deprived of parental care.

General Manager of Hilfswerk Austria International Mrs. Heidi Burkhart, Ambassador of Austria to Azerbaijan Mrs. Silvia Mayer-Kaybich, representatives of UNICEF and European Union expressed their satisfaction with the conditions created at home and underlined the positive effects of cooperation with Azerbaijani government and Ministry of Education.

Further on this day Education Minister Misir Mardanov attended the opening of Family, Training and Counseling Center in Mardakan. After cutting the red tape, the guests had a tour of the centre.

It was noted that the Centre will provide professional training courses for foster families and parents.

Moreover, the Minister became acquainted with the conditions created in the Family, Training and Counseling Center and expressed his belief that its activity will be successful.