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Education Minister Misir Mardanov has opened the ceremony by expressing his pleasure in welcoming the guests at the Ministry. He talked about relations between Azerbaijan and China and creation of educational cooperation within this relationship. The Minister also highlighted the development of educational ties between the two countries after Azerbaijan has gained its independence.

Noting more than 200 Chinese students are currently studying at universities of Azerbaijan, the Minister underlined the 16 of them are studying on a free of charge basis within the scholarship of Azerbaijani side. Moreover, about 40 students from Azerbaijan are studying at universities of China on a state-paid basis, and 17 students have already graduated from Chinese universities.

According to M. Mardanov, the goal of the agreement is to promote the educational cooperation between the two countries, provide teacher and student exchange, extend mutual relations between higher education institutions. Talking about the importance of agreement the Minister expressed his hope that the document will contribute to the development of educational cooperation between the two countries.

The ambassador of People's Republic of China to Azerbaijan Hong Jiuyin thanked the Minister for the warm welcome. He touched upon educational ties between Azerbaijan and China and noted the importance of their expansion. Noting the agreement on educational cooperation has a great importance for both sides Mr. Hong Jiuyin underlined his belief that the cooperation in the relevant field will further increase.

At the end Education Minister Misir Mardanov and Ambassador of People's Republic of China to Azerbaijan Hong Jiuyin signed the agreement for the educational cooperation for the period 2012-2015.

The signing ceremony was attended by Ambassador of Azerbaijan to People's Republic of China Latif Gandilov.