

---

Education Minister warmly welcomed the guest and talked about steps to improve bilateral relations between Azerbaijan and France. Noting a special role of President of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation Mehriban Aliyeva in expanding relations between the two countries, the Minister underlined her contributions to the development of cultural ties between Azerbaijan and France.

The Minister highlighted the importance of expanding the bilateral relations in all stages of education, not just between universities. He also touched upon the works done within the agreement signed with KNOUS organization of France and existing problems.

Mr. Mardanov expressed his readiness to support the cooperation in the education field, and teaching French at Azeri schools.

Ambassador Pascal Monye thanked the Minister for the warm welcome. He put forward some suggestions to develop educational ties between the two countries and talked about works done by the Embassy in the relevant field. He suggested establishing a working group and developing 3-year program. Noting the existence of high potential to develop the cooperation, the Ambassador talked about seminars held for French language teachers within the French Village Project.

The Minister expressed his confidence that the meeting will contribute to the development of educational ties of the two countries, and agreed with the views of Ambassador regarding the establishment of working group. According to him, staff of relevant structures should be presented in the working group.

At the meeting, the sides exchanged views on the expansion of fruitful cooperation in the education field and other issues of common interest.