



Black Sea Universities Network

Baku State University

Azerbaijan Republic



BSUN 2002 CONGRESS

Baku, September 11th – 14th, 2002

QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Chairmen: Prof. Dr. Abel Mahharamov, Azerbaijan
Prof. Dr. Suha Sevuk, Turkey
Prof. Dr. Adrian Bavaru, Romania

Aim: The BSUN 2002 Congress organized jointly with the 4th Conference of Rectors from the Black Sea Region is the major event that gathers rectors, senior university managers, ministers and decision makers from the fields of higher education, scientific research and international cooperation, academics, experts, NGOs and others, interested on subjects related to the active involvement of the Universities in the sustainable development of the Black Sea Region.

Topics: University Management
Quality Management in Higher Education
Long Distance & Cooperative Academic Programs
Scientific Research in Universities
University Partnership with Industry & Local Communities
IT&C for networking between universities
Advanced Teaching & Learning Technologies

Place: Baku is the capital of Azerbaijan and is located on the western coast of the Caspian Sea close to the Caucasian Mountains. Being for centuries a key node of the Silk Road, Baku is preparing to become the capital of crude oil in the 21st Century. Having a difficult mission to continue the tradition of some of the most important cultures and civilizations of the world, like Persian, Cumanian, Mongolian or Arabian, the Universities from Azerbaijan, mostly located in Baku, are very dynamic and active in the BSUN Programs

**The Honorary Chairman of the BSUN 2002 Congress:
Mr. Haydar Aliyev, President of Azerbaijan**

International Steering Committee:

1. M. Mardanov - Minister of Education of Azerbaijan Republic
2. Kh. Khalafov - Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan Republic
3. I. Sadikhov - Director of Science and Education Department of Cabinet of Ministers
4. A. Maharramov - Rector of Baku State University
5. H. Mammedov - Rector of Azerbaijan Technical University
6. A. Pilot – University of Twente, The Netherlands
7. M. Spiro, Rector of University of Tirana, Albania
8. H. Armenian, Rector of American University of Armenia
9. A. Nedialkova, Rector of Varna Free University
10. T. Temelkov, Rector of University of Medicine - Varna
11. R. Metreveli, Rector of Tbilisi State University
12. M. Kaila, Vice -Rector of University of the Aegean
13. I. Bostan, Rector of Technical University of Moldova
14. M. Malitza, President of the Black Sea University Foundation
15. A. Bavaru, Rector of "Ovidius" University of Constantza
16. V. Pritula, Rector of Odessa State Academy of Refrigeration
17. D.P. Bilibin, Rector of Peoples' Friendship University of Russia
18. V. Zakharevici, Rector of Taganrog State University Of radio Engineering
19. A. Karkishchenko, Vice - Rector of Taganrog State University Of radio Engineering
20. S. Sevuk, Middle East Technical University, President of BSUN
21. I. Yildirim, Chief of the International Academic Relations of the Istanbul University
22. B. Samotokin, Vice - Rector of Zhitomir Institute of Engineering and Technology

National Steering Committee:

1. E. Efendiyev - Vice Premier Minister of Azerbaijan Republic
2. F. Abdullazade - Director of Humanitarian Policy department of Presidential Office
3. H. Abutalibov - Head of Executive Power Of Baku
4. M. Mardanov - Minister of Education of Azerbaijan Republic
5. M. Karimov - President of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences
6. Sh. Askerov - Head of Commission on Science and Education of Milli Madjlis
7. A. Garayev - Minister of Sport, Youth and Tourism of Azerbaijan Republic
8. P. Bulbuloglu - Minister of Culture of Azerbaijan
9. Kh. Khalafov - Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan Republic
10. E. Gasimov - Vice Minister of Education of Azerbaijan Republic
11. A. Maharramov - Rector of Baku State University
12. A. Amiraslanov - Rector of Medical University
13. S. Garayev - Rector of Oil Academy
14. B. Agayev - Rector of Pedagogical University
15. H. Mammedov - Rector of Azerbaijan Technical University
16. G. Mammedova - Rector of Construction Engineering University
17. F. Badalbeyli - Rector of Music Academy
18. K. Abdulla - Rector of Slavonic University
19. M. Djafarov - Rector of Academy of Rural Economy
20. I. Habibbayli - Rector of Nakhchivan State University
21. Sh. Khalilov - Rector of Azerbaijan University
22. H. Bagirov - Rector of Western University
23. H. Isakhanli - Rector of Khazar University
24. N. Huseynli - Rector of Higher Diplomacy College
25. M. Aliyev - Director of International Relations and Coordination Department of Ministry of Education
26. A. Aliyev - Head of Executive Power of Yasamal District
27. E. Huseynov - First Vice - Rector of Baku State University
28. Y. Mahmudov - Dean of History Department of Baku State University
29. H. Agabeyli - Director of BSUN National Secretariat of Azerbaijan

Congress Organization Committee:

1. B. Askerov - Vice Rector on Science of Baku State University
2. V. Afandiyev - Vice Rector on Education at Part- time and night courses of Baku State University
3. I. Rustamov - Vice Rector on International Relations of Baku State University
4. H. Agabeyli - Director of BSUN National Secretariat of Azerbaijan
5. S. Zeynalov - Dean of International Law and International Relations Department of Baku State University
6. R. Mammedov - Head of International Law Chair of Baku State University
7. A. Abbasbeyli - Head of International Relations Chair of Baku State University
8. Representative of Azerbaijan Oil Academy
9. Representative of Azerbaijan Medical University
10. Representative of Construction Engineering University
11. Representative of Slavonic University
12. Representative of Foreign Languages university
13. Representative of Higher Diplomacy College
14. G. Rahimova - Head of American Studies Center at Baku State University
15. H. Huseynova - Associate Professor, Chair of International Relations
16. A. Ibrahimov - Vice Dean on Work with the International Students
17. G. Gasimov - Director of International Relations Department of Baku State University
18. G. Atayev - Head of Computer Center of Baku State University

Dear Congress Participants,

I cordially welcome you, the participants of the Second Congress of Black Sea Universities Network in the capital of independent Azerbaijan, Baku.

Black Sea Universities Network, which has been formed and active within the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization is currently turning into a reputable international organization that plays an important role in implementing cooperation programs in the areas of science and education.

The network, which already unities numerous educational institutions from eleven countries, upon defining its goals and responsibilities, has started implementing concrete work targeted at its future development.

This congress which is participated by prominent scholars and educationalists as well as the heads of higher learning institutions and the education management bodies is a significant step in this direction.

Young Azerbaijan state considers science and education as its priority. Lots of things have been done and currently are being done in our country to bring these areas in line with international standards, to improve equipment supply, and better the management of the education and science. Precisely from this point of view, this forum currently taking place in Baku is of particular importance for providing high quality developing science and education as well as making our institutions of higher learning better known in our region and the world.

I believe that recommendations of this congress for development of science and education in the region will help strengthen the cooperation between the Black Sea Basin Countries.

I wish you good health, happiness and good luck in your noble activities, and productive work for this congress.

Heydar ALIYEV
President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

11 September, 2002
Baku



FINAL REPORT

The Second International Congress of the Black Sea Universities Network (BSUN 2002) and the Fourth Conference of the Rectors from the Black Sea Universities were held in Baku, Azerbaijan, on 11 -14 September 2002.

The primary objective of the Congress was to inform the member about "QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION" in the Black Sea Countries. The meeting also provided a good platform for participants and members to meet and exchange new ideas to develop closer links among the academics of the Network.

The Congress gathered participants from different countries in the region: Albania, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Greece, Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Turkey, the Netherlands, and United States of America.

The following member universities of Black Sea Universities Network attended the 2002 BSUN Congress: University of Tirana; Academy Of State Governance Under Presidential Office of Azerbaijan Republic; Azerbaijan Civil Engineering University; Azerbaijan International University; Azerbaijan Medical University; Azerbaijan Music Academy; Azerbaijan Slavonic University; Azerbaijan State Academy of Sport and Physical Culture; Azerbaijan State Economic University; Azerbaijan State Institute of Languages; Azerbaijan State Oil Academy; Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University; Azerbaijan Technical University; Azerbaijan University of Arts and Culture; Western University; Azerbaijan University of Culture and Art; Baku Higher Pedagogical Seminary of Girls; Baku State University; Higher Public - Political College; Khazar University; Lankaran State University; Nakhichevan State University; Sumgait State University; Varna Free University; Varna Technical University; University of the Aegean; Technical University of Moldova; Pitesti University; "Petroleum - Gas" University of Ploiesti; "Andrei Saguna" University; "Ovidius" University of Constanta; Academy of Economic Studies of Bucharest; Black Sea University Foundation; University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj; Taganrog State University of Radio Engineering; Middle East Technical

University; Ege University; Istanbul University; Mimar Sinan University; Sakarya University; Kyiv National Economic University; Zhitomir Institute of Engineering and Technology.

The representatives of the Organization of Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Parliamentary Assembly of the BSEC, and Black Sea Region Association of Shipyards (BRASS) also attended the Congress.

The Congress was attended by the representatives of Ministry of Education of Azerbaijan Republic, Romanian Ministry of Education and Research, Albanian Accreditation Agency of Higher Education, University of Northern Iowa - College of Education, Utrecht University - IVLOS Institute of Education, as official guests, and, as invited, the representatives of Tafakkur University, Kafkas University, Kiev Academy, Tafakkur University, "Odlar Yurdu" University, Gandjia Academy of Agriculture, Gandjia Pedagogical University, and Gandjia Technological University.

The list of Participants is attached as [Appendix I](#).

The 2002 BSUN Congress was structured as follow:

In the first day, September 11, 2002 was the Executive Board Meeting that gathered the Executive Board members from Albania, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Turkey, and Ukraine. Prof. Suha Sevuk, BSUN President, chaired the Meeting.

The Resolution of the EB Meeting is attached in [Appendix II](#).

The Opening Ceremony, three very important Plenary Sessions, and a Round table were the main activities on the second day of the Congress.

The Congress was opened by Professor Misir MARDANOV, Azerbaijani Minister of Education, followed by the welcoming messages of Mr. Michael SAVVA, Project Coordinator of Permanent International Secretariat, the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), Mr. Yashar ALYEV, Vice - President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC), Professor Suha SEVUK, BSUN President, Prof. Adrian BAVARU, the first BSUN President, Mrs. Fatma ABDULLAZADEH Chief of the Humanitarian Policy Division, Office of the President of Azerbaijan, and Professor Abel MAHARRAMOV, Rector of Baku State University. The message addressed to the Congress by Professor Ecaterina ANDRONESCU, Romanian Minister for Education and Research (MEC), was presented by Professor Marian GHEORGHE, Deputy Director General for Higher Education - MEC. The message to the participants by Professor Mircea MALITZA, Black Sea University Foundation, was introduced by H.E. Ambassador Nicolae Micu.

The statements are attached in [Appendix III](#).

The presentation of “*2002 Current Status Report on Higher Education in the Black Sea Region*” was done by Prof. Suha Sevuk and Prof. Boris Samotokin.

Prof. Suha Sevuk, Professor Adrian Bavaru and Professor Abel Maharramov chaired the first plenary session, dedicated to the Keynote Presentations. The valuable presentations were made by Prof. Ilham MUSTAFAYEV (Azerbaijan), Prof. Maria KAILA (Greece), Prof. Albert PILOT (The Netherlands), Prof. William CALLAHAN (USA), Prof. Ion BOSTAN (Moldova), and Prof. Anatoliy PAVLENKO (Ukraine). Based on this, the participants had the opportunity to receive information on Higher Education in Azerbaijan, the major shift in higher education: from institution – centric education to student – centric education, the trends in quality assurance and accreditation system in West European Universities, the future academic cooperation and the perspectives of interuniversity cooperation in the Black Sea Region, and the active involvement of the Universities in the sustainable development of the Black Sea Region related to the BSUN Agenda 2000.

Prof. Nicolae Napoleon ANTONESCU and Prof. Sayavush Farhad oglu GARAYEV chaired the second plenary session, dedicated to the "Academic cooperation in the Black Sea Region". The presentations enclosed on this topic were the following: “*Some Possibilities Regarding the Future Academic Cooperation in the Black Sea Region*” presented by Prof. Peter BOGDANOV (Bulgaria), “*New Economic Challenges for the Black Sea Area in the Economic Regional and International Environment*” presented by Prof. Gabriela Cecilia STANCIULESCU (Romania), “*Conception of Two Diplomas in Two Different Countries*” presented by Prof. Boris SAMOTOKIN (Ukraine), “*Training of Specialists for Energy Fuel Complex on the Basis of New Educational Technologies*” presented by Prof. S. GARAYEV (Azerbaijan), and “*Actual Issues for Developing the Science of Economics in Azerbaijan and its Application to Real Life Economy of the Country.*” presented by Prof. A. ABASSOV (Azerbaijan).

The third plenary session, dedicated to the “University Management in the Black Sea Region” was chaired by Prof. Ion BOSTAN and Prof. Ahliman Tapdig oglu AMIRASLANOV. Some prestigious Rectors made the presentations from BSUN, as Professor Nicolae Napoleon ANTONESCU (Romania), Havar MAMMEDOV (Azerbaijan), Professor Anna Nedialkova (Bulgaria), Professor AGAYEV (Azerbaijan), Professor Aurel PAPARI (Romania), and Professor U. Hashimova (Azerbaijan).

Prof. Ion BOSTAN and Prof. Sayavush GARAYEV moderated the concluding discussions on "University Management and Academic Cooperation in the Black Sea Region".

The participants underlined that the process of diploma recognition in the BSR is a very long and complex one, because it is different from country to country, from faculty to faculty, and this has to be solved in different ways. The proposals coming from Professor Bostan are the following:

- to be established a BS Regional Accreditation Commission and to be set up a Common Information Network for Education
- to be organized a Meeting of all institutions in charge with educational problem.

The program of the third day consisted in two plenary sessions and BSUN General Assembly - The 4th Conference of the Rectors from the BSR.

In the plenary session on “Quality Management in Universities”, chaired by Prof. Peter BOGDANOV and Prof. Ali Mammad oglu ABBASOV, were presented the following papers: *“High Quality Education as the Basis of Moral Values”*- Prof. K. ABDULLA, *“Quality Assurance in Private Higher Education”* - Prof. H. ISAKHANLY . *“The Quality Assurance System at EGE University”* - Prof. Haluk BAYLAS, *“The Quality Management in Fine Arts Education”* Prof. Ismet Vildan ALPTEKIN, Prof. Beril ANILANMERT , *“Quality Management at Sakarya University. Case Study on Faculty of Engineering”* - Prof. Ismail CALLI, Prof. Mehmet DURMAN.

The last plenary session related to “Quality Assurance in Higher Education at National Level” chaired by Prof. Albert PILOT and Prof. Havar Amir oglu MAMMADOV had the following presentations: Prof. Perparim HOXHA *“The quality assurance in the Higher Education is the quality of life for all society”*, Prof. A. AMIRASLANOV *“Modern Views on Training of Medical Doctors and Pharmacologists in the System of Higher Education”*, Prof. G. MAMMADOVA *“Training of Construction Engineers and Architects in Modern Azerbaijan: New Dimension”*, and Prof. Viktor RISTANI *“Quality Assurance and the Albanian Perspective”*

The Concluding Discussions on “Quality Assurance in Higher Education” moderated by Prof. Albert PILOT were focused on the possibilities of BSUN members to develop more similar procedures of Quality Assurance in Higher Education, to have partnerships in the BSUN, and to be able to learn from the partners in the BSUN. The discussions stressed that is necessary for all BSR countries to be aligned to the foresights of Bologna Declaration, regarding the European Standards for Higher Education.

In the BSUN General Assembly - The 4th Conference of the Rectors from the BSR, Professor Suha SEVUK presented a brief report of activity.

The Report of Activity is attached in [Appendix IV](#).

The General Assembly:

1. Approved BSUN Statute in the form presented by the Executive Board without discussions on articles.

The Statute is attached in [Appendix V](#).

2. The representatives of the following universities have declared that they have the agreement of the members of their countries to be nominated as Executive Board Members:

ALBANIA: University of Tirana

AZERBAIJAN: Azerbaijan Technical University

BULGARIA: Varna Free University

GREECE: University of the Aegean

MOLDOVA: Technical University of Moldova

ROMANIA: University "Ovidius" Constantza

RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Taganrog State University of Radio Engineering

3. Confirmed Professor Eden MAMUT, as IPS Director

4. The representatives of the above mentioned universities have declared that the members of their countries agreed to establish the National Secretariats at the following locations:

Azerbaijan: Baku State University, Baku

Bulgaria: Varna Free University

Greece: University of the Aegean, Rhodes

Moldavia: Technical University of Moldavia, Kishinev

Romania: University "Ovidius" of Constantza

Russia: Taganrog University of Radio Engineering, Taganrog

Turkey: Istanbul University, Istanbul

The Resolution of the General Assembly is attached in [Appendix VI](#).

5. Elected Professor Abel MAHARRAMOV from Baku State University, Azerbaijan, as the new BSUN President.
6. The lonely proposal for the organization of the next Congress was for Greece, in 2004.
7. Approved the decision for application for the BSEC Related Body Statute under the art. 23 of the BSEC Charter and the text of the letter addressed to the Foreign Affairs Ministers of BSEC Member States.

The letter addressed to the Foreign Affairs Ministers of BSEC Member States is attached in [Appendix VII](#).

8. Approved the decision of affiliation to European Universities Association.
9. The speech of the New BSUN President, Professor Abel MAHARRAMOV:

Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First, let me express my sincere gratitude for the high honor you showed to me by electing me the President of the Black Sea Universities Network.

Black Sea Region is a historic cradle for civilizations which considerably influenced the development of all mankind. This region is abundant with natural resources, human talents and outstanding personalities and we, dear colleagues, as members of the Universities Network, in other words, sources of knowledge and science are to use this knowledge for making lives of the people better. I am hopeful about it, I believe in it, and that is precisely why I agreed on nominating me for the Universities Network President's elections.

In my capacity of the rector of one of the leading universities in Azerbaijan, and from my own experience, I know that insufficiently active work will not lead to good results.

We have to be active, have ambitious goals and attain them. In regard with this, and basing on the results of our productive discussion at the Congress, I propose that we accept the high level of knowledge in education as one of the main structural programs for the Network for the next two years. I propose that the Black Sea Universities Network members develop and introduce this program using new approaches to education.

Black Sea region universities are known for successful research in the areas of psychology, pedagogies and sociology. On the other hand the groups of researchers have excellent results in chemistry, physics, mathematics and engineering science.

However, our achievements are uncoordinated, and that is why I propose to bring our resources together. And look for new approaches to development of the above program.

Speaking about new approaches, I would like to note that in May we arranged to participate in program which was mentioned by respected professor William Callaghan from the University of North Iowa. It is of common knowledge that the universities of Azerbaijan, including Baku State University, traditionally cooperate with the leading universities of Russia. Thus, Baku State University actively cooperates with Moscow State University, St. Petersburg University, Novosibirsk University and the others.

In my position of the President of Black Sea Universities Network I will try to attract the leading Russian universities to joint work on some of our programs.

Dear Colleagues,

From the very offset a Black Sea Universities Network was deemed to be in perspective as an integral part of Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization. In 1997, in Bucharest at the meeting of the Committee on Cultural, Educational and Social issues of the Parliamentary Assembly of Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, there was a proposal for setting up Black Sea Universities Network as a structure for the economic cooperation, and this proposal was reflected in Article 23 of the Charter of Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization. I am not clear why our Network has not been recognized as an integral part of Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization yet? How can that be possible for Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to have structures for parliamentary, financial and economic cooperation, and not to have structure cooperation.

I have been informed, that some people not even being university professors try to set up such a structure. It is impermissible. I think, that one of the main goals for me, jointly in cooperation with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the member countries, is to obtain for our Network the status of an integral part of Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization.

In recent future there will be a meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in Tirana, Albania. They might take a decision on recognizing our Network, in accordance with Article 23 of the Charter, as an integral part of Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization. In regard with this I request your permission to address the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs with an appropriate request on your behalf.

At the same time I intend to implement several programs on regional co-operation jointly with different groups within Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization.

I think that it is time to have the first regional conference of the Ministers of Education. From my point of view, we need to establish scientific research laboratories in cooperation with the work group of Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization.

It is clear, that I can not guarantee that despite of all difficulties we will be able to implement all what we plan to do. But I can firmly promise you that any program of any member of our Network will be carefully considered and supported if it is necessary. I would love to mention another two points which, in my view are necessary for consolidating the work of our Network:

- The leading Universities of the region have to be attracted into the Network;

- We have to strengthen discipline within the Network, we have to be guided by the Charter which we voted for ourselves.

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you again for your trust.

The ceremony for granting the awards for outstanding contributions of personalities in promotion of Academic Cooperation in BSR, and the awards for Universities Promoting Academic Cooperation Programs under BSUN, have been placed in the BSUN Banquet.