



Uzbekistan

Gayrat Shoumarov
Minister of Public Education



Gayrat Shoumarov has been the Minister of Public Education since April 2008. He was born in 1947 in Tashkent city. In 1973 he graduated from Tashkent State Institute of Pedagogy and from 1974 till 1977 studied for Master's Degree at the same institute. Starting from 1977 till 1980 he conducted research at the Scientific Research Institute of Dialectology of the Moscow Pedagogic Science Academy, and in 1980 completed PhD. In 1980 he became Associate Professor and later on Professor of the Tashkent State Institute of Pedagogy. From 1987 to 1990 he had Doctorate Studies at Moscow Pedagogic Science Academy and became Doctor of Psychological Sciences. Over the period from 1991 till 1996 he was Rector of the Central Teacher Retraining Institute in Tashkent. During 1996-1998 he was assigned as Director of the National Education Center of the Ministry of Public Education. Starting from 1998 till 2002 he served as Leading Consultant to State Advisor of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. From 2002 till 2008 he was Rector of the Uzbekistan State University of World Languages.

Towards Inclusive and Knowledge Society

According to the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan - "Everyone shall have the right to education. The state shall guarantee free secondary education. Schooling shall be under state supervision."

After gaining independence of Uzbekistan in 1991, the opportunity for development of national education system was created. The concept of the national education system was elaborated on the own development strategy of the country. The reforms gave opportunity for improvement of structure, context and quality of education. Profound reforms of the system of education began in 1997 with adoption of new Law "On Education" and National Programme on Personnel Training. The nine-year general secondary education and three-year vocational education were legitimate as free and compulsory for everybody.

The State Programme on Development of School Education was adopted in 2006 in order to improve school learning schemes and programmes, to develop new school textbooks, to raise the status of teachers (includes the raise of their salary depending on merit and quality of teaching), to strengthen financial and technical base of schools and to substantially develop school sports and computer facilities.

The concept of inclusive education, on the rights-based approach, was introduced in Uzbekistan in 1996 and it is currently reflected in the legal framework of the state. Two years later, in 1998, Uzbekistan initiated first Regional Central Asian Conference "Together for Inclusive Society" in cooperation with UNESCO, UNICEF, WHO and ILO. Since 2004 annual International Forums on Social Protection of Children is organized in Uzbekistan with support of "Sen Yolg'iz Emassan" Republican Public Children's Foundation and Republican Center for Social Adaptation of Children. As a result, new National Law on "Guaranty of Child's Rights" was adopted in the National Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2007.

**International Conference on Education,
48th session, 25-28 November 2008
“Inclusive Education: The Way of the Future”**



As preparatory process to the 48th session of the International Conference on Education, the National Seminar on Strategy of Inclusive Education has been organized in Tashkent in September 2008 with support of UNESCO and UNICEF.

Following priorities for development of inclusive and knowledge society has been identified in Uzbekistan such as quality education, citizenship and values education, teacher training, education management. Our actions will be focused on empowerment of every member of society through sustainable social partnership between family, local community and school.