## The X International Baku Conference of Ombudspersons was held

The X International Baku Conference of Ombudspersons "Protection of Human Rights in Emergency Situations: Challenges and Possibilities" dedicated to **18 June**, National Human Rights Day, 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ombudsman Office, and 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of admission of Azerbaijan to the membership of UNSECO was held by Ombudsman with the support of UNESCO on 18-20 June, 2012

The event was attended by 52 guests from 23 countries of Europe, Asia and America- Ombudsmen, their representatives, scientists and well-known experts. The representatives of International and European Ombudsman Institutes, as well as Asian Ombudsman Association, also the members of the Milli Majlis (the Parliament), the representatives of governmental bodies, international organizations, Embassies in Azerbaijan, NGOs, civil society, communities and mass-media. attended the conference. The representatives of Canada, Mexico, China, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, and Turkey joined the Baku Conference for the first time.

The Commissioner made a presentation on "Azerbaijan Ombudsman Institute in 10 years". She said during these years the Commissioner paid close attention to cooperation, with international organization as well as with UNESCO. It was highlighted that seven of ten International Baku Conferences of Ombudsmen were held with the support of the UNESCO.

The Commissioner focused on the Commissioner's activity on protection of the rights of persons suffered from emergency situations.

It was noted the Commissioner several times visited the areas suffered form natural disasters, met with people who suffered from those disasters, learned their looses and needs, discussed the ways of solutions of problems with the responsible governmental bodies.

First Secretary of Azerbaijan National Commission on UNESCO Gunay Efendiyeva, Deputy Prime Minister Ali Hasanov, the Minister of Emergency Situations Kamaladdin Heydarov, the representative of UNESCO Office in Moscow Alla Ampar, Ombudsman of Toronto Fiona Crean and others also made presentations during the conference.

The participants appreciated the initiatives and dynamic activity of the Azerbaijani Commissioner and thanked for organizing the conference at such high level. Within the framework of the conference AOA Board meeting was held in Baku for the first time, perspectives of cooperation were discussed.

The Conference participants also met with first deputy Speaker of the Milli Majlis Ziyafat Asgarov.

Baku Declaration was adopted at the end of the event.

**Press Service**