

# Global economic problems discussed during 7th UNAOC Global Forum

26 APRIL 2016, 11:54 (GMT+04:00)



By Fatma Babayeva

Issues related to finding solution to the global economic problems have been discussed during the business symposium held in Baku within the framework of 7th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC).

The project on creating inclusive society in Azerbaijan was one of the discussion topics during the symposium held on April 26.

Azerbaijan's Economy Minister Shahin Mustafayev, addressing the event, said an inclusive society is one of the major challenges facing humanity.

The minister reminded that inclusive society means providing social services and improving the welfare of the poor people with limited mental or physical abilities and other vulnerable social groups.

Mustafayev went on to add that currently, the biggest obstacle to the development of the South Caucasus region is the Armenian-Azerbaijani Nagorno-Karabakh conflict , reminding that Armenia has occupied 20 percent of Azerbaijan's territory.

Facing the task to provide normal living conditions for more than one million refugees and internally displaced people, Azerbaijan understands how complex is this issue and how much efforts its solution requires, Mustafayev emphasized.

The government of Azerbaijan directs huge funds to solve problems of refugees and IDPs, and the country is also working on this issue with the international organizations.

The minister further informed about projects implemented with the support of UN agencies in Azerbaijan which aimed at establishing inclusive society in Azerbaijan including increasing welfare of refugees and IDPs, disabled, women and other vulnerable groups of the population.

Mustafayev stressed the importance of the private sector in creating decent jobs as an effective way to eliminate poverty.

Reports of the international organizations show that 90 percent of the jobs, particularly in developing countries, are provided by the private sector. Therefore, to ensure that the private sector could perform this function, the government should create a favorable investment and business environment and apply various incentive measures for the development of entrepreneurship. International assistance programs are also usually aimed at creating a favorable business environment, Mustafayev said.

Azerbaijan enjoys successful experience in improving business environment, ensuring transparency of administrative regulations, and application of support mechanisms, joint financing of the projects and sharing risks etc, according to the minister.

Over the past decade, Azerbaijan created 1.5 million jobs, the unemployment rate within the country fell to 5 percent, while the poverty rate fell to 4.9 percent by decreasing about eight times, he said, adding that Azerbaijan is happy to share its experience.

As for the activities of the private sector in this area, he believes that the projects should be mainly directed at providing employment to the people with less income and in need of social protection. Huge investment projects should be implemented in the territories where the most poor population live and serve to improve their well-being, added Mustafayev.

High Representative of the UN Alliance of Civilizations Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, addressing the event, noted that it is impossible to resolve the global economic problems and eliminate poverty by the efforts of a single country.

He believes that the contribution to the private sector can help in solving the problems. Various international organizations and the UN provide lots of support to the private sector, Al-Nasser further added.

The UN is responsibly aware of the seriousness of its role and the symposium allowed to speak about this issue, he said, voicing hope that important decisions will be made at the result of the symposium.

He believes that the organization must do everything possible to implement the program on ground -breaking development.

Abdulaziz Al-Nasser further added that currently, migration crises rein the world and this is one of the most important challenges that the world has ever faced after World War II.

The solution of the problems cannot be delayed, the wars must be stopped, he highlighted. Political and economic problems of the world must find a solution in universal and civilized way.

The 7th Global Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations will last untill April 27.

The Youth Forum was held on the first day of the 7th UNAOC Global Forum on April 25.

Meetings with high-ranking officials, about 30 sessions are planned to be held during the forum. The Baku Declaration is expected to be adopted during the forum.

President Ilham Aliyev signed a decree on July 24, 2015 to create an organizing committee for holding the 7th UNAOC Global Forum in Baku.

---

Follow us on Twitter [@AzerNewsAz](https://twitter.com/AzerNewsAz)