



Prof. Dr. Uğur ALPAGUT, 33rd ISME 2018 Baku World Conference Opening Speech

This dream started when we heard at 31st ISME 2014 Porto Alegre (Brazil) World Conference that 33rd ISME World Conference was decided to be held in İstanbul.

We so much wanted to have this conference! First with my personal attempts afterwards as a team from MÜZED (Turkish Music Educators Association) we followed the World Conference held in Malesia, Kuala Lumpur, in 2006 up to present.

Our only wish was to host ISME World Conference in Turkey and in future to make this world-wide meeting meet with unique geography and culture accommodated by Turkic World.

In July 2016 at 32nd ISME Scotland Glasgow World Conference a decision was taken prior to the closing ceremony with TÜRKSOY (International Turkic Cultural Organization). This decision taken jointly with ISME resulted in shifting the conference to be held in the capital of friend and sister country Azerbaijan, Baku because of undesired and undeserved conditions that Turkey has been going through.

Indeed this also meant bringing our future objectives for our Turkic World forward.

Thus, music heart of Turkic World and the World beats in Baku, today. Baku, outstanding beauty of Azerbaijan where love, music and history meet in the center and in the very deep of the World, the most valuable energies of culture and spirit are accumulated and being the host of the 33rd ISME World Conference causes ISME World Conference to glitter like a jewelry with all its magnificence in the light of cultural flames and torches formed with the World Musicians.

Now we have the pleasure and honor to present Azerbaijan, Baku with its thousands years of old music and art culture. I am sure that tender feelings revealed with Azerbaijani music will leave unique traces in the minds of all of us.

Our relations will clench the World and the Turkic World in Baku for future. We, lucky humans, will witness all these beauties here. And afterwards, we will convey these important developments to all the World.

We will together consolidate achievement of humanity, no limit role of music, peace of the World, importance of brotherhood and sharing with superior aspects of humanity. And we will together achieve the pleasure of feeling honored.

I like to extend my endless thanks to Board of Management of ISME, MÜZED (Turkish Music Educators Association) representative of Turkey, TÜRKSOY (International Turkic Culture Organization), Baku Music Academy, Azerbaijan National Conservatory, and Azerbaijan Ministry of Culture and Ministry of National Education which have contributed to our endeavor.

With TÜRKMEB (Turkic World Music Education Association) which we established in 2015 under auspices of TÜRKSOY in Ankara we want to activate Turkic Music Education system and Turkic World Music Conferences system more and regularly and occasionally in coordination with ISME.

I believe the most important steps of this will be taken in Baku within “Turkic Session” which will be organized for the first time in the history of ISME World Conference

I would like to invite you to one of the first events I mentioned to you, ISME İstanbul Regional Conference namely “Three Seas” which we plan to execute in İstanbul in September 2019. Thus, our endeavors will continue with efficiency from Baku to İstanbul.

Thanks to the heart of music beating in the very center and deep of the World I wish you to be with values of humanity and music.

With all my respect and love.

Professor Dr. Uğur Alpagut

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