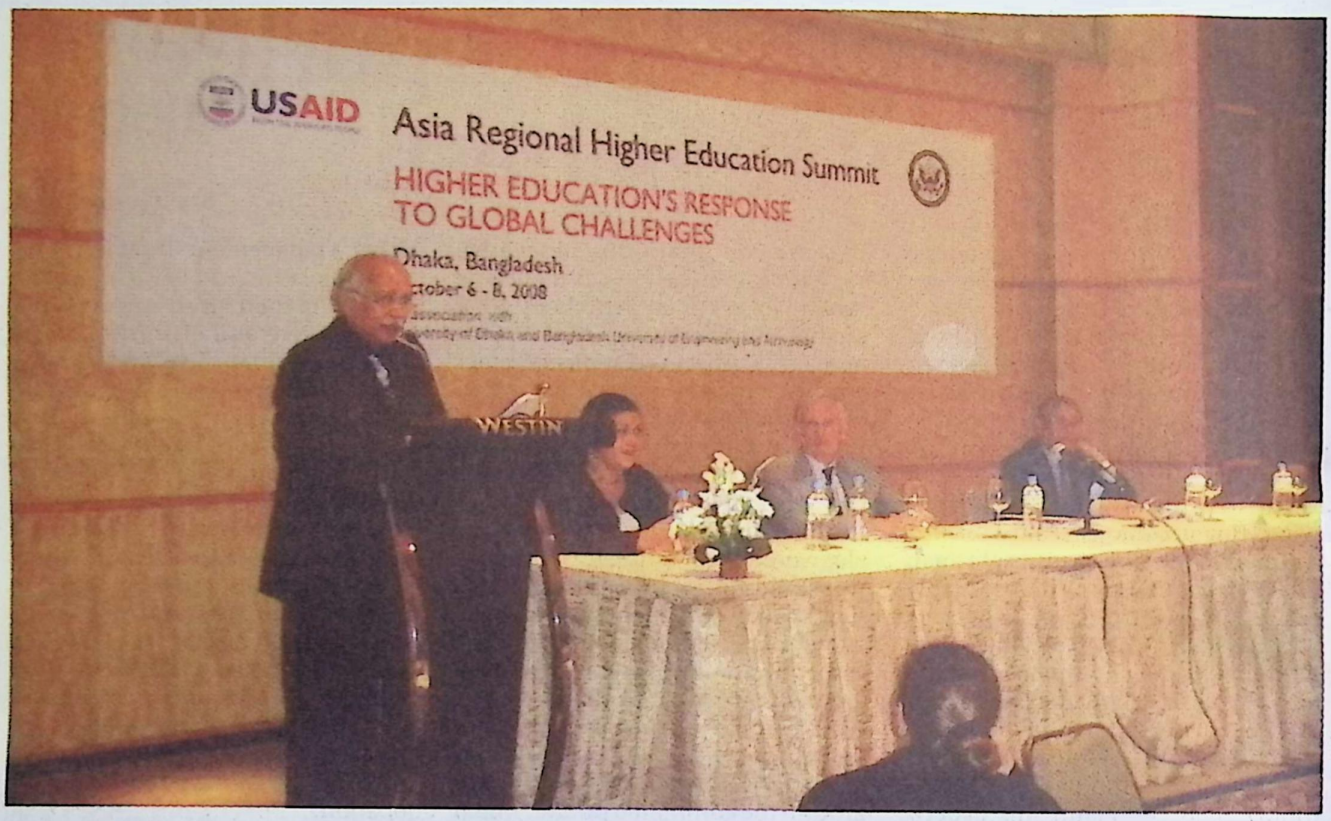


Asia Regional Higher Education Summit

Higher Education's Response to Global Challenges

Mahdin Mahboob

"The highest education is that which does not merely give us information but makes our life in harmony with all existence." --Rabindranath Tagore

THE Asia Regional Higher Education Summit was recently held in Dhaka between October 6-9 with a view to expanding innovative approaches to teaching, research, technology transfer and business development in higher education. Attended by senior educationists from all across the world, the four-day summit proposed a range of ideas for the development of key sectors and how higher education could play a role in it. The summit was organized by UNAID in association with the University of Dhaka and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology.

This summit, the first of its kind in Asia, called for stronger partnerships among public and private institutions across the globe to face the emerging challenges. Around 150 university presidents and vice chancellors, senior executives of businesses and foundations and government officials participated in the summit titled "Higher Education's Response to Global Challenges."

Speakers at the inaugural session termed terrorism, food shortages, energy deficiency and poverty the major challenges that the world is undergoing today, saying that it is higher education and innovative thinking that can help face these challenges.