

## A New Center for Economic Policy in Armenia

The Armenian newspaper, *Hanrabetutiun*, reports in its 14 April, 1994, issue that a Center for Economic Policy, Research and Analysis (CEPRA) was founded by an agreement signed by Armen Yeghiazarian, the Minister of Economy, Glen Anders, the Deputy Representative for the Caucasus of the U.S. Agency for International Development, and Mihran Agbabian, the President of the American University of Armenia.

The agreement was signed on 6 April, 1994, at the office of the Minister of Economy. CEPRA will conduct independent economic analyses of issues pertinent to the development and maintenance of a market based economy in Armenia and will carry out analyses as may be requested from time to time by the Ministry of Economy. The purpose of the analysis and dialogue conducted by the Center is to accelerate the change from a command to a market-based economy in as efficient manner



From left: Glen Anders of USAID, Armen Yeghiazarian and Dr. Mihran Agbabian.

as possible while minimizing the dislocations inevitably created by such change.

The Ministry of Economy and the USAID invited the American University of Armenia to participate in the formation of the Center and to conduct its activities. The Center will be located

at AUA. CEPRA will engage economists with market-based experience, led by those from the United States, as well as participants from Armenian institutions. AUA will also establish a training program for economists in conjunction with the activities of the Center.