



General Assembly

Distr.: General
30 September 2022

Original: English

Seventy-seventh session

Agenda item 18 (k)

Sustainable development: sustainable mountain development

Letter dated 30 September 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the members of the Group of Friends of Mountainous Countries, comprising Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Romania, Rwanda, Switzerland, Türkiye and Turkmenistan, I have the honour to convey to you the statement of the Group following the high-level meeting on sustainable mountain development that was held in New York on 19 September 2022 (see annex).

I would appreciate it if you could kindly circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 18 (k).

(Signed) Aida **Kasymalieva**



Annex to the letter dated 30 September 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Group of Friends of Mountainous Countries following the high-level meeting on sustainable mountain development, held in New York on 19 September 2022

Taking into consideration declaration of 2022 as the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development and following the High-Level Meeting on Sustainable Mountain Development held in New York City on September 19, 2022, the members of the Group of Friends of Mountainous Countries, comprising of Andorra, Austria, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Ireland, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Greece, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Morocco, Nepal, Norway, Nicaragua, Peru, Rwanda, Romania, Switzerland, Türkiye, Turkmenistan,

Emphasize that Agenda 21 adopted at the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 calls upon all countries to assume collective responsibility for strengthening and consolidating the basic foundations of sustainable mountain development;

Declare, in this regard, our determination to unite efforts for the sustainable development and prosperity of mountain regions at the bilateral, regional, interregional and global levels;

Note the relevance and timeliness of declaring this year the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development, emphasizing the need to continue systematic global cooperation on the mountain agenda beyond 2022;

Welcome the initiative of the Kyrgyz Republic to propose 2023-2027 as a “Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions”;

Recognize the relevant work developed by the Mountain Partnership, secretariat of which is hosted by FAO in Rome;

Support the ambitious update of the resolution [74/227](#) of the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled “Sustainable Mountain Development”, including the above-mentioned Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions;

Call on all Member States to support and co-sponsor such an endeavor and the relevant resolution.