

## **"Mountains and Climate"- Bishkek, December 10-11, 2012**

During the International Year of Mountains, were held many special events in all over the World – Peru, Germany, Japan, China, France, Morocco and other. As the concluding event of the year 2002 was the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, which was held from October 28th – November 1, 2002, acting as the concluding event of that year. As a result of these events and conferences held throughout the year, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming December 11 as the International Mountain Day.

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Year of Mountains and the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, there are lot of round tables, conferences and workshops prepared from October to December 2012. On the 11 th-12th of December in Bishkek is planned the International Scientific and Practical Conference called „Mountains and Climate“, proclaimed by the UN General Assembly. Organizers and partners are State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Government, Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic, United Nations Development Programme, National Center of Development of Mountain Regions of the Kyrgyz Republic, National Academy of Sciences of the Kyrgyz Republic, International Institute of Mountains, International University of the Kyrgyzstan. This conference is also supported by the Institute of High Mountain Biology University of Zilina.

In the preparation and celebration of the International Year of Mountains and the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, the international community has provided and continues to provide all possible assistance to developing and poor mountain nations. However, these countries continue to be centers of economic and social stress, especially taking into account recent threats and challenges, such as climate change. There remains an urgent need to get back to the focus of attention of international community to the urgent socio-economic problems of isolated mountainous regions in order to further develop a conceptually sound, global approach and identify solutions to these new global threats.

The history of this important events is: In 1997 The Economic and Social Council of the UN, identified the following ways for providing sustainable development to mountainous areas in its resolution 1997/45: support for sub-regional and inter-regional agreements on the protection of mountain areas and their sustainable and equal development; promotion of regional, national and international institutional systems; awareness raising;

coordination of regional and international cooperation; exchange of information and experience. During the UN's General Assembly on November 19, 1998 the resolution 53/24 was passed, which supported the proposal of the Kyrgyz Republic for designating the year 2002 as the International Year of Mountains (IYM). The resolution further encouraged all governments, the UN and other entities "to take advantage of the International Year of Mountains in order to raise awareness [to the rest of the world] of the importance of sustainable mountain development." In adherence to the UN Assembly's resolution, the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit (BGMS) was organized as the concluding event of IYM. Important Topics there were: to work out and to adopt the foundational document for sustainable mountain development- The Bishkek Mountain Platform; to identify and to summarize the socio-economic, environmental, and political challenges to the sustainable development of mountainous regions; to launch the "International Mountain Partnership" program, announced by the Government of the Swiss Confederation at the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development (2002), which was envisioned to promote decisions of the Bishkek Mountain Platform; to initiate a celebration of the annual International Mountain Day through the accepting a resolution UN General Assembly. After the conclusion of the International Year of Mountains, another UN resolution (A/RES/57/245) was passed during the General Assembly on January 30, 2003, which recognized the final documents of the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, and The Bishkek Mountain Platform, in particular. The most important paragraph are paragraph 2 and 9, which is suitable to quote. Paragraph 2 of the resolution says: "Welcomes the success achieved during the International Year of Mountains, during which numerous activities and initiatives were undertaken at all levels, ... which catalysed a strengthened interest for sustainable development and poverty eradication in mountain regions." Paragraph 9 of the resolution: "Encourages all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to continue their constructive collaboration in the context of the follow-up to the International Year of Mountains, consistent with the mandates specified in the Bishkek Mountain Platform;" This means that the UN General Assembly positively evaluated the results of the International Year of Mountains and the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit.