

**Opening remarks of Aida Kasymalieva, Permanent Representative of the  
Kyrgyz Republic to the UN at the side event  
“Advocating for mountain women and girls’ education through student-  
engaged learning”**

(March 8, 2023, at 10.00-11.15 am, Conference Room1, UNHQ)

**Dear participants of the event,  
Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,**

At the outset, I would like to express my gratitude to all of you for participating in today's side event with the theme “Advocating for mountain women and girls’ education through student-engaged learning”.

This side event is organized jointly with the Utah International Mountain Forum, a coalition of student clubs at Utah Valley University. We would like to thank our partners for their considerable efforts in promoting the mountain agenda, especially women and girls in mountain regions.

With this opportunity, I would like to congratulate you on International Women’s Day. It is a great sign that we have our side event exactly at the day and time, when the entire world community highlights their better half and the session of the General Assembly is now dedicated to the March 8th commemoration.

Our side event focuses on the role of education to advocate for mountain women and families and how program of partnership between academic institutions in the Kyrgyz Republic and in the mountainous state of Utah in the U.S. encourages student to be leading advocates of this noble goal.

**Dear participants,**

As you are all aware, Kyrgyzstan has been promoting the mountain agenda at the UN since 1998. The latest of them is the resolution of the UN General Assembly of proclamation of 2023-2027 as the Five Years of Action of the Development of Mountain Regions. This initiative was designed to provide new momentum to the international community's efforts to combat the problems and challenges of mountain countries. Within these 5 years, attention will be focused on various areas of development in mountainous countries, including the problems of youth, in particular women and girls in the mountains.

Let me hang over the floor to the Member of Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic Sharapat Mazhitova to make a short statement.

Please floor is yours.