



## ASPEN INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION

DEDICATED TO SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT  
MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENTS AND COMMUNITIES

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### **The Aspen International Mountain Foundation (AIMF) Announces Exciting Developments Leading to the UN Mountain Partnership Global Meeting in September 2022**

**2022 designated as the “International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development” by the UN General Assembly.**

**The State of Colorado awards AIMF \$100,000 toward funding the UN Mountain Partnership Global Meeting, hosted by AIMF, and taking place in Aspen, Colorado in September 2022.**

**At AIMF’s urging, the State of Colorado has joined 60 mountain countries and over 400 governmental organizations and NGOs as a Mountain Partnership member.**

**AIMF is awarded special consultative status by the UN’s ECOSOC.**

ASPEN, CO, December 16, 2022 – On Thursday, December 16, the UN General Assembly proclaimed 2022 the *International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development*. Proclaiming 2022 as the year of sustainable mountain development is a major advance for the UN’s Mountain Partnership, an alliance of mountain countries, governments and NGOs and which has been asked to manage activities associated with this 2022 theme. It was also decided that there would be an additional five years of “action for development of mountain regions” from 2023-2027. This designation will provide a major impetus to the success of the Mountain Partnership’s Global Meeting to be held in Aspen, Colorado on September 26-28, 2022. The meeting is being hosted by AIMF, the State of Colorado, the City of Aspen, and the Aspen Institute. AIMF is co-chair of the Steering Committee of the Mountain Partnership and will have a major role in developing the action items for the year.

On Wednesday, December 15, 2021, the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) and the Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) announced that AIMF has been awarded \$100,000 toward funding the Mountain Partnership Global Meeting. The grant provides up to 50 percent of eligible direct-support costs for hosting events in Colorado that affect multiple counties and demonstrate the potential to have a significant impact on the local economy. The two and a half day meeting will develop the action agenda for the MP for the next

four years and dovetail significantly with the goals of the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development. The meeting will be held at the Aspen Meadows/Aspen Institute campus and be immediately followed by a half-day symposium hosted by the Aspen Institute. The symposium will feature global leaders in mountain and climate issues and be attended by MP delegates and the public. Delegates will then be hosted in Telluride, CO by the Telluride Institute which will highlight issues relating to indigenous mountain peoples including the Ute tribe.

On July 21, 2021, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopted the recommendation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to grant special consultative status to AIMF. Consultative status is highly discretionary and enables an organization to engage in a number of ways with ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies, the Human Rights Council and, under specific conditions, some meetings of the General Assembly and other intergovernmental bodies, as well as with the United Nations Secretariat.

On December 16, 2021, the State of Colorado became the first US state to join the Mountain Partnership. As the country's most important and progressive mountain state, Colorado again leads the nation in supporting climate action and sustainable mountain development.

Founded in 2001, AIMF is a nonprofit based in Aspen, Colorado. AIMF's mission is to promote sustainable development in mountain environments and communities. The organization's projects, initiatives and fora support sustainable mountain development and promote mountain life and culture in Colorado and around the world. AIMF was instrumental in developing the mountain-related actions within the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) and participated in the Paris Accords. AIMF is co-chair of the Steering Committee of the UN Mountain Partnership and represents North and Central America and the Caribbean region.

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