## **Edil Amanbaev**

## Entrepreneur from the Kyrgyz Republic 68TH session of the Commission on the Status of Women Side Event

"Advocating for Mountain Women and Girls' Education through Student-Engaged Learning."

March 14th, 2024

Distinguished organizers and participants of this side event as part of the 68<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women,

My name is Edil Amanbaev, and I represent the youth of the Kyrgyz Republic. Like many other mountainous regions around the world, we face serious challenges, including climate change, which is causing glaciers to melt at an accelerated pace. Most dramatically, those challenges are affecting communities, families, women, and girls from the mountain regions around the world.

Last year, I attended an event held at Utah Valley University, located in Orem City, State of Utah in the Rocky Mountains region of the United States. During this event, I had the pleasure of meeting wonderful students and faculty of the university who since 2006 have established educational programs with the universities in the Kyrgyz Republic. Young people, including students from our country, are also strengthening cooperation with Asbury University, located in Kentucky, USA. After all, between the Kyrgyz Republic and both the states of Utah and Kentucky, there is much in common in terms of natural conditions and being mountainous states.

We are looking forward to strengthening the trilateral partnership between universities from the main mountain regions of the United States and the Kyrgyz Republic. This will ensure the contribution of students in the implementation of the five-year action to develop mountain regions adopted by the United Nations.

Thank you for your attention.