ERZURUM CONCLUSIONS

FOURTH GLOBAL MEETING
OF THE MOUNTAIN PARTNERSHIP

ERZURUM, TURKEY
17-20 SEPTEMBER 2013

The members of the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions (known as the 'Mountain Partnership') convened, at the invitation of the Government of Turkey, for the Fourth Global Meeting in Erzurum, Turkey, on 17-20 September 2013.

During the proceedings, we, the participants, recalled:

- the fundamental importance of Chapter 13 of Agenda 21 "Managing Fragile Ecosystems – Sustainable Mountain Development", adopted by the Earth Summit (Rio de Janeiro, 1992);

- the United Nations General Assembly Resolutions relevant to mountains 2002, i.e. 53/24 of 10 November 1998; 55/189 of 20 December 2000; 57/245 of 20 December 2002; 58/216 of 23 December 2003; 60/198 of 22 December 2005; 62/196 of 19 December 2007; 64/205 of 21 December 2009; and 66/205 of 22 December 2011;

- the Bishkek Global Mountain Platform of 1 November 2002;

- the founding of the Mountain Partnership by the Governments of Italy and Switzerland, FAO and UNEP at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002);

- the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and, in particular, its Paragraph 42 addressing sustainable mountain development;

- the Conclusions of the First Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership held in Merano, Italy, in October 2003 and the Andean Declaration of the Second Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership held in Cusco, Peru, in September 2004 and the report of the Third Global Meeting held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012;

- "The Future We Want," the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, in Rio de Janeiro, 2012; and paragraphs 210, 211 and 212, dedicated to sustainable mountain development.

In affirmation of our commitment to the Partnership, we, the participants, emphasize our willingness to work together to fulfill its vision to conserve mountain environments, and improve the livelihoods of mountain people while also empowering them. In an effort to maintain the Partnership's forward-looking, inclusive, participatory and dynamic character, we, the participants, express our intent to continue promoting sustainable mountain development.

The meeting reconfirmed that the Mountain Partnership is open to all governments as well as intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations whose objectives and activities are consistent with the vision and mission of the Mountain Partnership.

Our approval of the Mountain Partnership Governance and Strategy document (2014-2017) and the discussion towards a work plan will lead to concrete and integrated activities related to advocacy, joint action, knowledge management and communication, capacity development and technology transfer, innovation and resource mobilization - the six functions identified in the approved document - to be overseen by the Steering Committee. We commit to continue sharing our experiences and raising awareness, not only in the mountains but far beyond them, on the importance of sustainable mountain development and the resources they embody.

We invite all States, relevant United Nations bodies, regional organizations and other interested parties to ensure that mountains are included in pertinent international processes and we confirm our commitment to pursue this objective.

Aware of the growing threats posed to mountain environments and communities by global changes, we urge the donor community to increase its support in favour of sustainable mountain development.

We, the participants, express our gratitude to the Government of Turkey for hosting this event and for its warm hospitality.

The participants appreciate the support provided by the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS), in particular in the areas of networking, knowledge management and communication, capacity building and advocacy.

The members of the Partnership express their appreciation to the Governments of Italy and Switzerland, the World Bank and FAO for their continued support for the MPS.