

LETTER WITH GREETINGS

From Elena Bonner, the Honorary Co-Chair of the Conference “Women of the Mountains,” Chairman of the Andrei Sakharov Foundation.

March 8, 2007

Dear participants of the Conference “Women of the Mountains,”

I would like to greet all of you who are gathering in Orem, Utah at the campus of the Utah Valley State College for this important Conference.

I am very glad and honored to be the Honorary Co-Chair of the Conference, which has an important and noble goal of uniting all the women in mountain communities worldwide in joint efforts to provide better future for themselves, their families and their people.

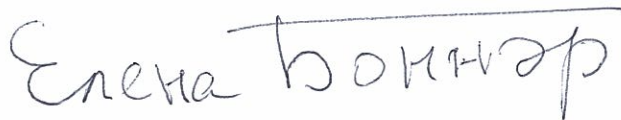
I know very well about numerous challenges faced by the mountain women. They have to make double efforts in everything in becoming equal members of the modern societies.

This Conference deserves special recognition and respect for putting on the agenda all of the problems of the women living in remote mountain areas with limited access to the modern facilities and services. At the same time it is encouraging that the Conference will highlight positive examples and achievements among mountain societies.

I welcome the noble goal of the initiators of the Conference to have such a gathering on annual basis. It is a very difficult task, but possible to accomplish, if we all will support such initiative and be an active participants of it.

I wish you success in achieving all of your goals during the two-day work of the Conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elena Bonner". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Elena Bonner