



Oxford – Ramallah Twinning Agreement

This Twinning Agreement is made the 11th day of March 2019

Between

The City of Oxford (“Oxford”) and the City of Ramallah (“Ramallah”)

WHEREAS

- A) Oxford and Ramallah, in the spirit of friendship and mutual co-operation, have agreed to establish and maintain a link between their respective local administrations to encourage and promote an on-going dialogue and cooperation between the elected representatives and citizens of their two cities. The objective of such dialogue is the free exchange of experiences and the implementation of certain joint activities for the benefit of the citizens of both cities;
- B) All dialogue and activities undertaken between Oxford and Ramallah shall be based on the immutable principles of individual liberty, democracy, respect for Human Rights and equality under the law;
- C) Both Oxford and Ramallah believe that contact between their two cities will contribute to the creation of ever-stronger union between them - through common initiatives, a greater shared understanding of the everyday lives of citizens of both communities, and an appreciation of the cultural heritage and educational institutions of both cities.

NOW IT IS AGREED

1. Oxford and Ramallah agree to co-operate together throughout the term of this Twinning Agreement to seek the creation and implementation of mutually beneficial activities, especially in the areas of:
 - a) Education
 - b) Natural environment and sustainability
 - c) Strengthening the local economy
 - d) Art and culture
 - e) The protection of historic buildings and environmental and cultural heritage
 - f) Sport



2. To achieve the objectives set out in Clause 1 above, Oxford and Ramallah will give particular consideration to supporting initiatives which :
 - a) Foster cooperation and support between schools and institutions of higher education, cultural institutions, associations, clubs, societies and informal educational organisations;
 - b) Encourage a greater understanding of each other's cultures, history and traditions;
 - c) Support environmental protection and sustainable development, and the local groups and community organisations which are active in these fields;
 - d) Encourage the development of the local economy, particularly through activities which are based on sustainable development;
 - e) Promote the exchange of experiences, initiatives and practical solutions through partnership projects.
3. The parties shall seek to organise meeting between delegates from both cities, the purpose of such meetings being to plan and initiate joint activities and to evaluate the effectiveness of any arrangements made under this Twinning Agreement.
4. In implementing the provisions of this Twinning Agreement, each party shall:
 - a) Be responsible for all travelling costs its representatives incur in visiting the other, and for holding all required insurances for such visits;
 - b) Be responsible for the costs of accommodating any representatives of the other that it invites to visit its city.
5. The parties acknowledge and agree that the terms of the financing of any specific projects agreed between them will be subject to agreement on a project-by-project basis, to be fully set out in documentation specific to each project.
6. This Twinning Agreement shall remain in full force and effect from the date hereof until it is terminated by either party giving to the other no less than 12 months' written notice of termination.



7. The parties shall each use their reasonable endeavours to avoid any disputes or disagreements arising between them in regard to this Twinning Agreement, but in the event of any dispute or disagreement arising, the representatives of the parties nominated below (or their successors in title) shall seek to resolve any such matter in a fair and amicable manner.
8. No change to this Twinning Agreement shall be valid unless such change be recorded in writing and agreed between the parties.

The foregoing is agreed by the hands of the following representatives of the parties:

Oxford City Council:
The Lord Mayor of Oxford,
Councillor Colin Cook

The City of Ramallah:
The Mayor of Ramallah
Musa Farah Hadid

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