



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

and

GLOBAL CITIES HUB (GCH)

PREAMBLE:

WHEREAS, the International Telecommunication Union (hereinafter referred to as “ITU”), is an international organization and a specialized agency of the United Nations created with the objective of facilitating peaceful relations, international cooperation among people and economic and social development by means of efficient telecommunication services.

WHEREAS, the Global Cities Hub (hereinafter referred to as “GCH”), created by the City of Geneva and the Canton of Geneva, with the support of the Swiss Confederation, is an organization that facilitates relations between cities and city networks around the world and the various international institutions in Geneva (hereinafter referred to as “International Geneva”), including the United Nations Office at Geneva, UN entities, international organizations, NGOs, diplomatic missions, and academia;

WHEREAS, ITU and GCH (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “**Parties**” and individually as the “**Party**”) recognizing the benefits of genuine, substantive cooperation, have agreed to collaborate in the promotion of enhanced participation and engagement of local and regional governments (LRGs) in multilateralism, within their respective mandates, including digitalization, smart cities and processes such as WSIS, AI Governance and others;

WHEREAS, the Parties, wishing to pursue the aforementioned cooperation, have entered into this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the “**MoU**”) in a spirit of trust and cooperation.

THE PARTIES intend to cooperate with each other as follows:

Article 1

The Parties conclude this Memorandum of Understanding with a view to provide a high-level, non-exclusive, and non-binding framework of cooperation within which the Parties intend to contribute to advancing the participation and engagement of Local and Regional Governments (LRGs) in multilateralism, especially in digitalization, smart cities and AI governance and all related topics and processes.

Article 2

Subject to and in accordance with their respective mandate, rules, regulations, and procedures, the Parties hereby express their mutual intent to collaborate with one another on the following areas:

- a. Exchange of expertise and dissemination of information throughout the ITU and the Global Cities Hub contacts’ networks;
- b. Increase awareness and capacity of cities and city networks and of Geneva-based international stakeholders (‘International Geneva’) on key issues related to advancing SDGs through digitalization with a particular focus on sustainable urban development;
- c. Co-hosting of events such as conferences, seminars and forums or participation of the one Party in events organized by the other Party, without prejudice to participatory rights of their respective memberships;
- d. Facilitate the involvement of city and city-network representatives into ITU’s work on smart city development regulation and standardization;

- e. Cooperation on WSIS process in accordance with previous practice and exchange of letters;
- f. Collaboration in the framework of the ITU Partner2Connect Digital Coalition, a multi-stakeholder alliance to ensure meaningful connectivity to everyone everywhere;
- g. Collaboration on resource mobilization and projects, as appropriate, to sustain and expand the collaboration;

Article 3

Any actions which are considered appropriate to be conducted under this MoU may be the subject of subsequent separate legally binding agreements.

Such agreements will define the modalities and the costs of the participation of each Party, provided that the appropriate internal approvals for such activities are obtained.

Any expenses incurred by either Party under this Memorandum of Understanding will be the sole responsibility of that Party, except as agreed to in writing by the Parties.

Article 4

The visuals of the Parties, in particular their logos may only be used with prior written agreement of the other Party.

Article 5

It is the Parties' mutual benefit to resolve their differences or disputes under this Memorandum of Understanding amicably.

Article 6

ITU names Bilel Jamoussi, Deputy Director, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau as its contact and GCH names Andras Szorenyi, Senior Policy Advisor, as its contact. ITU and the GCH will mutually exchange information regarding future decisions on joint initiatives to be undertaken by the Parties.

Any notice, request, order, statement or other communication required hereunder, shall be in writing and may be delivered either by mail or e-mail, addressed to the other Party at the following addresses:

In the case of the ITU: Place des Nations, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland;

bilel.jamoussi@itu.int

In the case of the GCH: Av. de la Paix 9, Geneva, Switzerland; info@globalcitieshub.org

Article 7

This Memorandum of Understanding enters into effect on the date of its last signature and may be amended upon written consent of the Parties.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by the Parties upon giving two months prior notice in writing.

Article 8

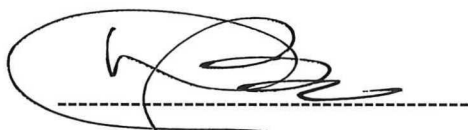
This Memorandum of Understanding serves only as a record of the Parties' intentions and is not intended as, and will not be deemed or construed as, a legally binding agreement between

the Parties. Nothing contained in this Memorandum of Understanding gives rise to any form of fiduciary or legal obligations or responsibilities by any Party under national or international law. Any activities that may be conducted hereunder will be subject to and contingent upon the availability of sufficient staff, funds and other resources.

Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding will constitute or be deemed or construed as a waiver, whether express or implied, of any of the privileges, immunities, and facilities which ITU or any of its officials enjoy by virtue of the international agreements or national laws applicable to ITU.

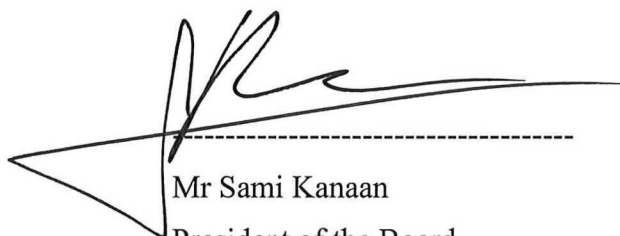
In witness whereof, the Parties have signed this Memorandum of Understanding in two originals.

For International Telecommunication Union



Ms Doreen Bogdan-Martin
Secretary-General

For Global Cities Hub



Mr Sami Kanaan
President of the Board

Place: Geneva
Date: 12-12-24

Place: Jeddah
Date: 12th of December 2024