

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

**APLA - Association of Palestinian Local Authorities**, with legal office at 10 Jabra Al-Anqar Street- 2nd Floor- Safad Building- Al-Masion- Ramallah (Palestine), VAT 888048923 represented by the President Mr. Musa F. Hadid

and

**FELCOS Umbria** – Fund of Local Authorities for decentralized cooperation and sustainable human development, with legal office at Piazza Italia 11 – 06121 – Perugia (Italy), and operational headquarters at Piazza Piermarini 2– 06034 – Foligno (Perugia, Italy), VAT 94115100540, whose President is Mr. Francesco De Rebotti and here represented by its Deputy President Mr. Umberto Bonetti

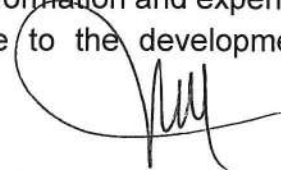
and

**ANCI Umbria - Umbria section of the National Association of Italian Municipalities**, with legal office at Piazza Italia 11 – 06121 – Perugia (Italy) VAT 91006430556, represented by the President Mr. Michele Toniaccini

Hereinafter referred as *The Parties*

### WHEREAS

- **APLA** is the Association of Palestinian Local Authorities, a semi-governmental Non-Profit association founded on the principles of good governance and citizens' participation and that forms a comprehensive framework which holds all the Palestinian local authorities and works for and with them, to provide better services for the Palestinian citizen by defending their rights, and representing them on all levels nationally, regionally, and internationally;
- **APLA** has set out its role to link local municipalities with international ones, represent, and defend local authorities by using all means and instruments of lobbying and advocacy on the central and legislative authorities and service provider companies to assist the local authorities and be fair with them. Also, it works on the capacity building of the local authorities through the exchange of information and experiences to assist them in certain special fields that contribute to the development of



performance of their employees to better serve their citizens. APLA strives to open more opportunities for the Palestinian Local Authorities to engage in direct productive relations with international partners.

- **FELCOS Umbria** is an Association of Municipalities of Umbria region with a key role in the promotion of sustainable development, that supports good governance practices and social and economic growth of the territories, both locally and internationally, through development cooperation projects, training activities, technical assistance and the strengthening of skills, territorial planning and co-programming, creation of networking, social communication and awareness-raising activities, and education projects for sustainable development and global citizenship;
- **FELCOS** promotes and supports and the creation of multi-actor and multi-level partnerships and alliances, with a view to mutual exchange and growth, between territories of different countries on sustainable development issues of common interest, articulating local actions with broader development strategies promoted by national governments, international organisations, such as the United Nations and the European Union;
- **ANCI Umbria** is the regional delegation of the national Association ANCI, that gathers 91 Umbrian municipalities, with the main aims to promote the affirmation of the principle of local autonomy. ANCI carries out its activities in different aspects of the life of autonomy, such as administrative management, health and environmental protection, organisation and management of public services.
- **ANCI Umbria** implements and is actively engaged in decentralised cooperation projects and promotes sustainable development, in collaboration with FELCOS Umbria, of which it is a member;

### **MOREOVER, WHEREAS**

- The Parties are currently involved in the international cooperation project “*L.A.N.D. – Local Authorities Network for sustainable Development*”, co-funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation - AICS, with the aim of fostering the exchange of experiences and skills between Palestinian and Umbrian territories, on the subject of environmental policies and circular economy, in particular in the field of waste cycle management;
- In the framework of the project, a delegation of Palestinian Mayors and APLA Representatives organize a mission to Umbria, Italy, for institutional and capacity building activities;

**CONSIDERED**





- The crucial role of local governments as key actors for the sustainable development of the territories and in promotion of inclusive and democratic communities;
- the role of territorial cooperation as an integral part of the public policies as an innovative and effective way to address the challenges for local development, ensuring the involvement of all the main local actors in the building of a shared vision and the creation of a path that takes into account the general interest of the reference community;
- the Solicitation of the United Nations Agenda 2030 for all countries to contribute to the effort to put the world on a sustainable path, in an integrated of the different dimensions of sustainable development that gathers social, environmental and economic aspects;
- the significant role played by the territorial partnership in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set up by the 2030 Agenda, making it possible to identify more effectively the priorities of communities and to implement sustainable development programs consistent with their needs, through the active involvement of the various local actors operating at various levels.

## GIVEN

the mutual interest of FELCOS Umbria, ANCI Umbria and APLA in fostering the relations between Palestinian and Umbrian Local Authorities, and promoting jointly actions that can contribute to the pursuit of the SDGs through the promotion of the sustainable development of their respective territories and their engagement in international cooperation activities, mobilizing the actors, skills, expertise and knowledge

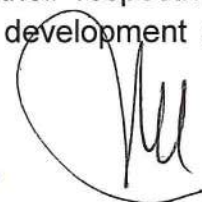
## The Parties

## AGREE AND COVENANT THE FOLLOWING

### Article 1

#### *Subject*

This Memorandum of Understanding, starting from the ongoing partnership experience, establishes the relations of cooperation between FELCOS Umbria, ANCI Umbria and APLA with the aim of fostering, with a view to reciprocity, the relations between Umbrian and Palestinian Local Authorities, the sustainable development of their respective territories through participatory territorial programming and international development cooperation



initiatives involving Italy and Palestine, and to contribute to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals, defining objectives and basic conditions of collaboration.

Furthermore, the Memorandum has the aim to facilitate the relations between APLA and the ANCI at the national level.

## **Article 2**

### *Fields of cooperation*

The Parties shall jointly identify topics of sustainable local development of common interest, such as environmental and climate change challenges, natural resources management, waste management, good governance, decentralization, global citizenship and development education, awareness raising, territorial strategic planning, partnership for development and others.

The themes may in the future be the subject of specific cooperation agreements.

## **Article 3**

### *Modalities of collaboration*

The Parties shall implement joint actions to strengthen sustainable local development of their respective territories.

The Parties will implement international cooperation activities between the Municipalities and territories from the Palestinian and Umbrian sides, through planning, coordination and animation of the territorial actors, which, for the Umbrian side, will be carried out by FELCOS Umbria, as operational tool for the promotion of sustainable development and international cooperation activities promoted by Umbrian Municipalities.

ANCI Umbria will ensure the wider institutional coordination of the activities covered by this Agreement, in particular with the its Councils competent.

In order to better organize and coordinate the cooperation, a Working Group composed of representatives of the Parties, may be set up.

Further cooperation modalities may be identified.

## **Article 4**

### *Commitments of the Parties*





The Parties undertake to:

- exchange experiences, practices and knowledge, gained in the processes of sustainable local development and territorial articulation;
- plan actions and intervention on the basis of identified needs and the effective possibility of implementation;
- animating and coordinating the actors in their territory necessary for reach of the jointly set objectives;
- identifying and working to intercept possible sources of funding for the implementation of the joint actions;
- disseminating information on activities carried out under this Memorandum of Understanding;
- raise awareness and educate actors in their area on the issues of sustainable local development, the interconnection of territories and the key role of international cooperation in achieving Agenda 2030.

The Parties undertake to intercept the funds necessary for the implementation of joint actions on a case-by-case basis and to evaluate any co-financing arrangements required.

For each initiative activated, the roles and tasks of the Parties will be defined through the stipulation of specific Agreements.

#### **Article 5**

##### *Contact Persons*

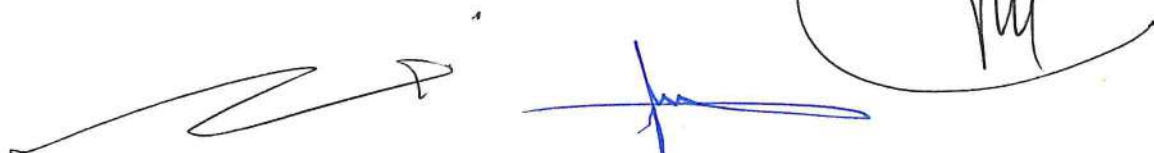
Within their structures, the Parties shall identify contact persons for the implementation of the planned actions.

#### **Article 6**

##### *Duration*

This Memorandum of Understanding enter into force immediately after its signature and will be effective for a period of three years, renewable for an equal period of time.

The Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated at any time at an official written request of the Parties and, at any time, if necessary, and with the agreement of all Parties, it may be amended as appropriate.

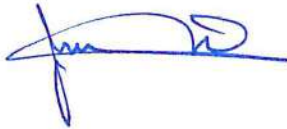


Signed on 16 June 2022, in Perugia, Italy, in three authentic copies of same value and content.

In accordance with the above-mentioned, this Memorandum of Understanding is signed by the Parties

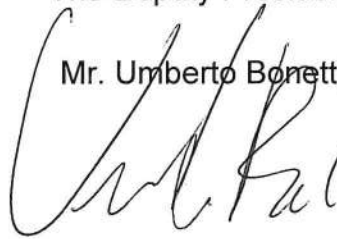
For APLA,  
The President

Mr. Musa F. Hadid



For FELCOS Umbria,  
The Deputy President

Mr. Umberto Bonetti



For ANCI Umbria,  
The President

Mr. Michele Tonjaccini

