MEMORANDUM
OF
COOPERATION
BETWEEN
WASHINGTON, D.C. AND PARIS
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The city of Washington, D.C. and the city of Paris,

On the basis of the Friendship Agreement signed on March 16th, 2000,

Knowing that there is a need to share experiences and strongly believing that the relationships between the citizens of Paris and Washington, D.C. are a source of mutual enrichment,

Expressing their wish to expand their links of cooperation, based on shared democratic values and a spirit of mutual understanding, the strengthening of this partnership is aimed at fostering a better quality of life in both cities,

Have agreed to sign the present memorandum and have decided to particularly emphasize the four following sectors of municipal management in their cooperation:

- economic and commercial development
- habitat, housing and heritage protection
- cultural and educational exchanges
- participation of citizens

Article 1

1 - Economic and commercial development

The cities of Paris and Washington, D.C. will encourage relations between local development agencies, Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the economic and commercial institutions of both cities, in order to improve the development of economical activities and commercial trade.

2 - Habitat, housing and heritage protection

The two cities will exchange their expertise in the field of social housing programmes, mixed development zones and will share information on heritage protection.
3 - Cultural and educational exchanges

The cities of Paris and Washington, D.C. will launch concrete artistic and cultural exchanges (exhibitions, exchange of young artists, ...).

They will facilitate the exchange of experiences between their universities, in particular concerning research, and encourage student exchange programmes.

4 - Participation of citizens

The two cities will exchange their experiences in the field of participative democracy and participation of their immigrant residents in the life of the community.

Article 2

This memorandum will be in force on January 1st, 2005, for a period of two years.

The cooperation between the two cities will be held through exchanges of information and experts' missions in the sectors mentioned above, defined by the principle of reciprocity.

An assessment will be made at the end of 2006 on the progress in the implementation of the actions jointly decided.

The Office of the Secretary of the District of Columbia for the city of Washington, D.C., and the General Delegation for International Relations of the City of Paris are responsible, for the aspects that concern them, for the implementation, follow-up and supervision of the present memorandum.

Signed in Paris by the Mayor of Paris and the Mayor of Washington, D.C., on September 24th, 2004, in French and in English.

Anthony A. WILLIAMS
Mayor of the District of Columbia

Bertrand DELANOË
Mayor of Paris