MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between the Anna Lindh Foundation and the European Economic and Social Committee

The European Economic and Social Committee and the Anna Lindh Foundation,

Preamble

Whereas the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for Dialogue between Cultures is registered by the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs as an international intergovernmental organization and its aim, according to its statutes, is to promote the dialogue between cultures and to contribute to the visibility of the Barcelona Process through intellectual, cultural and civil society exchanges.

Whereas the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), established by the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community of 25 March 1957, is the European Union’s official advisory body representing civil society and, in accordance with the decision taken at the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference in Barcelona in November 1995, has the mandate to forge links between economic and social councils (ESCs) in the region through the Euromed network of Economic and Social Councils and to act as the main organiser of an annual Euromed Summit of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions.

Whereas both parties share the aims set out in the 2008 Paris declaration, including its ambition in addressing common challenges facing the Euro-Mediterranean region, such as economic and social development; world food security crisis; degradation of the environment, including climate change and desertification, with the view of promoting sustainable development; energy; migration; terrorism and extremism; as well as promoting dialogue between cultures.
Have agreed as follows:

**Article 1: Objectives**

By means of this Memorandum of Understanding, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and the Anna Lindh Foundation are establishing a formal framework for cooperation, the aim of which will be to enhance cooperation and promote synergies between the two bodies. This Memorandum of Understanding does not create any kind of partnership or association between the signatories and does not provide for any exclusivity in cooperation.

**Article 2: Areas of cooperation**

The EESC and the Anna Lindh Foundation agree:

1) to boost mutual cooperation between the Anna Lindh Foundation and the EESC, as the coordinator of the Euromed network of Economic and Social Councils (ESCs);

2) to support ongoing socio-economic reforms in the southern and eastern Mediterranean to establish a common area of peace and stability, build a zone of shared prosperity and promote understanding between cultures and exchanges between civil societies in line with the Barcelona Declaration of 1995.

**Article 3: Working method of cooperation**

1) The parties agree to regularly meet and ensure the exchange of information on their respective work programmes in relevant fields and to involve each other in projects and activities where cooperation between the Anna Lindh Foundation and the EESC is advantageous, such as:
   - involvement of the Anna Lindh Foundation by proposing speakers for relevant EESC study group meetings, hearings and events, as well as for the annual Euromed Summit,
   - involvement of the EESC in Anna Lindh Foundation seminars, conferences and other events.

2) Both parties may also organise joint events of mutual interest involving civil society stakeholders.

3) Each party supports the other party in the establishment of contacts with its members/member organizations.

4) On demand, each party can facilitate the holding of meetings of the other party by providing meeting rooms at its headquarters, when available.
Article 4: Financing

The cooperation between the EESC and the Anna Lindh Foundation will not imply the allocation of any additional funds or financial resources to support and implement activities arising from the present memorandum, each party shall cover the full costs of its participation in any aspect of the above cooperation in accordance with its own policies, rules and regulations.

Article 5: Entry into force, amendment and termination

1) This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date when the last of the two parties signs.

2) Any proposal for amendment of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be submitted to the competent authorities of both parties for approval.

3) Either party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by giving no less than three months' written notice to the other party. Any such termination will be without prejudice to the orderly completion of any ongoing activity pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding as of the time of such notice.

Signed in duplicate in Brussels, on 14 December 2022

For the EESC

Christa Schweng
President

For the Anna Lindh Foundation

Josep Ferré
Executive Director