

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
TO ESTABLISH
THE GLOBAL CITIES ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN
CHICAGO AND MEXICO CITY**

ON

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2013
MEXICO CITY

The City of Chicago and the City of Mexico City (hereinafter referred to as “The Parties”), have decided to establish the “Chicago – Mexico City Global Cities Economic Partnership” building upon the sister city relationship established in 1991, as well as their shared economic assets and robust trade and investment relationship.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of The Parties is to formalize a bilateral relationship to expand job growth and economic opportunities in both cities, especially in advanced industries, through joint initiatives in trade, investment, and innovation. Specifically, The Parties will develop and implement joint or coordinated initiatives in the following areas – exports and foreign direct investment; innovation and research; education and human capital – in accordance to their respective federal and local laws. In addition, the Parties will develop strategies and activities in other key areas related to the economy such as water, sustainability technologies, tourism, immigration, and culture. Overall, the Parties will help strengthen each other’s competitive advantages so both cities emerge as stronger global cities and global partners.

AREAS of COLLABORATION

The Parties are committed to pursuing joint initiatives in the following areas:

1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 1.1. Promote business and government meetings in order to encourage investments into the strategic sectors of the economy agreed upon by both cities and defined in Annex A.
- 1.2. Promote tourism, commercial and cultural exchange in full observance of the international and national regulations in order to diversify local markets and to contribute to the trade of goods and services.

2. EXPORTS

- 2.1. Foster trade in goods and services in key sectors, as included in Annex A, compliant with the rules of NAFTA.
- 2.2. Engage small and mid-sized firms in key sectors that are actively exploring exporting to and investing in the Partner City and explore what connections can be made to further those efforts.
- 2.3. Strengthen entrepreneurs, including immigrant and Mexican-American entrepreneurs in expanding business in, and exports to, the Partner City.

3. FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

- 3.1. Support companies that may be interested in exploring expansion or additional investment in the Partner City.
- 3.2. Provide support to facilitate direct investment coming from the Partner City, complying with current rules and regulations.
- 3.3. Identify opportunities to streamline procedures for investors coming from the Partner City.

4. INNOVATION, RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN CAPITAL

- 4.1. Share, reciprocally, knowledge and highly specialized technology to promote the growth of priority sectors of the economy.
- 4.2. Create university partnerships designed to develop and commercialize key technologies that are critical to meeting the needs of firms in key sectors (as included in Annex A), and to enhancing The Parties' ability to co-produce cutting edge products and services.
- 4.3. Leverage the talent of Mexican undergraduate and graduate students in Chicago, as well as Chicago undergraduate and graduate students in Mexico City, deploying them to support firm engagements in both cities.
- 4.4. Share and deploy best practices on industry-driven workforce training and skills strategies required for key sectors.
- 4.5. Explore further education cooperation through a Mexico City-Chicago Education Task Force with representatives from major universities in each city exploring possibilities for further joint research, student, and academic exchanges. The task force will issue a final report identifying new university programs created through this partnership.
- 4.6. Jointly advocate for changes to federal reforms that may affect the mobility and employment of immigrants in the Partner City.

5. OTHER

- 5.1. The Parties agree to pursue additional joint initiatives not described herein but put forth for consideration by either city and agreed upon by both.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Parties respectively designate World Business Chicago and the Ministry of Economic Development of Mexico City to coordinate the execution of this memorandum (MOU).

1. ANNUAL WORK PLAN

The Parties will develop and update an Annual Work Plan to fulfill the commitments of this MOU, including precise objectives and activities to be executed, such as:

- a) Specific and technical characteristics of the joint initiatives;
- b) A timetable with specific deadlines and accountable officials;
- c) If needed, assignment of human, material and financial resources, in general and for each initiative;
- d) Key performance metrics and illustrations to track and showcase results; and
- e) The mechanism to follow up and related information to fulfill this MOU.

MODIFICATIONS AND TERMINATION

- 1.1. This MOU may be amended during its term by mutual agreement in writing, specifying the date of the amendment.
- 1.2. This MOU may be terminated by written notice of either party. The termination of this MOU does not affect the completion of the activities, projects or programs of cooperation that would have been formalized during its term.

**For the City of Mexico City
of the United Mexican States**

Dr. Miguel Angel Mancera
Head of the Government of the Federal District

**For the City of Chicago
of the United States of America**

Hon. Rahm Emanuel
Mayor of the City of Chicago

Annex A

Key Sectors for Chicago and Mexico City

A. Goods Industries

- Electronics
- Machinery
- Base metals
- Plastics
- Miscellaneous manufacturing (medical equipment, sporting goods, jewelry)
- Fabricated metals
- Chemicals and pharmaceuticals
- Precision instruments

B. Services Industries

- Finance
- Professional, scientific, and technical services
- Insurance
- Management and consulting
- Administrative and support services (including waste management)
- Education
- Hospitals
- Tourism
- Creative industry, digital and cinema
- Entertainment and recreation facilities and services
- Freight and logistics
- Air transportation
- Waste management and remediation services