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Office of the President
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Ref No. 1/4713/16/

Date: 11/01/2018

To: Madison Sister City Collaboration Committee,
Madison Common Council

Subject: Support letter for Madison-Bahir Dar City Relationship

It is with great sense of appreciation that Bahir Dar University welcomes this special initiative to establish a Sister City relationship between the two great cities - Madison and Bahir Dar.

From the reports of the visits made by the group from Bahir Dar, our University has learned that there are many similarities between the two cities and there are also great potentials for the two cities to establish this relationship. Both of our cities are graced by presence of fresh water lakes. Our city is surrounded by lake Tana, which is over 1,200 square miles that holds over 50% of the countries fresh water supply. The establishment of a Sister City relationship will create an opportunity for the two cities to exchange best practices in terms of addressing contextual problems including environmental protection, education, trade and investment. The Sister City relationship and the subsequent involvement of the two communities will also promote cultural understanding and economic development opportunities for both cities and regions.

Bahir Dar University, as a higher learning institution striving to improve the lives of the surrounding community through selected community services, is highly interested in this particular relationship since the Sister City relationship between the two cities will give the University more opportunities to make more meaningful and practical contributions in the improvement of the life standards of the people. This relationship will also assist the already started partnership between Bahir Dar University and University of Wisconsin which has been created to exchange staff and students and to engage in common projects.

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It is our earnest conviction that if the Sister City proposal between Madison and Bahir Dar is approved by the City of Madison, Bahir Dar University will be fully committed to play an instrumental role in making the relationship between the two cities fruitful.

Bahir Dar University wishes to thank all those who have been part of the first initiative for the establishment of the Sister City relationship between Madison and Bahir Dar.

Sincerely,

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Firew Tegegne Amogne (PhD)
President



Cc//

- Office of the President
 - Office of the V/P for Info. & Strategic Communications
- Bahir Dar University: