Pristina, 20 December 2021

JOINT STATEMENT

BY

THE GOVERNMENT OF DENMARK

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF KOSOVO

ON STRENGTHENING THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES

We confirm the close and longstanding cooperation and relationship between Denmark and Kosovo. Denmark has had a significant presence in Kosovo in the past and contributed to peacekeeping and the democratic development of Kosovo. We affirm the historically close ties between our two countries and we share a desire to strengthen our existing bilateral relations.

We are committed to shared fundamental values and are jointly determined to further strengthen the rule of law, democracy and human rights. We will also join forces in accelerating the energy transition and promote energy efficiency and renewable energy.

We are aware of the significant positive developments in notably the correctional service system in Kosovo, and we agree that by intensifying the cooperation between our two countries in this area, Kosovo will have the opportunity to further strengthen its correctional service system.

With the intention of a longer engagement and a closer relationship we agree on working towards strengthening our bilateral cooperation with the following two initiatives;

Cooperation in the field of the prison services

Minister of Justice Albulena Haxhiu and Minister of Justice Nick Hækkerup signed a Letter of Intent stating their joint determination to strengthen their cooperation in the field of the prison services. To that end the Government of Kosovo states its intention to make prison capacity in Kosovo for 300 inmates available to the Kingdom of Denmark for which the Government of Denmark states its intention to pay an annual fee of € 15,000,000 over an initial five-year period with the possibility for an automatic extension for an additional five-year period.

Enhanced political and development cooperation

Minister of Economy Dr. Artana Rizvanolli and Minister for Development Cooperation Flemming Møller Mortensen signed a Letter of Intent concerning enhanced political and development cooperation.

The two countries agree to conduct regular political consultations in areas of mutual interest and to strengthen cooperation on green transition and the promotion of rule of law, democracy and human rights. Pending approval by its appropriating authorities, the Government of Denmark intends to support relevant programmes and projects in this regard within the frame of € 30,000,000 over an initial five-year period with a long-term perspective and through relevant international partners. While the main area of focus for development cooperation is expected to be within green transition, up to € 2,500,000 will be dedicated projects to promote rule of law, democracy and human rights.

Minister of Justice,
Ms. Albulena Haxhiu

Minister of Justice,
Mr. Nick Hækkerup

Minister of Economy,
Ms. Artane Rizvanolli

Minister of Development Cooperation,
Mr. Flemming Møller Mortensen

LETTER OF INTENT

BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF DENMARK AND THE GOVERNMENT OF KOSOVO CONCERNING ENHANCED POLITICAL AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

___ _____ 2021

The Government of Kosovo, represented by the Minister of Economy, Artane Rizvanolli; and The Government of Denmark, represented by the Minister for Development Cooperation of Denmark, Flemming Møller Mortensen; hereafter referred to individually as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties",

Recognizing the Joint Statement by the parties on strengthening the cooperation between the two countries,

Wishing to further strengthening the already excellent bilateral relations,

Considering the significant experience of Denmark in the area of green energy,

Desiring to strengthen mutual ties and cooperation, including in the area of green energy and rule of law based on principles of equality, mutual respect and reciprocal benefits,

Being fully aware that such cooperation is likely to strengthen relations between the two countries and desiring to further develop the existing relations of cooperation,

Desiring to strengthen the bilateral cooperation in general through the conduct of regular consultations,

Have agreed to sign the present Letter of Intent (hereinafter "LoI") on the following:

The Parties agree to promote cooperation, including in the field of renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy consumption planning, as well as rule of law, human rights, democracy and good governance, within the scope of their national legislation.

In order to meet the objectives of this Letter of Intention, the parties shall cooperate on the following issues, in accordance with their respective national legislation:

a) Promotion of renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy consumption planning projects, including reforms in the energy field outlined in the EU-Kosovo Association Agenda;
b) Joint developing activities of common interest within rule of law, good governance, democracy and human rights;
c) Any other collaboration opportunities of interest for both parties.

Pending approval by its appropriating authorities Denmark agrees to provide funding from its dedicated development funds for the identified cooperation activities.

The Parties agree to conduct regular consultations in areas of mutual interest. The regular consultation will take at the level of directors with representatives from relevant authorities. Further consultations at political and high official level may be agreed upon.

The Parties' foreign ministries (for Denmark the Director of the European Neighborhood Department and for Kosovo the Director of the Department for Europe and European Union) are focal points in coordinating bilateral consultations in accordance with this LoI. There will be a regular contact between the appointed focal points.

While the Parties acknowledge the main objectives set out above, they agree that any specific arrangements in pursuance of these general objectives will be subject to the normal review and approval processes at each institution and will be implemented by further signed agreements.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized thereto, have signed this Letter of Intent.

Signed in duplicate in Pristina, on ……..……..…… 2021, in the English language.

For the Government of Kosovo,

Minister of Economy,
Ms. Artane Rizvanolli

For the Government of Denmark,

Minister of Development Cooperation,
Mr. Flemming Møller Mortensen

LETTER OF INTENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF KOSOVO

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF DENMARK

REGARDING COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF PRISON SERVICES

The Government of Kosovo and the Government of Denmark (hereinafter collectively "the Governments"),

RECOGNIZING the Joint Statement by the Governments on strengthening the cooperation between the two countries;

WISHING to further strengthen the longstanding cooperation and relationship between the two countries;

RECOGNIZING the Letter of Intent between the Governments concerning enhanced political and development cooperation;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Danish Prison and Probation Service is severely overburdened;

ACKNOWLEDGING the positive developments in the correctional service system in the Republic of Kosovo and that the Republic of Kosovo by such intensified cooperation will have the opportunity to further strengthen its correctional service system;

CONVINCED that strengthening the cooperation between the Kosovo Correctional Service and the Danish Prison and Probation Services will be beneficial to both countries;

ACKNOWLEDGING that through this Letter of Intent both Governments express their intention to seek an intensified cooperation and explore further opportunities for bilateral initiatives;

DETERMINED to finalise an agreement regarding the Kingdom of Denmark's use of surplus prison capacity in the Republic of Kosovo for the purpose of the execution of Danish sentences and to initiate the necessary measures that would allow for the Kingdom of Denmark's use of the prison capacity to commence in the first quarter of 2023;

SEEKING to explore opportunities for further bilateral initiatives such as training, exchange programs and exchange of best practices for the benefit of both countries ;

HAVE REACHED THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING:

The Government of Kosovo will seek to make prison capacity, i.e. the correctional facility located in Gjilan suitable for 300 inmates, available to the Kingdom of Denmark for the purpose of the execution of Danish sentences, and will make the necessary adjustments to any such facility to ensure that it complies with Danish laws and standards.

The Government of Denmark intends to pay an annual fee for the use of a prison of € 15,000,000, depending on the number of inmates the facility has been made suitable for in accordance with Danish rules and regulations, with a reduced fee for the first 12 months of use of the prison as a transition period. The Government of Denmark furthermore intends to pay an initial fee of € 5,000,000 to cover the transition period until the prison has been adapted and staffed. These fees will cover all costs related to such an agreement.

The Kingdom of Denmark will be responsible for the execution of Danish sentences in the prison and provide the necessary management to ensure that sentences are executed in accordance with the laws and international obligations of The Kingdom of Denmark. The Governments will take the necessary measures to ensure that the execution of sentences will be carried out in accordance with the international obligations of the Kingdom of Denmark.

The Kingdom of Denmark's usage of prison capacity in the Republic of Kosovo should be further specified in a treaty between the two Governments.

The Governments will explore the possibilities of broader cooperation between the Kosovo Correctional Service and the Danish Prison and Probation Services.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized thereto, have signed this Letter of Intent.

Signed in duplicate in Pristina, on ……..……..…… 2021, in the English language.

For the Government of Kosovo,	For the Government of Denmark,
Minister of Justice, **Ms. Albulena Haxhiu**	Minister of Justice, **Mr. Nick Hækkerup**