

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**BETWEEN**

**EAROPH (INTERNATIONAL) AND  
EAROPH (AUSTRALIA)**

**AND**

**THE COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIATION OF  
PLANNERS  
(CAP)**

**WITH**

**NEW ZEALAND PLANNING INSTITUTE SUPPORT  
IN PRINCIPLE**

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

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### **EAROPH (INTERNATIONAL) AND EAROPH (AUSTRALIA) AND THE COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIATION OF PLANNERS WITH NEW ZEALAND PLANNING INSTITUTE SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE**

#### **1. AGREEMENT BETWEEN**

- 1.1 This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made between the Eastern Regional Organisation for Planning and Human Settlements (**EAROPH International, EAROPH Australia**), the **Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP)** with the support in principle of the **New Zealand Planning Institute (NZPI)**.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 EAROPH was founded in New Delhi, India in 1956, and is constituted as a nonreligious, non-political, non-profit sharing and non-governmental organisation. As a regional organisation, it covers all countries in Asia, Australasia and the Pacific regions.
- 2.2 EAROPH currently has eight chapters in Australia, Korea, Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pacific, Pakistan, and the Philippines, and is overseen by an International Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 2.3 Any individual or organisation with knowledge and experience from any sector (public, private, community) involved in the planning of human settlements and their surrounds can apply to join EAROPH. It is a multi-disciplinary organisation.
- 2.4 The objectives of EAROPH are to study and promote the well-being of human settlements, with special application to the potentialities and the needs of the countries within the EAROPH region, for the purpose of attaining a better quality of life through, including but not limited to:
- a) The attainment of sustainable human settlements and environments, and
  - b) The theory, practice and implementation of all aspects of urban and rural planning and environmental management, at local, regional, national and international levels.
- 2.5 CAP currently represents over 40 000 planners from 31 countries throughout the Commonwealth including the United Kingdom and its territories, African, Asian, Australasian and Caribbean countries. The Commonwealth Association of Planners seeks to focus and develop the skills of urban and regional planners across the Commonwealth to meet the challenges of urbanisation and the sustainable development of human settlements.
- 2.6 CAP has links with its members, with other professional associations, and with non-governmental organisations involved in the struggle to improve human settlements, to alleviate poverty and to move towards sustainable development. CAP welcomes opportunities to participate in activities which bring together planners and communities and /or other professionals. CAP also has a Women in Planning network, Young Planners network, East Africa Planning Network and Climate Action Working Group and plays a leading role in advancing the planning profession in the Commonwealth and globally.

- 2.7 In 2016 CAP delegates from across the Commonwealth met in Fiji and agreed to the CAP Fiji Declaration. The Declaration calls on Commonwealth Governments at national, sub national and local levels to take actions as a matter of urgency to help deliver UN-Habitat's New Urban Agenda (approved at Habitat III in Quito in October) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG11 to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. In taking such actions the Declaration calls on Governments to recognise the crucial role of planners and spatial planning in achieving success.
- 2.8 The NZPI, established in 1949, has over 2000 members. NZPI is committed to Empowering Planners and Promoting Planning Excellence throughout New Zealand. NZPI, as a member of CAP, along with Planning Institute of Australia (PIA), has also committed to assisting the Pacific planning community to revisit Pacific Island Planners Association (PIPA) and form a strong Pacific association. The NZPI has formed the Aotearoa Pacific Practitioners Group to facilitate networks and support for the Pacific planning community.
- 2.9 Global agreements made by the United Nations with its member states call for greater collaboration and partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society, including, but not limited to:
- a) The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015)
  - b) The Paris Agreement on Climate Change, or Paris Climate Accord (2015)
  - c) The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, known as the Sustainable Development Goals (2015)
  - d) The New Urban Agenda (2016).

### **3. AIM**

- 3.1 The aim of this document is to record an understanding between EAROPH International, EAROPH Australia, and CAP with the support of the NZPI to renew a 'PIPA' operating as EAROPH (Pacific) to cooperate in establishing closer links that may involve:
- The exchange of expertise and knowledge
  - Capacity building, professional development and accreditation
  - Enhanced cultural and historical understanding
  - Jointly pursuing collaborative sustainable development projects
  - Conducting discussions on the progress of, and planning for, joint ventures, funding opportunities, partnerships with government and academic bodies and issues of common concern.
- 3.2 EAROPH and CAP with the support of NZPI will collaborate in developing protocols and strategies for offering complementary support networks that respond to the needs and aspirations of individuals and organisations concerned with planning for human settlements in the Pacific Region.

**4. STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING**

- 4.1 This document is a statement of understanding and is not intended to create binding or legal obligations on any of its parties.
- 4.2 This MoU between EAROPH International, EAROPH Australia and CAP shall have a life duration of three years.
- 4.3 This MoU was signed at the Fifth UN Pacific Urban Forum (PUF-5), Nadi, Fiji, on the 3rd day of July, 2019. It was reconsidered in August 2023 by all parties and agreed by CAP and EAROPH to extend it for a further year to enable the partnership to be fully reviewed.
- 4.4 This document is re-signed at the sixth UN Pacific Urban Forum (PUF 6), Suva Fiji, on the 7th day of September 2023.

EXECUTION PAGE

EXECUTED as a Memorandum of Understanding

SIGNED for and on behalf of

EAROPH Australia as represented by:

Peter Cuming - President  
Name and position (print)

Peter Cuming  
Signature

7/9/23  
Date

Commonwealth Association of Planners as represented by:

Mere Naulumatua - President Fiji Planners Asst  
Name and position (print)

M Naulumatua  
Signature

7 September, 2023  
Date

EAROPH International as represented by:

MAZRINA ABDUL KHALID - SECRETARY GENERAL  
Name and position (print)

Mazrina  
Signature of witness

7/9/2023  
Date