

Memorandum of Understanding

Between

Association of Automotive Parts & Components Manufacturers

And

Office of Mayor, City of Lansing

And

Lansing Economic Area Partnership

And

Michigan Economic Development Corporation

And

Prima Civitas Foundation

And

Turkish Resource Center of North America

June 5, 2012

Association of Automotive Parts & Components Manufacturers (“TAYSAD”), Office of Mayor-City of Lansing, Lansing Economic Area Partnership (“LEAP”), Michigan Economic Development Corporation (“MEDC”), Prima Civitas Foundation (“PCF”), and Turkish Resource Center of North America (“TRCNA”), sign this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) on June 5, 2012 to declare their willingness in developing business cooperation between each other. TAYSAD, Office of Mayor-City of Lansing, LEAP, MEDC, PCF, and TRCNA are hereinafter sometimes referred to individually as the “Party” and sometimes referred to collectively the “Parties”.

Future Economic Relationship

In 2009, speaking to the Turkish parliament, President Obama noted that trade and cooperation in science and research between the U.S. and Turkey has steadily advanced. Accordingly, the U.S. Administration and Turkish government decided to upgrade their bilateral economic relations with a new scheme called "Framework for Strategic Economic and Commercial Cooperation" (FSECC), which is expected to give a new momentum to bilateral commercial transactions and mutual investment flows. It is of utmost importance to align efforts from the federal and state level to mutually benefit from this model partnership.

It is crucial to explore all avenues for increasing trade activities in order to take advantage of business opportunities presented by attractive business environments and strong industries. The involvement of the public sector plays a crucial role in providing guidance to private sector enterprises and facilitating trade and investment activities. In this regard, the Parties agreed to jointly form the Business Cooperation Initiative" (BCI).

The objective of this initiative is to facilitate trade and strategic business alliance between business communities in North America and Turkey through collaboration, investment, and member exchange by the Parties.

In order to facilitate effective communication between the above parties, the Office of the Commercial Attaché at the Consulate General of Turkey in Chicago, is being considered to act as the designated liaison on matters interrelated with this MOU.

Objectives of BCI

In order to achieve the prospective benefits of BCI, the Parties realize the following will aid in future endeavors:

- Embracing the ideals of free and fair trade with one another for the mutual benefit of one another's economies.
- Strongly supporting the others' promotional trade and investment programs that will be conducted to help private sector companies explore possible strategic partnership options;
- Assisting each other to disseminate potential economic opportunities to business organizations and companies in order to further increase trade and investment promotion efforts;
- Assisting each other to connect their relevant business organizations to form awareness about potential business opportunities, trade, and investment opportunities and other economic incentives;
- Supporting each other to organize business seminars and conferences to inform companies about the business environment and to encourage both business communities to participate in such endeavors;

- Exploring possibilities of jointly organizing investment promotion conferences or seminars, which will include the attendance of relevant business organizations;
- Discussing possible collaboration in economic areas;
- Exchanging information on best practices in the field of investment development and entrepreneurship;
- Supporting innovation and technology transfer in small and medium enterprises;
- Extending assistance to business school visits in order to foster cooperation between business circles;
- Establishing trade and investment committees and subcommittees to facilitate interaction among business communities;
- Engaging in member exchange including but not limited to engineers, designers, and managers for mutual collaboration.

Consensus

This MOU represents the current consensus between the TAYSAD, Office of Mayor-City of Lansing, LEAP, MEDC, PCF, and TRCNA to enhance and develop cooperation and a process of collaboration between and among the Parties. This MOU does not constitute a binding agreement or contract; it creates no rights, liabilities, responsibilities, or obligations between or among the Parties or their respective states under any law whatsoever, international or domestic, and nothing in this MOU shall be interpreted or construed to create such rights, liabilities, responsibilities or obligations. The only intent of this MOU is to establish a dialogue between and among the Parties.

In Witness Whereof, this MOU has been executed in two original copies by each Party hereto by its duly authorized representative on the fifth day of June 2012, in Istanbul, Turkey.

For
Association of Automotive Parts & Components Manufacturers


Mehmet Dudaroglu Date: 5 June 2012

For
Office of Mayor- City of Lansing


Virg Benero Date: 5 June 2012

For
Lansing Economic Area Partnership


Ray Dewinkle Date: 5 June 2012

For
Michigan Economic Development Corporation


Lindsay Eister Date: 5 June 2012

For
Prima Civitas Foundation



Steve Webster

Date: 5 June 2012

For
Turkish Resource Center of North America



Nurten Ural

Date: 5 June 2012