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PRESS RELEASE

Peter Beerwerth, German Representative in Ramallah, opens the third German-Palestinian Municipal Partnership Conference in Jericho

On Monday September 11, the German Representative in Ramallah, Peter Beerwerth, officially opened the third German-Palestinian Municipal Partnership Conference in Jericho. The conference is organized by The Service Agency Communities in One World, which is part of Global Engagement. At the opening ceremony, Dr Jens Kreuter, Managing Director of Engagement Global, as well as Musa Hadid, President of the Association of Palestinian Local Authorities and Mayor of the City of Ramallah addressed the audience.

In his opening remarks Peter Beerwerth stressed: „We are proud that there are already ten established German-Palestinian partnerships at the municipal level and three more partnerships are currently in the pipeline. These partnerships exemplify the vivid exchange between Palestinians and Germans and, hence, they are an important element of the German-Palestinian cooperation. The government of the Federal Republic of Germany will continue its support of those partnerships“.

More than 80 experts from local authorities as well as mayors from 28 German and Palestinian municipalities will gather in Jericho for the joint conference taken place from Sunday, 10 September to Wednesday, 13 September 2017. The Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW), part of Engagement Global, is hosting the event in cooperation with the Association of German Cities (Deutscher Städtetag), the German Organisation for International Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ), the municipality of Jericho and the Association of Palestinian local Authorities (APLA).

The conference has the aim of strengthening and further building German-Palestinian municipal partnerships. It will also provide participants with a platform for networking and for mutual, technical exchange, as well as offering them an opportunity for developing or further elaborating joint project ideas on the local level.

This year's 2017 conference builds on the results of the German-Palestinian conferences held in November 2014 in Ramallah and Bethlehem, as well as in November 2015 in Jena.

Currently, there are ten established (project) partnerships: Cologne - Bethlehem, Jena - Beit Jala, Bergisch Gladbach - Beit Jala, Xanten - Beit Sahour, Hebron - Mannheim, Nuremberg - Nablus, Bad Oldesloe – Jifna, Bonn - Ramallah, Bielefeld - Zababdeh and Speyer - Jericho. In addition, a number of municipalities, as in the case of Moers – Beitunia, are about to initiate new partnerships.

For further information, please contact:

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Additional information:

For information about the partnerships with municipalities in the Palestinian territories:
<https://skew.engagement-global.de/partnerschaften-mit-kommunen-in-den-palaestinensischen-gebieten.html>