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Letter of support for The International Student City of Copenhagen

As a small country with an open economy and few natural resources on which to build a sustainable and prosperous society, Denmark is dependent on having a well-educated and dynamic population with strong international ties. A crucial part of building such a population is to ensure that Danish students build strong personal ties with fellow students from other countries, either by working or studying abroad or by meeting students from other countries during their time at leading Danish universities.

The International Student City of Copenhagen is an exciting and visionary project that will help positioning Copenhagen as a leading European centre of education and offer much needed accommodation to international and Danish students alike. The Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris is the prime example of how an international student city can foster international awareness, academic exchange and growth for individuals and societies as well as affordable accommodation for students, which is at a premium in major cities. As a university that grows rapidly, not least in terms of international students, Aalborg University Copenhagen strongly feels how desperate the housing situation currently is for students in Copenhagen. The situation gets more critical for each year, and accommodation for another 5,000 students will be most welcome. It is with pleasure that we give our strongest support to the project and pledge to participate in a reference or steering committee if so desired.

The projected location for the International Student City of Copenhagen is ideal, both for Aalborg University Copenhagen specifically, for the other institutions of higher learning and for Copenhagen as a whole. By situating the city close to a Metro station, the most central sites as the airport, the universities and the city centre will be within easy reach. Besides this, the project will contribute to making the area into a vibrant and attractive new quarter. So all in all, the vision for the International Student City of Copenhagen is ambitious, needed and will be of high value to Denmark as a knowledge society and to Copenhagen as a centre of research and higher learning, and Aalborg University Copenhagen is proud to support it.

Yours sincerely

Lene Lange, Professor and Research Director Aalborg University, Denmark Campus director, AAU Cph