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Brussels, 24 January 2022

Dear colleagues, dear Eurocities members,

Please find enclosed the Eurocities invoice for your city's 2022 membership fee. As you will see, the fee remains unchanged from last year.

In 2021, while still adapting to the new circumstances for working and living, Eurocities has become a stronger network, with over 200 cities now part of the community. 2021 saw the launch of the online collaboration space, an essential tool to ensure a greater participation of all member cities, easier peer-to-peer exchanges, more transparency and more information on activities and meetings, as requested by members.

2022 will see new changes for Eurocities. As you know, Anna Lisa Boni, Eurocities secretary general from June 2014 to December 2021, has taken up a new role of Deputy Mayor in Bologna. The Executive Committee, with the support of a specialised headhunting agency, is managing the recruitment process to ensure that a new secretary general is in place in time for the <u>Eurocities annual conference 2022</u> in Espoo.

During the interim period, business continuity, the continued implementation of our strategic framework and meeting our commitments towards our members will be fully ensured by the Brussels office. The work will be based on the <u>work programme 2022</u> to make the most of the many opportunities ahead: learning and sharing, recovery and post-pandemic actions, access to finance and boosting cities' influence.

The Brussels office and I are looking forward to continuing working with you to reinforce the role of cities in Europe. We look forward to meeting in person in Espoo on 8-10 June 2022.

Dorthe Nielsen

Executive director (acting secretary general) Eurocities