



## Office of the Mayor

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### **Mayor Soglin Signs New Sister City Agreement with City of Kanifing, the Gambia**

To further the ties of friendship and understanding between Madison and the city of Kanifing, the Gambia, Mayor Soglin and Kanifing Chief Executive Officer PaKilifa Sanyang today signed an agreement establishing a sister city relationship. The agreement affirms their mutual aspiration to work in unison for the benefit of their cities. Chief Executive Officer Sanyang, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Lands and Regional Administration Bulli Dibba and Pierre Minteh of the Embassy of the Gambia in Washington, D.C. led a delegation to attend this evening's Madison Common Council meeting.

"Madison gains so much from our sister city relationships with other cities around the world," said Madison Mayor Paul Soglin. "Kanifing is our first Sister City in Africa and because of the many ties our residents have to that country, it is appropriate that it is in the Gambia."

"The agreement establishes that the City of Madison and the City of Kanifing, on the basis of friendly cooperation, equality and mutual benefit, will work together to promote and broaden the cultural, academic and economic relations between the two cities," said 17<sup>th</sup> District Alder Samba Baldeh. "The agreement reaffirms a commitment to work together to carry out exchanges in such fields as science, medicine, commerce, art and culture, public health, sports, tourism and others. This relationship, like those with other Sister Cities, helps establish relationships, and contributes toward the development of deeper bonds of mutual understanding between the two cities."

Kanifing will be Madison's ninth sister city. The sister city program was first established in 1998 with the belief that person-to-person ties are the strongest and work to create peace and a better understanding of all cultures.