

**Memorandum of Understanding
Rainbow Cities Network**

The Rainbow Cities agree:

Local governments have responsibilities in a wide range of policy areas and provide services to all their citizens. They make sure that all citizens are treated equally and have equal access to services provided by the local administration. Furthermore, they are responsible for creating an environment that is defined by respect for diversity and inclusion. Within mainstreaming diversity, implementation of local LGBT(I) policies is an important element.

The Rainbow Cities Network as a means to strengthen local LGBT(I) policies

Local governments are becoming more committed to establishing LGBT(I) Policies to promote safety, equality, self-determination, empowerment and social inclusion within their cities and beyond.

The participating local governments within the Rainbow Cities Network share a commitment to ensuring that LGBT(I) people are fully included without facing any form of discrimination or violence in the city. Therefore, Rainbow Cities commit themselves to playing an active part in this. In order to do so they join forces and form the Rainbow Cities Network.

The main objectives of the Network are:

- Promoting the inclusion of LGBT(I) people and increase visibility of LGBT(I) issues;
- Sharing experiences, expertise, materials, good practices and challenges;
- Exploring possible common actions on special days, events or occasions;
- Developing projects / collaboration between two or more cities.

Every Rainbow City commits itself to:

- Executing and enhancing an active LGBT(I) policy or mainstreaming LGBT(I) issues within the general local policies;
- Designating one or two representative(s) of the municipal administration in charge of LGBT(I) issues to participate in the Network. This representative will participate at the annual meeting and actively contribute to the exchange within the Network;
- Contributing to the exchange within the Network by annually drawing up an overview of their actions with regard to LGBT(I) policies in the provided template. This one pager will become publicly available via the Rainbow Cities Network website.

Signed and agreed upon by

Title:

Representing:

Acknowledgement:

The Rainbow Cities Network (RCN) appreciates the efforts and support of the Dutch Government as well as the City of Amsterdam for bringing together different cities with an active LGBT(I) policy and for encouraging the creation of a network.