

Regional Council of Lapland

Finland

Att: Päivi Ekdahl, County Governor

Dok.nr:

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Deres ref:

Avdeling: Stab

Saksbehandler: Natalia J.Z. Karlsen

Dato: 10.10.2024

## Cooperation agreement between Regional Council of Lapland and Finnmark County Council

Dear Ms. Päivi Ekdahl,

Lapland and Finnmark Counties have longstanding traditions of cooperation across our common border. We have close historical ties, similar challenges and opportunities. This forms a strong foundation for our bilateral cooperation. The first formal four-years cooperation agreement between the Finnmark County Council and the Regional Council of Lapland to develop our cross-border cooperation was signed in September 2017 in Vadsø. This agreement expired in 2020.

The Finnmark County Council sees a great need to strengthen cross-border cooperation with Lapland County, especially considering the new geopolitical situation. Finnmark's county-splitting process from Troms has also given new importance to review our international involvement. In May 2024, the Head Committee of the Finnmark County Council decided to renew our bilateral cooperation agreement for a new four-years period.

The Administration of Finnmark County Council has been given the responsibility of defining the priorities of our future cooperation. To make the cooperation agreement relevant and beneficial for both parties, we would like to invite the Regional Council of Lapland to start a joint elaboration of the agreement content.

Best regards,

Øvstein Ruud **County Administrative Director**  Natalia J. Z.Karlsen Special Adviser

Dokumentet er elektronisk godkjent og har ingen signatur



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