



Dear UNESCO Secretariat

As the Mayor of the Madinah Region, I have the pleasure and honor to writing this letter to officially present and endorse the Candidature of Al Madinah to the UNESCO Creative Cities Network, Gastronomy cluster, 2025 Call.

My role encompasses overseeing the implementation of strategic plans and fostering community engagement to enhance the quality of life for all residents In my capacity we have recognized the UNESCO Creative City Network as the most appropriate framework to properly connect local heritage to international dialogue. The acceptance of Al Madinah into the activities of the UCCN and the related opportunities to dialogue and exchange our century-old traditions and creativity power will be a game changer to Madinah 2 millions residents and to the 14 millions annual visitors.

For over 2500 years, Al Madinah has been exposed to different traditions and ceremonies, poetry and stories, foods and ingredients, preparation techniques and tools that have shaped the unique identity of the city and have transformed it today into a natural oasis of biodiversity of global significance and into a cosmopolitan city. Al Madinah's cultural significance lies in many historical and geographical elements, like having been a key node of the caravan routes, an abundance of natural resources, and, since 1400 years ago, in its central role in the life of the Muslim communities around the world, as the second holiest city in Islam. Historically and today Al Madinah's region represents the most important agricultural oasis in the Hiajaz with abundance of water, fertile volcanic soil and an ideal climate for over 130 varieties of date palms, herbs, spices, grains, honey and fruits.

Engagement of Al Madinha's citizens and their distinctive hospitality, reinforced by local NGOs, bind people of many nationalities, races, and backgrounds into today's Al Madinah. The recognition by UNESCO will certify the unique carактер of Al Madinah and promote within our community the beauty of our unique food culture, making everyone proud to want to maintain its core values and traditional practices.

Al Madinah Al Mounawarah hosts a variety of Food and Beverage events that play a significant role in shaping its unique value proposition, highlighting the region's rich culinary heritage and fostering its position as a vibrant cultural and gastronomic destination such as the date festival where Ajwah (one of the finest date type) is being featured and promoted

أمانة منطقة المدينة المنورة

نوع المعاملة: صادر

رقم المعاملة: ٤٦٠٠٠٣٨٥٠٩

تاريخ المعاملة ميلادي: ٢٠٢٥-٠١-٢٨

تاريخ المعاملة هجري: ١٤٤٦-٠٧-٢٨

المرفقات: لا يوجد

أمانة منطقة
المدينة المنورة
Madinah Regional Municipality



In 2024 Al Madinah was included in the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities with a people-centric vision to stimulate innovation, promote cultural diversity, integrate technology, support lifelong learning and establish knowledge-sharing partnerships.

We have been working on the master plan for the candidature for over 4 years, and we have been able to reach a formal agreement with a wide range of local, national, and international partners that are supportive of our candidature and ready to interact with the creative people of Al Madinah.

Let me express my wish that the UNESCO will consider our candidature appropriate to enter the UNESCO Creative Cities Network and allow our community to start contributing to the growth and interchange of ideas into the Network.

With kindest regards.

**Mayor of the Municipality of
Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah Region,**

Fahad Mohammed Al-Buliheshi