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**Kopi:**

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**Emne:** To Revitalize Sister City Relationship between Ningxia, P.R.China and Sogn og Fjordane County

**Vedlegg:**

To: H.E. Jenny Følling,

Mayor and Chairman

Council of Sogn og Fjordane County

The Kingdom of Norway

Dear Mm. Jenny Følling,

Foreign Affairs Office of the people's Government of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China hereby presents its compliments to you.

This letter is intended to revitalize the friendly exchanges and cooperation between Ningxia and Sogn og Fjordane County on the basis of the sister city relationship signed in 2005. On December 2016, *The Declaration of Normalization Bilateral Ties between The People's Republic of China and The Kingdom of Norway* was issued and the last few years witnessed good momentum of development between the two countries in various areas like economy and trade, science and technology, education, people-to-people exchanges, etc.

The relationship between Ningxia and Sogn og Fjordane County can be traced back to 2001 and friendly exchanges between the two sides were carried out quite frequently between 2004 and 2010. During this period, Mr. Chen Jianguo, then Secretary of CPC (Communist Party of China) Ningxia Committee, Mr. Wang Zhengwei, then Vice-President of Ningxia, as well as other senior officials visited Sogn og Fjordane County respectively. And then Mayor, Chairman of Culture Committee of Sogn og Fjordane County as well as other government and youth delegation also paid a visit to Ningxia to enhance mutual understanding and friendship.

In recent years, Ningxia, as an important strategic pivot of Belt and Road Initiative, is opening wider to the outside

world. We sincerely hope that the friendship between Ningxia and Sogn og Fjordane County could be continued and it could bear more pragmatic cooperation and other fruitful results. If you agree with us, we will send a government delegation to Sogn og Fjordane County in mid this year to further promote the relationship.

Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region avails of this opportunity to renew to Sogn og Fjordane County Municipality the assurances of its highest consideration.

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