Partnership inked to improve cities

KUALA LUMPUR: Kuching South City Council (MBKS) and Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation in smart city governance, cultural tourism, community wellness and sustainable development.

The MBKS Mayor, Datuk Wee Hong Seng, said the agreement marked the first formal partnership between MBKS and a fellow Malaysian city, despite existing ties with cities in China, South Korea, and Japan.

"This MoU is a commitment to making the Cities of Kuching South and Kuala Lumpur better, stronger, and more liveable," he said, adding that the idea began with a conversation with Kuala Lumpur Mayor Datuk Seri Maimunah Mohd Sharif in Penang last year.

Under the MoU, which was signed yesterday, the councils will share best practices in technology and governance, improve public spaces, promote food heritage and gastronomy tourism, encourage healthy lifestyles, and support environmentally friendly city development. Collaboration will include knowledge exchange, joint events, staff training and study visits.

Wee said MBKS would tap into DBKL's experience in integrated transport, smart city applications, and urban regeneration, while offering its expertise as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy and Craft City, as well as its work in healthy and age-friendly city initiatives.

"This is not a competition. It is a partnership built on mutual respect and shared ambition.

"Together we can build cities that are efficient, sustainable and humane.

"Every citizen, from the youngest child to the oldest resident, should be able to live with dignity, safety, and pride," he said.



WEE and Maimunah at the MoU in Kuala Lumpur.