



**COMMEMORATION OF NATIONAL COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP
BETWEEN THE MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
AND ITS PARTNERS AND CANACINTRA TO PROMOTE
BUILDING AN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC NETWORK IN MEXICO**

Whereas, local government officials in Arizona and Sonora have formed the "Ari-Son" Megaregion and forged an alliance and spirit of cooperation to empower economic opportunity, including expanding business-to-business connections, trade, transportation infrastructure, commerce and tourism; and

Whereas, more than 50 partners in Arizona, including the Arizona Commerce Authority, Arizona Department of Transportation, Arizona Mexico Commission, Canada Arizona Business Council, Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) and the U.S. Commercial Service, have joined together to increase international exports in Arizona; and

Whereas, the Building an International Economic Network (BIEN) database and connection tool, ConnectBIEN.com, was created to strengthen small and medium sized business connections in Arizona and with Mexico and Canada—Arizona's two largest trading partners; and

Whereas, Mexico is the 15th largest economy in the world and represents \$15.9 billion in annual bilateral trade with Arizona; and

Whereas, CANACINTRA (National Chamber of Industry Transformation) represents the largest industrial organization in Mexico and includes companies that enhance business-to-business growth opportunities and expanded supply chain networks in sectors of mutual interest in Arizona, Mexico and Canada; and

Whereas, CANACINTRA is prepared to promote ConnectBIEN.com with its membership and engage in collaborative marketing efforts to forge stronger business connections in the Ari-Son Megaregion, Sinaloa, Baja California and throughout Mexico; now therefore,

We, the signatories below, today commemorate the historic national collaborative partnership between MAG and its partners and CANACINTRA to promote Building an International Economic Network (BIEN) in Mexico and pledge our commitment to work together to strengthen business-to-business connections in the Arizona, Mexico and Canada trade region.

Signed this 20th day of August, 2015,

Mayor W. "Jim" Lane, City of Scottsdale
Chair, Regional Council
Maricopa Association of Governments

Ing. Rodrigo Alpizar Vallejo
National President
CANACINTRA

Mayor John W. Lewis, Town of Gilbert
Chair, Economic Development Committee
Maricopa Association of Governments

WITNESSED:

Mayor Jonathan Rothschild, City of Tucson
Host City, League of Arizona Cities and Towns
2015 Annual Conference

Kim Sabow, Policy Advisor for International
Affairs and Strategic Initiatives and Executive
Director of the Arizona Mexico Commission,
Office of the Arizona Governor Doug Ducey