



## *AFFILIATIONS POLICY*

Sister Cities International discourages U.S. cities from affiliating with a foreign city that already has a U.S. affiliation and will not recognize any such attempt. Over the years, it has been demonstrated that the strength and stability of a sister city relationship depends heavily on a unique one-to-one relationship. Self initiated attempts by a U.S. city to establish a sister city affiliation with a foreign city that already has an active, recognized U.S. sister city will not be recognized by SCI, and, if pursued independently, will not be acknowledged or listed in the annual directory of Sister Cities.

SCI further, discourages U.S. cities from affiliating with more than one city in the same overseas country. Efforts by cities abroad to create multiple affiliations in the U.S. or by U.S. cities to affiliate with more than one city in the same country overseas serve to dilute those characteristics which create the working environment for long-term success. If the U.S. community can support more than one sister city program, it ought to broaden its horizons and offer its citizens friendships with people in a diversity of cultures and nations. As of this date, any duplicate affiliation launched without respect of this policy of the national association will not be recognized, as previously stated, and will not be eligible for any services or grants programs from SCI.

This does not preclude other international links such as universities, Chambers of Commerce, service clubs, etc., but refers only to official sister cities affiliations.

**Adopted July 28, 1990**