



The British Syrian Society

2. Better mechanisms should be established for the coordination of international support bodies concerned with urban development working with the various government agencies.

3. There should be an immediate pause in the implementation of the current proposals in the King Faisal Street area, including expropriation processes.

4. Any project for the King Faisal Street Area should not put at risk the historical urban fabric in the northern outskirts of the city intra muros or isolate the old city from what was its natural expansion scheme throughout history.

5. The establishment of a King Faisal Street Area Task Force fully representative of all relevant government agencies, taking advantage of the available international assistance, to formulate a broad strategy for resolving current difficulties and establishing future directions.

6. The UNESCO World Heritage Centre should be consulted throughout the process of revising the project of King Faisal Street area and any other similar project.

7. Legal consultations of how the issues arising from existing expropriations in the King Faisal St. area might be dealt with in case the properties prove to be not after all necessary.

8. Clarification of the status and accuracy of the available information for the area.

9. The holding of a series of events both formal and informal to fully explore the detailed views of involved stakeholders in the area.

10. The development of a Vision for the King Faisal Street area to take account of the city needs and the World Heritage status constraints in a balanced way and in accord with realistic assumptions, in so far as they can be ascertained, concerning the overall future direction for the city. This Vision to include consideration of:

- urban structural issues,
- heritage protection,
- traffic management,
- the environment,
- economic and social development, and
- urban design.

11. The development of a number of pilot projects in the King Faisal St. area to include:

- Increasing the efficiency of local traffic management
- Improving the street layouts of the existing street
- Implementation of specific restoration projects according to internationally acknowledged standards

These pilot projects would serve to demonstrate alternative solutions but should be timed to ensure that some work on the ground is taking place in time for the Year of Damascus as Arabic Cultural Capital, and should be undertaken with full consultation from the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and other stakeholders.

