

AT 13TH SEA-PAC MEETING

Madam/Mr. Chair,

Ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, on behalf of the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam's delegation, I would like to present our best compliments and wishes to the Chair and all delegates. I would also like to convey our sincere thanks to the Office of Ombudsman of Philippines for their great efforts in organizing the 13th SEA-PAC Meeting.

Madam/Mr. Chair,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Over the past years, Vietnam has always made efforts to prevent and combat corruption; actively cooperate with other countries in the ASEAN region and around the world to jointly prevent and drive back corruption, thereby contributing to maintaining the political stability and socio-economic development of each country, of the ASEAN region and moving towards the realization of the common goals of the international community.

During that process, in 2017, the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam (GIV) has also endeavored to carry out anti-corruption missions, achieving positive results in various areas, including many important progresses associated with the implementation of SEA-PAC Action Plan 2017-2019, specifically as follows:

1. Implementation of SEA-PAC Action Plan 2017-2019

1.1. Improvement of anti-corruption legal framework

GIV took the lead role in reviewing 10 years of implementing Law on Anti-corruption and build the revised Law on Anti-corruption. In the new revised draft law submitted to the National Assembly in October 2017, GIV assisted the Government of Vietnam to propose the supplementation of provisions on integrity and on building of a healthy, corruption-free culture; on anti-corruption measures in business activities in accordance with objectives and actions of SEA-PAC Action Plan 2017-2019.

GIV also coordinated the building of Action Plan of the Government on Anti-corruption towards 2020, moving towards a synchronous and effective to enhance the investment environment and boost economic growth. Pillars of SEA-PAC Action Plan 2017-2019 have been concretized as relevant tasks of the Government of Vietnam from now towards 2020, including:

(i) Integrating anti-corruption into education and training curriculum; propagating; enhancing social awareness of integrity; encouraging agencies and

organizations to build and implement integrity standards; joining integrity and anti-corruption commitments and initiatives;

(ii) Expanding anti-corruption scope to cover non-state sector in order to create a healthy investment environment, protect rights of the State, investors and social security activities...

(iii) Strengthening negotiation and signing of treaties on mutual legal assistance, extradition, agreements on cooperation in anti-crime and anti-corruption with other countries in the region and all over the world, especially those countries that have traditional relation with Vietnam or where a great number of Vietnamese people are living.

1.2. Strengthening capacity and operations of anti-corruption bodies/units

The Government of Vietnam endorsed the oriented plan on consolidating apparatus and functions, duties of anti-corruption bodies and units in the direction of giving them more power, responsibility and independence in performing duties.

In August 2017, Vietnam established the Steering Committee on development of the project "Researching and proposing models of anti-corruption agencies and units" to research and apply new models or improve the current model in order to strengthen capacity and effectiveness of anti-corruption agencies and units.

Vietnam's anti-corruption agencies and units have strengthened their capacities and at the same time, continue their operations, particularly the promotion of state management, investigation and prosecution of corruption cases. From October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017, Vietnam trialled 205 cases, 433 people were accused of corruption, 8 of them were sentenced to life imprisonment or death penalty. Anti-corruption agencies of Vietnam have also worked closely with the judicial authorities of concerned countries to arrest and extradite criminals fleeing and to recover corrupt assets that have been dispersed and hid in foreign countries.

1.3. Widening international cooperation in anti-corruption

GIV developed a plan and roadmap on completing the UNCAC implementation review for the second review cycle in June 2018.

Based on the results of the first review cycle, Vietnam has been revising and improving the legislation, enhancing the internalization of UNCAC provisions such as those on anti-corruption agencies, anti-corruption in private sector, imposing criminal sanction on legal persons...In coming time, along with the UNCAC implementation review for the second cycle, Vietnam will continue to push greater efficiency in the implementation of UNCAC, particularly in strengthening mutual legal assistance; information exchange; technical assistance; fully participation in the convention-related events.

In the ASEAN region, SEA-PAC is the most important multilateral anti-corruption forum for Vietnam. Vietnam always participates fully in the SEA-PAC agenda and always strives to implement SEA-PAC declarations, commitments and agreements, especially the implementation of the SEA-PAC Action Plan 2017-2019 as stated above. In addition, Vietnam is also engaged in multilateral and bilateral cooperation in anti-corruption.

2. Recommendations

In general, during the implementation of the SEA-PAC MoU, the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam finds that all the parties of the Group are very sincere, active and have made great efforts to cooperate. This cooperation will also become increasingly meaningful for each party and country, especially in the context of SEA-PAC becoming an ASEAN-associated entity. However, it seems that the cooperation activities are not really plentiful and there lacks a specific mechanism to promote cooperation activities more closely and effectively.

We recommend that agencies continue to promote the implementation of the SEA-PAC 2017-2019 Action Plan, regard this as a living plan that can be complemented and updated with the activities annually. We would also like to recommend that SEA-PAC enhance cooperation with other relevant international organizations, including UNODC to better obtain our common goals.

Therefore, the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam appreciates the initiative of developing the SEA-PAC Guidelines of co-operation or Terms of reference or any other name agreed upon by the Group and recommend all SEA-PAC parties to build and implement the guidelines to further strengthen, deepen and enhance the effectiveness of the MoU that we signed, and to contribute to the promotion of implementation of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in the Southeast Asia, for the sake of peace, stability, security, prosperity as well as ASEAN unity and solidarity.

Thank you./.



VIETNAM'S EFFORTS IN IMPLEMENTING SEA-PAC ACTION PLAN 2017 - 2019

*Mr. Ngo Mạnh Hung, Deputy Director General
Anti-corruption Bureau – The Government Inspectorate of Vietnam*

1.1. Improvement of anti-corruption legal framework



Improvement of anti-corruption legal framework

reviewing 10 years of implementing LAC

Submit the revised LAC

Integrity mechanism

Business culture

Anti-corruption in non-state sector

Implementation of SEA-PAC Action Plan 2017-2019

Implement in accordance with SEA-PAC objectives and actions
- Concretized as relevant tasks of the Government of Vietnam

Building of Action Plan of the Government on Anti-corruption towards 2020

Education and training on anti-corruption

Propaganda, dissemination of laws

Promote integrity culture

Improve investment environment

Strengthen MLA



1.2. Strengthening capacity and operations of anti-corruption bodies/units

- **Endorsed the oriented plan on consolidating apparatus**
- **Researching and proposing models of anti-corruption agencies and units**
- **Promotion of state management, investigation and prosecution of corruption cases**
- **Results of 12 months:**
 - **Trialled 205 cases, 433 accused of corruption**
 - **8 people were sentenced to life imprisonment or death penalty**



1.3. Widening international cooperation in anti-corruption

- ❖ **Develop a plan and roadmap on completing the UNCAC implementation review for the second review cycle in June 2018**
 - ❖ **Based on the results of the first review cycle, revise and improve the legislation, enhance the internalization of UNCAC**
 - ❖ **Strengthen mutual legal assistance; information exchange; full participation in the UNCAC-related events**
 - ❖ **Implement SEA-PAC declarations, commitments and agreements**
 - ❖ **Engage in multilateral and bilateral cooperation in anti-corruption**
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4. Recommendations

1. Continue to promote the implementation of the SEA-PAC 2017-2019 Action Plan, regard this as a living plan that can be complemented and updated with the activities annually; enhance cooperation with other relevant international organizations, including UNODC to better obtain our common goals.
2. Develop the SEA-PAC Guidelines of co-operation or Terms of reference or any other name agreed upon by the Group and build and implement the guidelines to further strengthen, deepen and enhance the effectiveness of the MoU that we signed, and to contribute to the promotion of implementation of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in the Southeast Asia, for the sake of peace, stability, security, prosperity as well as ASEAN unity and solidarity