MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND

ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF LABOUR AND INDUSTRIAL POLICIES

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Government of the Republic of Finland (hereinafter referred to as "the Participants");

Recalling the Memorandum of Understanding on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Ministry of Employment and the Economy of the Republic of Finland, signed on 21st February 2008 in Hanoi;

Recalling the Sub-Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation established under the Inter-governmental Joint Commission in accordance with Article 3 of the Agreement on Economic, Scientific, Industrial, Technological and Trade Cooperation between the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Government of the Republic of Finland, signed on 11th November 1994 in Hanoi;

Recognizing the key role that adequate and effective Labour and Industrial Policy play in economic development of Vietnam and subsequently in the trade, economic and industrial and development cooperation between Vietnam and Finland;

With an aim at expressing a renewed commitment to revitalize and strengthen the bilateral cooperation in the field of Labour and Industrial policies between Vietnam and Finland to match with the fruitful relationship between the two countries;

Have reached the following understanding:

1) To enhance cooperation in the field of Labour and Industrial Policies, by the former referring especially to the labour force issues such as employment and labour market policies, vocational training and labour mobility, and by the latter meaning, inter alia, the measures targeted to promote innovativeness, regional development, sustainable energy solutions and environmental issues;

2) To implement this renewed cooperation, among other measures, by the following forms:

a) Sharing of know-how, exchange of experience by joint expert-level meetings as well as research results and publications in the fields of mutual interest and competence;

b) Exchange of civil servants and project personnel and organizing study tours for training of persons involved and for mediating the best practises in order to develop relevant systems and networks;

c) Coordinating the activities of enterprises and public actors in the field of this MOU;

d) Organizing seminars, symposia and relevant training courses of mutual interest and competence;

e) Assigning a responsible coordinator for both Participants with a duty to oversee the implementation of this MOU and to report back to the Participants regularly on the measures taken and on the impact achieved.

3) Unless otherwise agreed upon, projects or activities referred to in paragraph 2 will be carried out according to the individual contracts to be concluded between direct cooperation participants to each project or activity. Such projects or activities may also be funded, inter alia, from Finnish official development assistance, international development banks or by other public and private financing sources, subject to the respective policies and procedures of these. Initiatives for funding within the framework of official development assistance will be considered by the competent authorities of Vietnam and Finland without prejudice to the principles and objectives set in the bilateral framework agreement between Vietnam and Finland on official development assistance or to the biennial consultation mechanism. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland is the responsible authority for the development cooperation by the Government of the Republic of Finland.

4) The Participants intend not to disclose to third parties information and knowledge acquired in the course of implementation of this MOU without prior consent of the other coordinative or direct cooperation participant.

5) This MOU will come and remain in effect upon its signing unless either of the Participants notifies in writing the other Participant of its intention to terminate it giving three months notice.

6) Any differences between Participants in the interpretation or application of this MOU will be settled amicably by mutual consultation.

7) This MOU is not intended to supersede national law or international obligations by which the Participants are bound. The Participants will notify each other in case of any conflict arising from this MOU.

Signed in duplicate in Hanoi on November 16th 2009 in the English language.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Nguyen Tan Dung
Prime Minister

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND

Matti Vanhanen
Prime Minister