MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

No. 77 /BNG-LPQT

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam and, with reference to the Ministry's Note, N°. JPK 171/2023 dated on 11./02/2023 concerning the extension of the visa waiver period for diplomatic and official passport holders, has the honour to inform the latter as follows:

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam fully accepts the proposal of the Bruneian Side mentioned in the above-mentioned Note, comprising the following provisions:

"The Government of Brunei Darussalam and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, hereinafter referred to individually as the "Party" and jointly as the "Parties";

Recalling the Notes on Visa Exemptions Arrangement exchanged between both Parties dated 10 October 1997 and 21 November 1997 respectively, hereinafter referred to as "1997 Visa Exemption Arrangement"; and

Desiring to strengthen the friendly relations and cooperation between two countries;

Have agreed as follows:

1. The period for which the citizens of both Parties holding valid diplomatic or official passports with minimum validity of six (6) months may enter into, stay in, exit from or transit through the territory of the other Party through the border points open for international passenger traffic, without a visa for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days.

To:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN

2. Citizens of both Parties who are assigned as a member of a diplomatic mission or consular office or representative to an international organisation located in the territory of the other Party, in possession of a valid diplomatic or official passport, shall not be required to obtain a visa to enter and stay in the territory of the other Party for the period of his/her official duties.

3. Paragraph 2 shall also apply to the spouse and children of the individuals listed out in Paragraph 2, provided that they are holders of valid diplomatic or official passport, or that the children's names are entered in their father's or mother's diplomatic or official passport.

4. Notification of the names of such persons referred to in Paragraph 2 are to be sent to the competent authorities of each Party within fourteen (14) working days prior to their entry.

5. This Arrangement shall not exempt the holder of a diplomatic or official passport from observing the laws, rules and regulations in force regarding the entry into, stay in and departure from the territory of the respective Party.

6. This Arrangement shall not curtail the right of the competent authorities of either Party to refuse admission or shorten the stay in their territory of citizens of the other Party for reasons including, but not limited to, national security, public order or protection of public health in accordance with their respective laws, regulations and policies.

7. A citizen of either Parties whose valid diplomatic or official passport is lost or has been damaged while in the territory of the other Party shall inform the authorities concerned of the other Party. The diplomatic mission or the consular post of the first Party shall issue such citizen a public instrument attesting such fact to facilitate him/her to continue his/her stay in that territory or to return to his/her country, and shall inform the appropriate authorities of the other Party, upon issuing a new diplomatic or official passport or relevant travel document.

8. For the purposes of this Arrangement, each Party shall transmit to the other, through diplomatic channels, no later than thirty (30) days after the effective date of this Arrangement, the specimen of its respective diplomatic or official passports including a detailed description of each specimen currently used.

9. Each Party shall also transmit to the other, through diplomatic channels, a specimen of its new or modified diplomatic or official passport, including a detailed description of such specimen at least thirty (30) days or such other period deemed appropriate by that Party before it is brought into force.

10. Each Party shall undertake to observe the confidentiality and security of documents, information and other data received or supplied to the other Party during the period of the implementation of this Arrangement and both Parties agree that the provisions of this Paragraph shall continue to be binding notwithstanding the termination of this Arrangement.

11. Any difference or dispute arising from the interpretation and/or implementation and/or application of any of the provisions of this Arrangement shall be settled amicably through mutual consultation and/or negotiations through diplomatic channels.

12. The provisions of this Arrangement may be amended, modified or revised by mutual consent. Such amendments, modifications or revisions shall be reduced in writing through diplomatic channels, and shall enter into force on such date as may be determined by both Parties which shall form an integral part of this Arrangement. Any amendment, modification or revision shall not prejudice the rights and obligations arising from or based on this Arrangement before or up to the date of such amendment, modification or revision.

13. Either Party may partially or fully suspend the implementation of this Arrangement temporarily for reasons of national security, public order or public health. The commencement and termination of such suspension shall be notified as soon as possible through diplomatic channels.

14. This Arrangement shall replace the 1997 Visa Exemption Arrangement and shall remain in force for an indefinite period. Either Party may terminate this Arrangement by notifying the other Party of its intention to terminate by a notice in writing through diplomatic channels. Any such termination shall take effect thirty (30) days after the date of such notification.

If the proposal set forth herein is acceptable to the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, the Government of Brunei Darussalam proposes that this Note and the Affirmative Note in reply of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam shall constitute the Arrangement between

the Government of Brunei Darussalam and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam for holders of valid diplomatic and official passports, which shall enter into force thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the Affirmative Note in reply."

In this regard, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam has further the honour to confirm that this Note and the Ministry's Note (N°. JPK 171/2023 dated on 11./02/2023) shall constitute an Arrangement between the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Government of Brunei Darussalam, which shall enter into force on 14 March 2023.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam the assurances of its highest consideration.

Hanoi, 11 February 2023

