AGREED MINUTES
OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE GOVERNMENTAL JOINT COMMISSION BETWEEN
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
AND
THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN

Khartoum, 16th April 2014

A. INTRODUCTION

1- Pursuant to the Protocol between the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and the Government of Republic of Sudan on the Establishment of a Governmental Joint Commission (GJC) signed in Ha Noi, Viet Nam on 06th November 2013; under the approval of President of the Republic of Sudan and the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, the First Meeting of the GJC was held in Khartoum, Sudan from 14th to 16th April 2014.

2- The First Meeting was presided by H.E. Mr. Vu Van Tam, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Vietnamese Chairman Sub-commission, the Head of Vietnamese delegation and H.E. Dr. Gaafar Ahmed Abdalla Omer – State Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of the Republic of Sudan, Sudanese Chairman Sub-commission, the Head of Sudanese delegation. The lists of the delegates were attached as in Appendices I and II, respectively.

3- The Ministerial Meeting was preceded by the Senior Official Meeting (SOM) on 14th April 2014 under the co-chairmanship of Mr. Nguyen Thanh Hung, Deputy Director General of International Relations Department of the Office of the Government of Viet Nam and Mr. Elamien Hassan Elamien, Director General of International Cooperation and Investment Directorate of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of Sudan. The Meeting discussed a number of bilateral issues with a view to further enhancing the existing ties of friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation in various areas between the two Countries so far. The Meeting was held in cordial atmosphere, friendship and mutual understanding.

4- In the opening remarks of the Head of Sudanese delegation, H.E. Dr. Gaafar Ahmed Abdalla Omer – State Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of the Republic of Sudan extended a warm welcome to Vietnamese delegation headed by H.E. Mr. Vu Van Tam, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Viet Nam. The State Minister briefed on the bilateral relations between the two Countries. He expressed the hope that the First Meeting would lead to further enhancement of bilateral relations for the mutual benefits of both Countries.

5- The Head of Vietnamese delegation H.E. Mr. Vu Van Tam, in his opening remarks, expressed his gratitude to Sudanese Side headed by H.E. Dr. Gaafar Ahmed Abdalla Omer for the excellent arrangement and organization of the meeting. The Deputy Minister also reviewed with satisfaction of the progress and achievements in bilateral cooperation in various sectors between Viet Nam and Sudan so far, particularly in political, trade and agricultural sectors in recent years.

6- The two Sides stipulated that recent bilateral cooperation on the agricultural and rural development sector has not been corresponded to the existing potentialities of both countries and should promote efforts to boost and level up the present bilateral cooperation.

7- The two Sides underlined the important role of the GJC in initiating effective measures to promote cooperations between the two Countries on economic, trade, investment, technical, higher educational and cultural cooperation, etc.

B. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FIRST MEETING OF GJC

8- The two Sides adopted the Program of the First Meeting of GJC, attached as in Appendix III.

C. DISCUSSED AND AGREED BILATERAL ISSUES

9- The two Sides reviewed the bilateral relations and satisfied with the achieved results. Both Sides discussed and provided assessments of the current status of cooperation and proposed concrete measures to strengthen the bilateral cooperation. The highlights of the discussion were as follows:

Political and Diplomatic Relationship

10- The two Sides highly appreciated the existing traditional friendly relationship between the two countries and agreed to strengthen exchange of delegations at different levels aiming at promoting multifaceted cooperation relationship. In this connection the two countries agreed to cooperate to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations in 2014.

11- The two Sides agreed to coordinate and support each other at international forums and organizations. The Sudanese Side reiterated its support for Viet Nam's candidatures as a member of the United Nations Economic and Social Council for the 2016-2018 tenure and the United Nations Security Council for the 2020-2021 tenure. The Vietnamese Side highly appreciated the Sudanese support and kindly requested the Sudanese Side for the confirmation Note.

12- The two Sides agreed to diversify the forms and further improve the quality of the political consultation mechanism between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs for better promotion of implementation of bilateral agreements.

13- The two Sides agreed to accelerate the early signing of the Agreement between the two countries on visa exemption for the holders of diplomatic, official and special passports.

Economy and Trade

14- The Vietnamese Side highly appreciated that the Sudanese Government recognizes Viet Nam economy as a full market economic status.

15- The two Sides noticed that trade volume between Viet Nam and Sudan during past time did not meet the expectation and potentials of both countries. Accordingly, the two Sides desired to promote and encourage bilateral trade in the coming years.

16- To further promote economic cooperation and bilateral trade, the two Sides agreed to implement the Memorandum of Understanding on Trade Promotion signed between the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam and the Ministry of Trade of Sudan on the occasion of visit to Sudan by the Viet Nam's Delegation led by the Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade in June 2013.

The two Sides pledged to actively implement negotiations to sign MOU in cooperation in the field of industry.

17- The two Sides agreed to:

i) Positively exchange information on opportunities and businesses through the channels of Ministries/Agencies, Embassies, Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Trade Associations to support enterprises of both Sides to find partners;

ii) Encourage businesses for market survey and participate in fairs and exhibitions in each Country;

iii) Encourage the commercial banks of the two countries to sign cooperation agreements in order to create favourable conditions for enterprises of the two Sides that may have direct payment in import and export activities...

18- The Sudanese Side requested the Vietnamese Side to assist Sudan in its accession into the WTO, and exchange of experiences regarding these issues.

19- The Vietnamese Side highly appreciated the commitments of the Sudanese Side to create favorable conditions for PetroVietnam in the field of oil and gas cooperation with Sudan as a priority in the future, as well as the commitment that the Sudanese Side will positively impact with Sudan's Ministry of Petroleum to meet the request of PetroVietnam to access to oil blocks 7, 22, 23 in Sudan.

Telecommunication

20- The two Sides agreed to cooperate in the field of ICT sector. Sudanese Government supports and creates favorable conditions for Viet Nam investment in the telecommunication market, exchange of experiences, expertise and information.

Investment

21- Both Sides are clearly aware of the importance of encouraging investment in all sectors in order to share capabilities, and exchange expertise and technology.

22- The Sudanese Side agreed with the proposal of the Vietnamese Side to encourage Vietnamese businesses to invest in Sudan, especially in the

areas where Sudan has the demand such as agriculture, telecommunications, infrastructure, oil, gas, construction, mineral exploitation, leather and textile.

23- The two Sides agreed to exchange visits to learn more about investment opportunities; to organize forums on promoting investment between the two Countries at all levels, and to participate in investment conferences and forums between Viet Nam and Middle East - North Africa countries.

24- The two Sides agreed to further negotiate and finalize the draft of the Agreement on the Promotion and Protection of Investments to sign it in the nearest opportunity as a basis for investment activities in the future.

Finance

25- The two Sides affirmed that the good relationships are recognized by signing the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance in the field of customs on September 2012. The Sudanese Side will submit a proposal for executive program 2014 - 2016 for the above-mentioned Memorandum of Understanding to the Vietnamese Side through diplomatic channels.

26- The Sudanese Side requested the Vietnamese Side to give more time to further negotiate and finalize the draft of the Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation between Viet Nam and Sudan in order to sign in the earliest opportunity.

Human Resources Development, Labour and Social Affairs

27- The Ministry of Human Resources Development & Labour (HRD&L) of the Republic of Sudan and the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA) of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam signed the MOU for Technical Cooperation in Labour and Social Issues on 6th November 2013 in Ha Noi. The two Sides agreed to increase the exchange of delegations to study polices and the needs in the field of labour & social affairs.

28- The Sudanese HRD&L nominated the Bilateral Relations Department as the Sudanese focal point and requested MOLISA of Viet Nam to nominate the counterpart.

29- The two Sides agreed to establish technical working groups to prepare an action plan for implementation of the signed MOU. The Sudanese Side promised to send a draft of action plan very soon.

Higher Education

30- The two Sides agreed to give the priority on cooperation in exchanging learning in higher education system, training and exchanging scholarship programs between the two countries.

31- The Sudanese Side proposed exchange of scholarships in the field of languages, humanities, social and applied sciences, encouraged exchange of academic staff and researchers and conduct joint research projects.

Transportation

32- The Vietnamese Side requested the Sudanese Side to give more time to finalize the internal approval procedure of the Agreement on Maritime Transport, initiated on 29th January 2013 in Ha Noi, and the two Sides agreed to accelerate the signing of the Agreement at the earliest opportunity.

Agriculture, Livestock and Fishery

33- The two Sides affirmed that the bilateral cooperation on agriculture, livestock and fishery plays a significant role and is considered as a base for the further cooperation in many sectors between the two Countries.

34- The two Sides reviewed the bilateral cooperation on agriculture in past years and agreed that the cooperative achievement in this sector is significantly important such as the project model "Development of rice and other crops production in Sudan" with its results from phase I (2009 – 2012) and expressed their aim to utilize the potentials and the need to continue expanding the exploring possibility cooperation based on the MOU on Agriculture Cooperation signed during this First Meeting.

35- The Sudanese Side expressed its appreciation to the Vietnamese Side for its willingness to participate in the Sudanese President's initiative on food security for Arab countries and will consider to develop these activities in line with tri-partite cooperation models (Viet Nam – Sudan – and an Arab country) that Viet Nam has experiences in the implementation in African countries.

36- The Vietnamese Side agreed with the Sudanese Side's proposal in sharing its experience on the sector of hunger elimination and poverty alleviation through activities, programs, projects, exchanging experts, visits and training.

Other matters

37- In the field of science and technology, the Sudanese Side suggested exchanging experiences and expertise, share information, transfer technology and conduct joint research programs. In this connection, the Sudanese Side submitted the draft MOU in the field of science and technology.

38- The Sudanese Side informed the Vietnamese Side that the draft MOU in the field of cultural and technical cooperation had been submitted to the Ministry of Culture, Sport and Tourism of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. In this regard, both Sides agreed to accelerate negotiation and signing of this MOU.

39- The Sudanese Side informed the Vietnamese Side that the draft agreement in the field of information had been submitted to the Ministry of Information and Communications of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, and expressed its readiness to sign this agreement at any time.

D. DATE AND VENUE OF THE SECOND MEETING OF GJC

40- The two Sides agreed to hold the Second Meeting of the GJC in Viet Nam in 2016. The exact date and venue will be mutually agreed upon through the diplomatic channel.

E. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

41- The two Sides expressed their satisfaction over the results of the First Meeting of GJC between the Republic of Sudan and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, which was held in cordial atmosphere, friendship and mutual understanding.

Done in ***Khartoum***, on ***16th April 2014***, in duplicate in the English language.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM	FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN
MR. VU VAN TAM	**DR. GAAFAR AHMED ABDALLA OMER**
Deputy Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	**State Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation**

APPENDIX I

LIST OF VIETNAM DELEGATION

1. **H.E. Mr. Vu Van Tam**
   Chairman of Sub-committee, Head of Delegation,
   Deputy Minister Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

2. **H.E. Dao Thanh Chung**
   Ambassador of Viet Nam to Egypt concerrent to Sudan

3. **Nguyen Thanh Hung**
   The Government Office (GO)

4. **Vu Van Minh**
   Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)

5. **Bui Ha Nam**
   Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)

6. **Pham Trung Nghia**
   Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT)

7. **Tran Thi Thanh Binh**
   Ministry of Finance (MOF)

8. **Nguyen Hoang**
   Ministry of Transport (MOT)

9. **Nguyen Van Tao**
   Vietnam Academy of Agriculture and Science

10. **Nguyen Ha Hue**
    Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)

11. **Dang Quang Huy**
    Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)

12. **Nguyen Cong Hien**
    Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)

13. **Tran Tam Anh**
    Embassy of Viet Nam in Egypt concurrent to Sudan

14. **Vo The Vinh**
    PetroVietnam (PVN)

15. **Cao Huu Binh**
    PetroVietnam Exploration and Production Corp. (PVEP)

16. **Bach Tien Tung**
    Vietnam Northern Food Corporation (Vinafood1)

APPENDIX II
LIST OF SUDANESE DELEGATION

1.	H.E. Dr. Gaafar Ahmed Abdalla Omer	Chairman of Sub-committee, Head of delegation, State Minister Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
2.	Abdelmahmood Abdelhaleem	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Director General of Bilateral and Regional Relation
3.	Adil Ibrahim Mustafa	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Director of Asian Affair Department
4.	Bakri Yousif	Businessmen Association
5.	Elamin Hassan Elamin	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation Director General of International Cooperation & Investment
6.	Fatima Mohammed Ahmed Rahma	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation Director of Bilateral Cooperation Department
7.	Abdel Dafi F. Ali	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation Director General of Irrigated Sector
8.	Widad abdelrahman	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation,
9.	Khadiga Saddig	Ministry of Trade
10.	Ghada Tajelsir	Ministry of Trade
11.	Badereldin Elshiekh	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation Horticulture Sector
12.	Dr. Osama Humida	Ministry of Justice
13.	Shamseldein Mohammed Abdelrahman	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
14.	Hanan Mohammed Abdalla	Ministry of Justice
15.	Raga Abdalla	Ministry of Justice
16	Amal Babiker Abdelrahim	Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rangelands

17.	Mohmmad Elfatih Osman	Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rangelands
18.	Yousif Gesmi Elbari	Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rangelands
19.	Hanan Mosnad Osman	National Authority of Investment
20.	Motaz Mosa	National Authority of Investment
21.	Amin Hashim	Ministry of Petroleum
22.	Haj Ali Motwakil	Ministry of Petroleum
23.	Abd Elrafia I. Ahmed	Ministry of Human Resources Development and Labour
24.	Alhadi Gamar Alshafe	Ministry of Human Resources Development and Labour
25.	Nazik Nour Eldien Omer	Ministry of Science and Communication
26.	Babekir Ibrahim	Ministry of Science and Communication
27.	Ahmed Eshag Korina	Ministry of Culture
28.	Zahra Ahmed Ismail	Ministry of Culture
29.	Einas Hassan Elsheikh	Ministry of Transport, Roads and Bridges
30.	Siddig Boshr Alfadil	Ministry of Higher Education Scientific Research
31.	Howida Abd Alla	Ministry of Higher Education
32.	Mohmmed Elfadl	Chamber of Taxation
33.	Bushra M. Elmahi	Chamber of Taxation
34.	Ekhlas Abdu Ginawi	Custom
35.	Osman E. Ibraim	Authority of Merwi Dam for Agric Development
36.	Maryiam Farag	Sea Port Corporation
37.	Osman Gorashi Mohamed	Sea Port Corporation
38.	Abdel Rahman Mostafa	Sudan Shipping Line
39.	Mahasin Omer Elfarouk Ali	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
40.	Asma Abdo Hassan	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
41.	Wagdi Khider	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
42.	Amani Sirelkhatim	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation

43.	Ibtehal Mohammed	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
44.	Sami Elbashier	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
45.	Khairi Elzubair Abbas	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
46.	Nawal Abdallah	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
47.	Hassan Ahmed ibraim	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
48.	Maha Abu Elgasim	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
49.	Adam Eisa	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
50.	Mohammed Alamin Yoisef	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
51.	Mohanad Haydar Dasogi	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation

APPENDIX III

PROGRAM OF THE 1st MEETING OF JGC

Time	Content
13 April 2014 05:40 pm	Arrival to Khartoum Airport
14 April 2014 09:30-10:00 am	- Opening Session. - Welcoming Remarks by H.E. Dr Gaffar Ahmed Abdallah Chairman of Sub-committee, Head of delegation State Minister. Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation -Welcoming Remarks by H.E.Mr Van TAM Chairman of Sub-committee, Head of delegation Deputy Ministr,Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
10:00-10:30	Break
10.30-12:45	Sub-committees at the technical level (Bilateral Issues Discussion)
11:00 -11:30	Meeting with the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation
11:30-12:00	Meeting with the State Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
12:15 - 01:00	Meeting with the Minister of the Ministry of Petroleum
01:00 - 03:00	Lunch Hosted by HE.Dr Gaffar Ahmed Abdallah
04-:00-04:30	Meeting with the Minister of the Ministry of Science and Communications

15 April 2014

09:00 - 10:00	Meeting with the Minister of Investment
11:00-12:00	Visit- Dams Implementation Unit
12:30 - 01:30	Break
02:00 – 05:00	Discussion of the final draft of the agreed minutes
06:30-07:30	Program State of Khartoum
08:00 - 10:00	Dinner Hosted by Honorary Consul to Viet Nam in Khartoum

16 April 2014

08:30 – 09:30	Meeting with the Minister of the Ministry of Livestock
10:00 - 10:30	Endorsement of the Agreed Minutes
11:00	Signing Ceremony
05:00	Departure from Khartoum Airport H.E.Mr Van TAM Chairman of Sub-committee, Head of delegation Deputy Ministr,Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

17 April 2014

08:30		Visits
05:00	Departure from Khartoum Airport Rest Delegation of Viet Nam	