MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

and

the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand

on

Vocational Training Development in ACMECS countries

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand (hereinafter referred to as the Parties);

IN LINE WITH the goals and spirit of the Bagan Declaration;

EMPHASIZING the importance of human resource in acceleration of economic growth in the ACMECS countries and the imperative need of sharpening our human resource through cooperation in training and capacity building;

REALIZING the outcome as set out in the Second ACMECS Summit Declaration, among others, including the initiative on Vietnam-Thailand Cooperation Program on human resource development, including vocational training, capacity building and skill trainer training for the ACMECS countries;

DESIRING to establish a necessary framework for implementing cooperation programs between Vietnam and Thailand in vocational training development for the ACMECS countries;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
General provisions

1. The Parties shall strengthen closer their coordination and cooperation in vocational training development for the ACMECS countries, for the following purposes:

1.1. Enhance the ACMECS countries' capacity in the field of technical education and vocational training through Vietnam–Thailand cooperation programs on capacity building for vocational training and training of trainers for Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam.

1.2. Strengthen capacity of the ACMECS countries in formulation and execution of vocational training development policies and plans.

1.3. Enhance the quality of trainers of the ACMECS countries through fellowship programs, training courses, seminars and exchange visits.

1.4. Promote collaboration among technical schools, colleges, universities involved in technical education and vocational training in the ACMECS countries.

1.5. Enhance the quality of vocational training institutions in the ACMECS countries, among others, through strengthening capacity in vocational training research, human resource management, designing vocational training programs.

2. The Parties shall coordinate and cooperate with each other to undertake the following activities:

2.1. Conduct short term training courses in vocational training, including advanced skills and methods for skill trainers in Vietnam and Thailand.

2.2. Organize study visits for trainers of the ACMECS countries in Vietnam and Thailand for experience sharing in vocational training management.

2.3. Organize ACMECS dialogues or workshops on best practice for vocational training administration.

2.4. Conduct appropriate fellowship programs for the ACMECS countries' trainees and trainers to study in Vietnam and Thailand.

Article 2
Execution and Coordination

1. Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam shall be designated as the Coordinating Agency and Implementing Agency. Ministry of Education and Ministry of Labour of the

Kingdom of Thailand shall be the Implementing Agencies, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand shall be designated as the Coordinating Agency for the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

2. The two Coordinating Agencies shall coordinate to develop annual or biennial work plans to concretize this Memorandum of Understanding.

3. The two Coordinating Agencies shall establish a Joint Coordination Group which comprises representatives of their relevant agencies. The Joint Coordination Group shall hold regular consultations, preferably annual meeting, to review implementation of work plans and report progress to the Coordinating Agencies.

Article 3
Finance

1. The Parties shall finance undertaking the activities as stated in the Article 1 on the basis of cost-sharing.

2. The two Coordinating Agencies shall work closely with each other through the Joint Coordination Group to specify in detail budget and their respective contribution in the work plans.

3. The Parties shall coordinate closely to mobilize financial support and assistance of interested donors for carrying out vocational training programs for the ACMECS countries under this Memorandum of Understanding.

4. The Parties shall take measures to encourage other ACMECS countries to make financial contribution to vocational training programs under this Memorandum of Understanding.

Article 4
Entry into force and settlement of disputes

1. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force from the date of signature. If either Party wishes to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding, it shall notify the other Party of its intention in writing through diplomatic channels and the Memorandum of Understanding shall terminate after 3 (three) months upon the date of receiving notification.

2. The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding will not affect the implementation of programs and/or activities which have commenced prior to the date of termination of the Memorandum of Understanding, unless otherwise agreed upon by both Parties.

3. Any disputes concerning the interpretation and implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding which may arise from this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably through consultations between the two Coordinating Agencies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding.

Done in Hanoi on November 6, 2008 in two original copies in the English language.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM	FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF KINGDOM OF THAILAND
H.E Dr. Dam Huu Dac **Deputy Minister of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs**	**H.E Mr. Sompong Amornvivat** **Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs**