## **LETTER OF INTENT 2017 - 2019**

ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT OF VIET NAM AND THE MINISTRY OF MOBILITY AND PUBLIC WORKS OF THE FLEMISH REGION OF BELGIUM DATED FEBRUARY 23rd, 1995

Following the meeting of the mixed working group on December 9th, 2016, in Hanoi, both parties agree on the following tentative programme for the implementation of the Friendship Agreement during the period 2017 - 2019.

- 1. PROMOTION: Both parties will mutually promote each other's ports. In this regard documentation and exhibition material will be exchanged. Both parties will inform, sufficiently long time ahead, all sorts of activities and exhibitions related to ports and maritime transport, so that Vietnamese and Flemish companies and authorities can contribute with their specific applications and promotion.
- 2. FLEMISH COMPANIES: The Vietnamese party will assist Flemish companies in exploring the market, co-operating with potential partners/customers in Vietnam and in the promotion of Flemish technology and knowhow on a national and regional level. The Vietnamese party will also inform Flanders International Technical Agency (FITA) of all upcoming international tenders in the fields, related to this Friendship Agreement.
- 3. SEMINARS: VINAMARINE/VIWA and the Ministry of Mobility and Public Works of Flanders will jointly organize a local seminar on "sustainable maintenance dredging" (VINAMARINE) and on "application of modern technologies for waterborne transport" (VIWA) in Viet Nam, 2019.

  Both VINAMARINE/VIWA and the Ministry of Mobility and Public Works of Flanders will cooperate with other regional countries, with PIANC (World Association for Waterborne Transport infrastructure) and with MRC Secretariat to organize a Regional Seminar on "Waterborne Transport/Port Handling of dangerous goods and traffic safety" in Bangkok in 2017.

  Both VINAMARINE/VIWA and the Ministry of Mobility and Public Works of Flanders will cooperate with other regional countries and with MRC Secretariat to organize a Regional Seminar on "Flood Control" in Vietnam, 2018.
- 4. APEC /C-MAT: Each year, five Vietnamese experts will be granted a full scholarship including travel costs and per diems and five Vietnamese experts will be granted a regular scholarship excluding travel costs and per diems to follow a two week standard training course at APEC Antwerp / Flanders Port Training Center.

  In 2017, the Ministry of Mobility and Public Works of Flanders will also provide an

In 2017, the Ministry of Mobility and Public Works of Flanders will also provide an partial scholarship for a Vietnamese candidate attending the master degree in Transport and Maritime Management at C-MAT (Centre for Maritime and Air Transport), provided that a partial scholarships is granted by the Flanders Foreign Affairs Administration.

Selection of the suitable candidates will be jointly made.

5. FLEMISH EXPERTS: The Ministry of Mobility and Public Works of Flanders investigate the possibility to send a delegation of Flemish experts on inland

- waterway transport to Vietnam for local research and study (with a focus on different aspects, f.e. legal aspects, maritime access, planning & investment, ...).
- 6. INFORMATION EXCHANGE: On special request of VINAMARINE/VIWA, the Ministry of Mobility and Public Works will deliver documentation and information, investigate the possibilities for organize training courses, workshops and technical visits in Flanders on the following subjects:
  - Dredging and surveying;
  - Maritime and inland waterway transport;
  - Climate resilient flood protection;
  - Waterpolicy; policy in terms of regulation, operation, commercialization and promotion of inland waterways; promotion of modal shift; RIS,...;
  - Infrastructure (design and construction and maintenance);
  - Water control (management; flood control);
  - Cross border corridors (f.ex. within ASEAN);
  - Stakeholder involvement.
- 7. COOPERATION PROJECTS: The Ministry of Mobility and Public Works of Flanders and VINAMARINE/VIWA will jointly investigate the possibilities on development cooperation projects with other partners, such as multilateral organizations and companies. Flanders will provide capacity building, inclusive expertise and if possible some co-funding with regard to drafting project proposals and the execution of the project.
- 8. Other projects in the framework of the Flemish Vietnamese cooperation are subject to proposals from the Vietnamese Ministry of Transport and the availability of funds.

It is understood that the above mentioned tentative programme is not in any way binding nor does it constitute any limitation to the implementation of the friendship agreement.

The costs involved in the implementation of the above mentioned programme will be shared by both parties. This will be considered and agreed upon in advance on a case by case basis.

Both parties reiterate that the co-operation between the Ministry of Transport of Viet Nam and the Ministry of Mobility and Public works of Flanders, Belgium is based on mutual friendship and respect inspired by the friendly relationship between both countries and their people.

Made in two originals on this date of December 9th, 2016 in Hanoi,

For the Ministry of Transport, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

Mr. Nguyen Nhat Vice Minister

**Ministry of Transport of Vietnam** 

For the Ministry of Mobility and Public Works, Government of Flanders

Mr. Filip Boelaert, Civ. Eng.

Secretary-General

Ministry of Mobility and Public Works

**Government of Flanders**