

4.2.1999

# LETTER OF INTENT

ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE FLEMISH REGION OF BELGIUM  
AND THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT OF VIETNAM  
DATED FEBRUARY, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1995

Following the meeting of the mixed working group (see list in annex) on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1999, both parties agree on the following tentative programme for the implementation of the friendship agreement during the period 1999- 2001 :

1. 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, and road transport, so that Vietnamese and Flemish companies and authorities can contribute with their specific applications and propaganda
2. The Vietnamese Ministry of Transport will assist Flemish companies in exploring the market, cooperating with potential partners/customers in Vietn am and in the promotion of Flemish technology and how-how on a national and re gional level.
3. In the year 1999, a joint one-day-seminar will be set up in Hanoi wit h the following topics :

International legal issues on maritime navigation  
International laws on river traffic (Rhine, Donau, Western Scheldt, . . .)  
Legal aspects on transit transportation  
International laws on hazardous cargo  
**IMO and IALA** recommendations

4. Each year, two Vietnamese experts will be invited to join a two week seminar at APEC - **Antwerp/Flanders** Port Training Centre on port management, container terminal management, port logistics and /or port infrastructure and equipment maintenance.
5. Six Vietnamese experts will be invited to a short on-the-job training in Flanders (August-September, 1999) in master planning , port design and construction and port project evaluation.
6. The Flanders Hydraulics Laboratory will provide technical assistance in the research studies concerning the lay-out and design of the planned port of the Hiep Phuoc development zone and will assist by the use of the ship's manoeuvring simulator for training of Vietnamese pilots for navigation along the Soai Rap River and in the access channel to Haiphong Port.

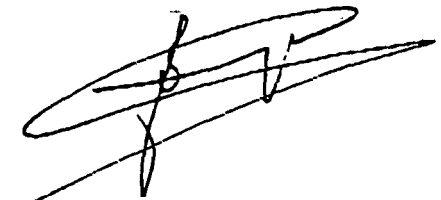
It is understood that the above tentative programme is not in any way binding nor does it constitute any limitation to the implementation of the friendship agreement.

The costs involved in the implementation of the above 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 cooperation between the Flemish Region of Belgium and the Ministry of Transport of Vietnam is based on mutual friendship and respect inspired by the friendly relationship between both countries and their people.

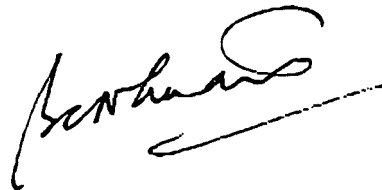
Made in two originals on this date of February 4, 1999 in Hanoi,

**For the FLEMISH REGION**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'F. Desmyter', written over a horizontal line.

**Mr. FERNAND DESMYTER**  
**Secretary General**  
**Department of Environment**  
**And Infrastructure, Ministry of**  
**the Flemish Community**

**For the MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Nguan', written over a horizontal line.

**Mr. BUI DUC NHUAN**  
**Vice Director General**  
**Vietnam National Maritime Bureau**