



**SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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**Statement
by H.E. Mr. Bui The Giang,
Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative,
on “Delivering As One”
New York, 28 March 2008**

Co-Chairs, Ambassador Augustine Mahiga and Ambassador Paul Kavanagh,
Deputy Secretary-General, Ms. Asha-Rose Migiro,

At the outset, I wish to thank you for convening this meeting for member States to express their views on this important issue of Coherence at country level. I also wish to thank the co-Chairs for their efforts and the materials they have prepared following their most recent visits to four of the eight pilot countries. We associate ourselves with the Joint Statement of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Group of 77 and China as presented by the Chairman of the Joint Coordinating Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As follow-up on the video message of our Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, given the time constraint, and in response to some of the key issues in the list suggested by the co-Chairs in their letter of 20 March 2008 regarding today's discussions, let me go straight to some prominent points in the implementation of the One UN Initiative in Vietnam as part of the broader picture of UN System-wide Coherence and Delivering as One.

First, the process of enhanced coordination and harmonization among UN agencies had been put in place by the Vietnamese Government in cooperation with Vietnam-based UN agencies and development partners

even before the One UN Initiative was launched. This is because our Government wants to ensure efficient use of available resources, including ODA, considering this an indispensable part of the overall administration reform endeavor. This is also because our Government always appreciates the comparative advantages of the UN system. Here we have witnessed an interesting coincidence of Vietnam's policy and UN's intention, which means that Vietnam has proceeded and will continue with this process whether there is One UN Initiative or not, and that voluntary nature is the very first step in this long process.

This leads me to the second point about my government's leadership and ownership which has come as the natural result of the first point. This has been evident in the proactive participation and close cooperation between central government agencies and local authorities in Vietnam, and between Vietnamese stakeholders and UN partners in carrying out this shared undertaking. Subsequently, as of now, the One Plan has been accomplished; management mechanisms for the One Fund are being elaborated; the One Set of Management Practices has been drafted and under intensive discussions; premises for the One UN House are enjoying favorable consideration; and appropriate functions and tasks for the One Leader are being deliberated amongst UN agencies before tabled to the Government for discussion and decision. It is necessary in this connection to emphasize that along with its leadership and ownership, the Vietnamese Government has reached an agreement with UN agencies and donors to keep this process open for whichever development partners finding themselves most fit to be involved. This is to ensure true efficiency and effectiveness rather than mere rhetoric and formalism, and mature and well-grounded participation rather than an imposed and artificial timeframe.

Third, as we have scored certain initial positive results from this undertaking, we wish to underline an indisputable fact that these results purely originate from the Vietnamese realities and therefore cannot be mechanically replicated to any other settings. The "No one size fits all" motto is more sensible and applicable here than in any other circumstances. It is also imperative to draw your attention to another fact that as we move on, we actually are in a greater need for better harmonization of policies and smoother coordination between UN agencies in the field and their headquarters, a more effective role of the tripartite partnership between national Government, UN agencies and the donor community, increased financial support for joint programs and projects, including the

establishment of a UN House, and improved capacity and qualifications for both UN and Vietnamese related personnel.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a responsible member of the United Nations, Vietnam holds that participation in and contribution to its reform is a must-do obligation with a view to bringing about a new and stronger vitality to this organization which will in turn yield greater benefits to its members. Let me reiterate my Government's appreciation to UN agencies and development partners for their assistance and cooperation, and commitment to working closely and constructively with the United Nations and all of its members on this initiative and others toward this end.

Thank you.