

**STATEMENT BY H.E NGUYEN HOANG LONG
AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO THE FAO
DEPUTY HEAD OF DELEGATION AT THE 38th FAO CONFERENCE
(Rome, Italy – 18/6/2013)**

*Mr. Chairman
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,*

First of all, I would like to convey the message of H.E President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam Mr. TRUONG TAN SANG to congratulate and wish the Conference for fruitful outcomes. I also like to express our congratulation to you, Mr. Chairman on your election, and firmly believe that under your leadership, the 38th FAO Conference will end with great success.

Vietnamese delegation would also like to congratulate the Brunei Darussalam, Singapore and South Sudan for their full membership of FAO in this Conference.

Mr. Chairman,

Agriculture development, ensuring food security are the vital basis for social and political order, making ground for the socio-economic development in every country. Major common challenges of our world are: eradicate food insecurity, nutrient deficiencies and unsafe food, improve the quality and balance of food consumption and nutrition, improve the livelihoods of populations in rural areas, ensure more inclusive food and agricultural systems, increase resilience of livelihoods to threats and shocks, and strengthen governance mechanism.

We believe that facing such big difficulties and challenges, the FAO, more than ever, needs to continue its efforts in reforming and renovating to further improve the effectiveness of its activities to meet the expectations of the international community. In this regards, we would like to commend the Director –General Mr. Jose Graziano da Silva and his Team for the efforts and dedication to the ongoing the FAO reform process.

Mr. Chairman,

Vietnam supports the FAO Reviewed Strategic Framework 2012-19 and related Medium Term Plan and Programme of Work. In particular, the Medium Term Plan provides a clear line of sight from the amended global goal of the Organisation, through its new cross-cutting strategic objectives and related action plans to the measureable outcomes and outputs as well as to enhance the impact of the technical and operational capacity of FAO. We are of the view that a consultative approach with participation from all stakeholders should be applied to reach a consensus on a budget that will ensure a successful implementation of the agreed Program of Work.

Mr. Chairman,

Vietnam has been implementing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with successes recognized by the world community, especially in relation to the first MDG on Poverty Reduction as shown by the Diploma awards by the FAO.

However, the Vietnam agriculture still facing with many difficulties such as low competitiveness for its products, the production system is not effective and seriously affected by climate change, natural habitats are declining, transboundary diseases, insufficient investment and lack of sustainable financing and economic crisis etc,.. To cope with those difficulties, our Government recently launched the program on restructuring the agriculture sector, aiming towards sustainable development and green growth.

Mr. Chairman,

Vietnam wishes to participate in the world's poverty reduction programs, and is ready to share its lessons and experience with every country, especially the African countries. Much of this work has been conducted under the framework of the South – South Cooperation Program. The success of these cooperation models has been recognized by the donors, the organizations as well as recipient countries.

One of the major difficulties however is the financial constraint. We therefore call for third party to be involved in our cooperation with Africa. Organizations such as FAO and developed countries will make valuable contribution to food security in Africa by providing financial support besides technical support. And Vietnam will continue to take part by providing qualified agricultural experts in cooperation projects.

We strongly believe that with the support from international community, in particular the support of the FAO, IFAD, Vietnam will put its best efforts in implementing programmes of poverty reduction, agriculture and rural modernization, to contribute to the achievement of our national objectives. Making the agriculture a major sector leading our economy.

I thank you very much for your attention./.