

# MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN

#### THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF JAPAN

#### AND

# THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM ON LEGAL AND JUDICIAL FIELDS

The Ministry of Justice of Japan and the Ministry of Justice of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (hereinafter referred to individually as a "Participant" and collectively as the "Participants");

In accordance with Japan - Viet Nam Joint Statement on the Occasion of the State Visit by the President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to Japan dated May 31, 2018;

With the aspiration to strengthen and promote the cooperative relationship in the legal and judicial areas between Japan and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam;

Have reached the following recognition:

#### Paragraph 1

# **Principles of Cooperation**

The Participants will implement the cooperative activities under this Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as "MOC") on the basis of respect for national sovereignty and mutual understanding, and in accordance with the national laws of their respective countries.

#### Paragraph 2

#### **Areas of Cooperation**

The Participants will commence their cooperation in the following areas:

- 1. Development of laws and legal systems in the civil, criminal, administrative and commercial fields.
  - 2. Training and capacity-building for legal and judicial officials;
- 3. Effective information management for the development of legal and justice affairs; and
  - 4. Any other areas of mutual interest of the Participants.

#### Paragraph 3

#### **Forms of Cooperation**

The Participants will cooperate in the areas mentioned in Paragraph 2 in the following means:

- 1. Exchanging visits and study trips;
- 2. Organizing conferences, seminars and training courses in the field of justice and legal affairs;
  - 3. Exchanging information and professional knowledge;
- 4. Exchanging available materials and publications that have been published; and/or
  - 5. Other forms of cooperation as may be decided by the Participants.

# Paragraph 4

#### **Focal Points**

1. The focal points, which are responsible for implementing this MOC, are the following:

For the Ministry of Justice of Japan: International Affairs Division, Minister's Secretariat; and

For the Ministry of Justice of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam: The Department of International Cooperation

2. Each Participant will promptly inform the other in case of any change of the respective focal point.

#### Paragraph 5

#### Financial arrangements

- 1. Unless otherwise mutually decided by the Participants, each Participant will bear its own expenses relating to all cooperative activities under this MOC.
- 2. All cooperative activities under this MOC will be subject to the financial availability of each Participant.

#### Paragraph 6

#### Implementation of this MOC

- 1. The Participants will discuss the specific cooperative activities in advance for implementation of this MOC.
- 2. For implementation of this MOC, the Participants will use their respective official languages to carry out the specific activities. English will be used to contact, exchange information and coordinate between the focal points of two Participants, unless otherwise decided by the Participants.

#### Paragraph 7

#### Modification

This MOC may be modified at any time in writing by mutual consent of the Participants. Such modification will come into effect on the date mutually determined by the Participants and become an integral part of this MOC.

#### Paragraph 8

#### **Dispute Resolution**

Any disputes between the Participants arising from the interpretation or implementation of this MOC will be settled in good faith through consultation and negotiation.

#### Paragraph 9

#### Confidentiality

- 1. Each Participant will ensure the confidentiality of information obtained in the course of the cooperative activities under this MOC, which is marked or identified as "confidential" by the Participant providing the information, and use it solely for the purpose of implementing this MOC.
- 2. Neither Participant may communicate to any third party any confidential information, document or data which is provided by the other Participant in the course of implementing this MOC, unless otherwise authorized in writing by that other Participant.

# Paragraph 10

# Commencement, Duration and Discontinuation

- 1. The cooperation under this MOC will commence upon signature of the Participants.
- 2. Each Participant may discontinue this MOC by giving written notice of its intention to discontinue to the other Participant through the focal point six months in advance.
- 3. Upon discontinuation of this MOC, the Participants will decide, through consultation, whether to continue ongoing cooperative activities under this MOC.

#### Paragraph 11

#### Non-binding Effect of this MOC

Nothing in this MOC creates or is intended to create any legally enforceable rights or obligations under national or international law on any person or either Participant.

Signed on 19 October 2020, in duplicate, each in languages of the Japanese, Vietnamese and English, all texts having equal significance. In the event of a divergence of interpretation, the English language text will prevail.

FOR THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF JAPAN

上州蝎子

KAMIKAWA Yoko Minister of Justice JUSTICE OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

LE THANH LONG
Minister of Justice