



MINISTRY OF TRADE
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

31 MAY 2006

The Honorable Karan Bhatia
Deputy U.S. Trade Representative
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Honorable,

I have the honor to confirm the following understanding reached between the Government of Viet Nam and the Government of the United States of America in connection with our bilateral market access agreement on Viet Nam's accession to the World Trade Organization.

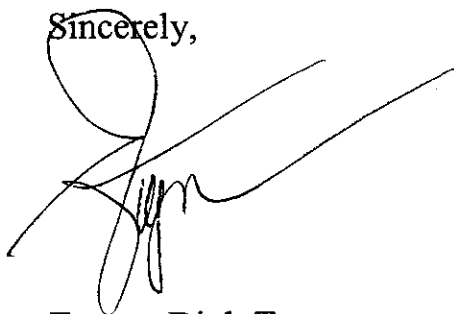
Viet Nam recognizes the United States food safety inspection system for poultry and poultry products and meat and meat products as equivalent to that of Viet Nam. While preserving Viet Nam's rights under the SPS Agreement to protect human, animal or plant life or health in its territory, Viet Nam shall accept the United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) Export Certificate of Wholesomeness (FSIS Form 9060.5) as assurance that the exported U.S. meat and poultry products have been inspected and passed by FSIS.

The Government of Viet Nam and the Government of the United States of America pledge to urge their appropriate agencies to undertake the necessary work to achieve recognition of equivalence for Viet Nam.

Viet Nam and the United States shall consult, at the request of either government, to determine if changes in the inspection system of their respective country would affect the circumstances under which these understandings have been reached.

I have the honor to request that you confirm that your government shares this understanding and have the further honor to propose that this letter and your letter of confirmation in reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes. The signature is positioned below the word "Sincerely," and above the printed name and title.

Truong Dinh Tuyen
Minister of Trade
The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
DEPUTY UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

May 31, 2006

H.E. Truong Dinh Tuyen
Minister of Trade
The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

Dear Minister Truong:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date which reads as follows:

I have the honor to confirm the following understanding reached between the Government of Viet Nam and the Government of the United States of America in connection with our bilateral market access agreement on Viet Nam's accession to the World Trade Organization:

Viet Nam recognizes the United States food safety inspection system for poultry and poultry products and meat and meat products as equivalent to that of Viet Nam. While preserving Viet Nam's rights under the SPS Agreement to protect human, animal or plant life or health in its territory, Viet Nam shall accept the United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) Export Certificate of Wholesomeness (FSIS Form 9060.5) as assurance that the exported U.S. meat and poultry products have been inspected and passed by FSIS.

The Government of Viet Nam and the Government of the United States of America pledge to urge their appropriate agencies to undertake the necessary work to achieve recognition of equivalence for Viet Nam.

Viet Nam and the United States shall consult, at the request of either government, to determine if changes in the inspection system of their respective country would affect the circumstances under which these understandings have been reached.

I have the honor to request that you confirm that your government shares this understanding and have the further honor to propose that this letter and your letter of confirmation in reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments.

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Minister Truong

I have the honor to confirm that my government shares this understanding and that your letter and this reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments to enter into force on this day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karan Bhatia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Karan Bhatia