

Agreed Minutes

The delegations of the United States of America and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam continued discussion of their bilateral maritime transport relations in Washington, D.C. June 15 through June 21, 2005. The United States Delegation was headed by Mr. John Jamian, Acting Administrator, U.S. Maritime Administration and the Vietnam delegation was headed by Mr. Nguyễn Công Đức, Vice Chairman, Maritime Administration. (Delegation lists appear as an Attachment.) The discussion focused on a bilateral Agreement and proceeded in a highly positive and productive atmosphere. The two delegations developed a comprehensive draft agreement, which reflects a market-oriented approach and the potential for growth of the bilateral maritime trade relationship between the two countries. The delegations agreed to meet again soon.

The delegations discussed ways to bring about market conditions that treat U.S. and Vietnamese carriers equally. It was explained by the Vietnamese delegation that the laws on enterprises and investment are in the process of revision and amendment to provide for uniform treatment of Vietnamese state-owned enterprises, private companies as well as foreign invested enterprises. The Vietnamese delegation agreed that upon entry into force of these new laws, appropriate provisions to the draft agreement may be considered.

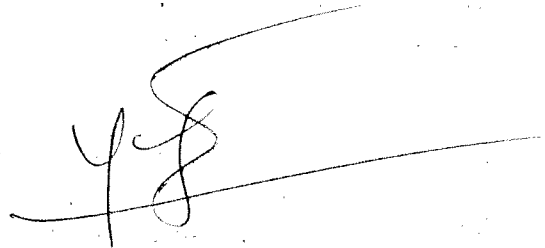
The U.S. delegation emphasized its strong interest in giving U.S. shipping companies the right to organize and conduct their own surface transportation services for moving international ocean cargo between ports and inland points as a necessary part of modern multimodal international transportation services. The Vietnamese delegation replied that its country's inland surface transportation market could not accommodate entry of foreign competitors at this time. The two sides agreed to discuss this point as a priority in future consultations.

The two delegations were not able to reach an agreement on allowing U.S. shipping companies to perform vessel agency services at this time for vessels in Vietnamese ports. The delegations agreed to review this issue in future consultations taking account of further changes to the laws of Vietnam granting greater market access to foreign transportation companies.

Washington, D.C., June 21, 2005



FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

United States Delegation
U.S. - Vietnam Bilateral Maritime Negotiations
Between United States Department of Transportation (USDOT)
and Ministry of Transportation (MOTr) of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
Washington, DC
June 15 – June 21, 2005

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U.S. - Vietnam Bilateral Maritime Negotiations
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Vietnam Delegation
U.S. - Vietnam Bilateral Maritime Negotiations
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