Memorandum of Consultation

Delegations representing the Governments of the United States of America and of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam held bilateral consultations in Hanoi on March 22 to 24, 2005, to discuss prospects for a bilateral maritime agreement. The U. S. delegation was chaired by Mr. Bruce J. Carlton, Associate Administrator for Policy and International Trade, U.S. Maritime Administration. The Vietnamese delegation was chaired by Mr. Nguyen Cong Duc, Vice Chairman of the Vietnam National Maritime Administration. The discussions proceeded in a friendly and productive atmosphere; delegation lists appear as Attachment A.

The discussions focused on the interest of the two countries in fostering a mutually beneficial maritime relationship. The delegations first acquainted each other with their respective governments' perspectives on the state of the international shipping industry, its rapid pace of development, and its potential for supporting the economic growth of both the United States and Vietnam. Discussions then addressed key elements of a bilateral agreement based on the draft prepared by the Vietnamese side, including a comprehensive assessment of the potential scope and form of such an agreement, mechanisms for encouraging investment and opportunities for cooperation. The U.S. side will provide the Vietnamese side a revised draft reflecting these discussions as soon as possible. Lastly, the two sides briefed each other on their government's successful implementation of new global maritime security mandates. With the intention of maintaining the momentum developed from this positive exchange, the delegations agreed to recommend to their respective governments that negotiation of an agreement be given high priority.

For the U.S. delegation:

For the Vietnamese delegation:

Bruce J Carlton

Nguyen Cong Duc

Hanoi

March 24, 2005

List of the U.S. delegation

- 1 Mr. Bruce J. Carlton, Associate Administrator for Policy and International Trade, U.S.Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration
- 2 Mr. Gregory B Hall, Director, Office of International Activities U.S.Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration
- 3 Mr. Brian T. Varney, International Economist, U.S. Department of Transportation. Maritime Administration
- 4 Mr. Christopher T. Tourtellot, Attorney, U.S. Department of Transportation
- 5 Mr. Samuel R. Watson, Economic Counselor, U.S. Embassy in Hanoi
- 6 Ms. Jessica L. Adkins, Deputy Chief of Economic Section, U.S. Embassy in Hanoi
- 7 Ms. Vo Lan Phuong, Economic Assistant, U.S. Embassy in Hanoi

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List of the Vietnamese Delegation

- 1 Mr. Nguyễn Công Đức, Vice Chairman, Vietnam National Maritime Administration (Vinamarine)
- 2 Mr. Nguyễn Vĩnh Lộc, Deputy Director General International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Transport
- 3 Mrs. Pham Thị Phượng Deputy Director General Legal Department, Ministry of Transport
- 4 Mr. Nguyễn Việt Dũng, Head of International Cooperation Section Vietnam National Maritime Administration (Vinamarine)
- 5 Mrs. Hồ Hương Giang, Americas Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 6 Mr. Nguyễn Hoàng, Expert, Legal Department, Ministry of Transport
- 7 Mr. Trần Việt Hà, Expert, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Transport
- 8 Mr. Trần Mạnh Hà, Director of Legal Department, Vietnam National Shipping Lines (Vinalines)

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