

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
CONCERNING
CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION**

THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA and THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM ("the Participants"),

RECOGNISING the benefits which the two countries will derive from strengthening their mutual, bilateral education and research cooperation;

DESIRING to strengthen cooperation and collaboration between Australia and Viet Nam in the fields of education and research;

CONSISTENT *with the prevailing laws and regulations of both countries, and the international treaties to which Participant is party;*

HAVE REACHED THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING:

**PARAGRAPH 1
PURPOSE**

The Participants, subject to the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding and the national laws, rules, regulations and national policies from time to time in force in their respective countries, will encourage cooperation to enhance and promote cooperation in education and research on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit.

**PARAGRAPH 2
AREAS OF COOPERATION**

The Participants will, subject to the national laws, rules, regulations and national policies from time to time in force, governing the subject matter in their respective countries, encourage and promote education and research co-operation in the following areas:

- (a) Early childhood, primary, secondary and post-secondary education, including education for people with a disability.
- (b) Teacher Training and Professional Development
- (c) Information and technology in education
- (d) Education management and leadership
- (e) Digital education
- (f) Support for transnational education partnerships

- (g) Qualifications recognition, including recognition of prior learning, micro-credentials and short courses
- (h) Quality assurance of education, including of education delivered online, blended and face-to-face onshore and offshore, as well as capacity improvement for the development of quality assurance systems
- (i) Higher education research policy, systems and standards
- (j) Any other areas of cooperation in the fields of education and research to be jointly decided upon by the Participants.

PARAGRAPH 3 FORMS OF COOPERATION

Cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding may take the form of policy exchanges between educational leaders, senior officials, experts, teachers, administrators and students; the exchange of materials, publications and information; interactions through meetings, conferences and the establishment or maintenance of linkages between education institutions, and any other forms of cooperation as mutually decided by the Participants.

Specific activities that may be carried out within the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding will be mutually determined by the Participants, including specific objectives and commitments.

PARAGRAPH 4 DESIGNATED AUTHORITY

The designated authorities responsible for the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be the Department of Education of the Government of Australia, and the Ministry of Education and Training of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

PARAGRAPH 5 IMPLEMENTATION

In the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Participants will arrange the details of any activities, programmes or projects to be carried out through their respective designated authorities, as provided in Paragraph 4.

PARAGRAPH 6 PARTICIPATION OF THIRD PARTY

Either Participant may invite the participation of third parties in the joint activities and/or programs being carried out under this Memorandum upon the prior written consent of

the other Participant. In carrying out such joint activities and/or programs, the Participants will endeavor to ensure that the third party acts consistently with the provisions of this Memorandum.

PARAGRAPH 7 FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT

The financial arrangements to cover expenses for the cooperative activities, programs or projects undertaken within the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding will be jointly decided upon by the Participants, on a case-by-case basis, and subject to the availability of funds and resources and in accordance with their respective national laws, rules, regulations and policy.

PARAGRAPH 8 CONFIDENTIALITY

1. The Participants will respect the confidentiality, secrecy and security of documents, information and other data received or supplied to the other Participant during the period of operation of this Memorandum of Understanding.
2. Both Participants accept that this Paragraph is intended to survive the expiry or termination of this Memorandum of Understanding.

PARAGRAPH 9 PRIVACY

Each Participant commits to taking reasonable endeavours so that personal information that identifies or can reasonably identify an individual, is not inappropriately exchanged as part of undertaking the activities pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding. In the event personal information is exchanged, the Participants undertake to safeguard the information in accordance with all national laws, rules, regulations and policies and with other international agreements to which Participants are party to, as well as any additional measures advised as between the Participants. Both Participants accept that this Paragraph is intended to survive the expiry or termination of this Memorandum of Understanding.

PARAGRAPH 10 SUSPENSION

Each Participant is permitted for reasons of national security, national interest, public order or public health to suspend temporarily, either in whole or in part, the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding with the suspension to take effect immediately after notification has been given to the other Participant through diplomatic channels.

**PARAGRAPH 11
AMENDMENT**

This Memorandum may be amended at any time by the mutual written consent of the Participants.

**PARAGRAPH 12
DISPUTES**

Any disputes about the interpretation or application of the Memorandum will be resolved by consultations between the Participants and will not be referred to any national or international tribunal or third party for settlement.

**PARAGRAPH 13
EFFECT OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

This Memorandum of Understanding serves only as a record of the Participants' intentions to mutually cooperate in the fields of education and research. It does not constitute or create, and is not intended to constitute or create, and will not be deemed to constitute or create any legally binding or enforceable obligations under the national laws rules, regulations or policies of either Participant or under international law, express or implied.

**PARAGRAPH 14
TERMINATION**

This Memorandum may be terminated by either Participant giving at least six months' written notice to the other Participant. The Participants will consult to determine how any outstanding matters should be dealt with.

**PARAGRAPH 15
DURATION AND EFFECT**

This Memorandum will come into effect on the date it has been signed on behalf of the Participants and will remain in effect until terminated in accordance with Paragraph 14.

This Memorandum represents the understanding reached between the Participants and does not create any legally binding rights or obligations.

The foregoing represents the understandings reached between the Participants.

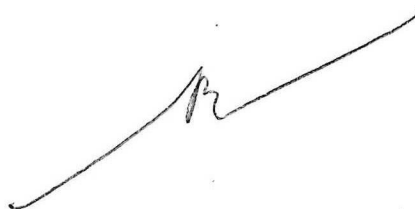
SIGNED at Melbourne on this 5th day of March in the year of 2024 in two (2) original copies, each in the English and Vietnamese languages, both texts having equal validity. In case of divergence in the interpretation, the arising issues will be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation.

**FOR THE
GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA**



**The Hon Brendan O'Connor MP
Minister for Skills and Training**

**FOR THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM**



**Nguyen Kim Son
Minister of Education and Training**