MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE KOREAN AGENCY FOR TECHNOLOGY AND STANDARDS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

AND

THE DIRECTORATE FOR STANDARDS AND QUALITY OF VIETMAM

FOR

COOPERATION RELATING TO STANDARDIZATION, LEGAL METROLOGY AND CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

The Korean Agency for Technology and Standards of the Republic of Korea and the Directorate for Standards and Quality of Vietnam, hereinafter referred to as "the Parties",

With the aim of eliminating technical barriers to trade and promoting economic relations between the Republic of Korea and Vietnam;

Desiring to develop cooperation in the field of standardization, legal metrology and conformity assessment, and based on the principles and standards adopted by international organizations;

Being guided by their mutual economic interests;

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Parties shall cooperate and perform joint activities in the field of standardization, legal metrology and conformity assessment in following directions:

(1) Harmonizing national standards with international standards in order

- to promote technical and scientific cooperation, and eliminate technical barriers to trade;
- (2) Establishing and developing direct relations between organizations and institutions of both Parties in the field of standardization, legal metrology and conformity assessment; and
- (3) Providing information within a reasonable amount of time on any significant changes occurring in certification procedures and on the trends of national standardization and related regulations, upon request.

Article 2

The cooperation may include the exchange of the following:

- (1) Normative documents, information and periodicals published by the respective national standardization bodies; catalogues of national standards, certain national standards, norms and information on regulations and conformity assessment procedures;
- (2) General information and publications on certification, accreditation of testing laboratories, certification bodies and lists of products subject to the mandatory certification; and
- (3) Information and materials regarding the training programs and the upgrading of specialists qualifications in the field of standardization, legal metrology and conformity assessment.

Article 3

The exchange of specialists and trainers to study experience, conduct consultations and train specialists in the field of standardization, legal metrology and conformity assessment will be carried out according to separate arrangements and protocol, according to the Article 6 of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Article 4

The Parties shall insure confidentiality concerning documents and information obtained within the framework of this MOU. The documents and information can be transferred to the third Party only upon the written consent of the Party that provided such documents and information.

Article 5

The Parties will work within the framework of international and regional organizations to promote strengthening of their positions and to increase their roles in the international activities in the field of standardization, legal metrology and conformity assessment.

Article 6

For realizing the provisions of this MOU, the Parties may negotiate and conclude additional protocol or exchange of notes.

Article 7

Any disputes arising from the interpretation and fulfillment of this MOU will be settled by mutual consultations and negotiations.

Article 8

Financing of the various activities initiated under this MOU will be mutually arranged on a case-by-case basis.

Article 9

This MOU will be valid for a period of two years upon signing by both Parties and automatically extended every two years unless otherwise amended or terminated.

Article 10

- 1. This MOU may be amended by a written protocol or an exchange of notes of both Parties.
- 2. Either Party may terminate this MOU by providing the other Party with a written notice at least six months in advance. In this case some provisions of this MOU upon the expiry of its validity shall remain in force in relation to the projects being at the stage of their implementation.

Done at Hanoi, on the 19th September, 2005, in duplicate in the Korean, Vietnamese and English languages; all texts being equally authentic.

In case of divergent interpretation of this MOU, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE KOREAN AGENCY FOR TECHNOLOGY AND STANDARDS

FOR THE DIRECTORATE
FOR STANDARDS AND QUALITY OF VIETNAM

Dr. Hye Won Kim

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President

Dr. Ngo Quy Viet

Director General