



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION AUTHORITY OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTORATE OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

The National Anti-corruption Authority of the Italian Republic and the Government Inspectorate of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, hereinafter collectively referred to as "The Parties", and individually referred to as "The Party"

realizing that the grave situation caused by corruption erodes social ethics, depraves public officials and deteriorates the welfare of peoples and nations worldwide;

being aware that the prevention of and fight against transnational corruption can be enhanced by the collaborative and continuous efforts between the Parties;

desiring to strengthen collaborative efforts in preventing and combating corruption on the basis of equality, friendship and mutual benefits, and in accordance with the laws and regulations of their respective countries;

recognizing the importance of international cooperation and the need to implement legally binding international anti-corruption instruments, in particular the UN Convention against Corruption and its peer review mechanisms;

have entered into the following Memorandum of Understanding:

Article 1: General Provision

The Parties will cooperate in preventing and combating corruption.

Article 2: Areas of Cooperation

The Parties will cooperate by the following modalities:

- 1. mutual consultations, exchange of information and materials, and best practices concerning the implementation of anti-corruption policies;
- 2. organization of joint seminars, round-tables, conferences, trainings and other educational events;

- 3. activities of information and education aimed at raising public awareness about corruption prevention, to strengthen participation and combat corruption;
- 4. organization of high-level meetings to discuss perspectives and areas of bilateral cooperation;
- 5. any other forms of cooperation coherent with the objectives set out in the present Memorandum of Understanding.

Article 3: Applicable law

This Memorandum of Understanding will be implemented in accordance with the Italian and Vietnamese legislations, as well as applicable international law and, as for the Italian Party, the obligations arising from Italy's membership of the European Union.

This Memorandum of Understanding does not constitute an international agreement which may lead to obligations under international law. No provision of this Memorandum of Understanding is to be understood and performed as a legal obligation or commitment of the Parties.

The activities foreseen under this Memorandum of Understanding will be implemented by the Parties according to their ordinary budget availability without any additional cost for the State budgets of the Italian Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Article 4: Contact points

Each Party will designate its representative as Contact Person. Any change of one Party's Contact Person will be communicated to the other Party.

For the Italian National Anti-corruption Authority, the Contact Person will be its Diplomatic Advisor;

For the Government Inspectorate of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Contact Person will be the Director General of the Department for International Cooperation.

Article 5: Confidentiality

- 1. Each Party will maintain confidential the information provided by the other Party.
- 2. Each Party who receives confidential information will take all reasonable and necessary efforts to prevent its disclosure.

- 3. The information provided by one of the Party to the other will always be considered strictly confidential and may not be disclosed outside of the respective organizations.
- 4. Exceptions on single issues will be decided in writing by mutual consent between the Parties.
- 5. The information on this Memorandum of Understanding will be published on the websites of the Parties.

Article 6: Amendments

The Parties may amend this Memorandum of Understanding in writing by mutual consent.

Such amendments will be an integral part of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Article 7: Differences of interpretation

Any difference in the interpretation and/or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be settled amicably by means of direct consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

Article 8: Final provisions

This Memorandum of Understanding takes effect on the date of signature, it will remain valid for a period of 5 (five) years and will be automatically extended for the same period of time.

Each Party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by giving a three-month prior written notice to the other Party.

Done at Rome on 26 September 2019, in two originals, each in Italian, Vietnamese and English languages; all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the text in English will prevail.

FOR THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION AUTHORITY OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC FOR THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTORATE OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM