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PRESS RELEASE

**Inception Workshop**

EU Support to the Development of Sustainable Energy in Vietnam


Sustainable Energy has been selected as one of the two focal areas of the EU Development Cooperation in Vietnam for the 2014 - 2020 period (EU Multiannual Indicative Programme for Viet Nam 2014 – 2020). An indicative amount of EUR 346 million out of the total EUR 400 million envelop has been provisionally allocated to support the Development of Sustainable Energy in Vietnam.

The workshop is filled with various presentations from MOIT, private sector and the EU providing participants with an overview on the state of play, challenges and assistance needed for the implementation of key government programmes, policies and strategies in the energy sector. The workshop also discussed challenges that the private sector faces and its vision as well as EU possible instruments and modalities to support Vietnam's sustainable energy goals.

At the opening remarks of the workshop, MOIT Vice Minister Hoang Quoc Vuong expressed "Although Vietnam is now an energy exporter, it will become a net energy importer in the near future with estimated import of 17 million tonnes of coal, equivalent to 31% of its energy resources as of 2020. Significant investments, energy market reforms are essential to meet the demand in the future, and to maintain energy access for all at affordable price, reducing carbon emission and the sector's environmental impacts”

Dr. Franz Jessen, Ambassador – Head of Delegation of the European Union to Vietnam emphasised that "The European Union aims at having a direct and results-oriented sectoral dialogue with the Government of Vietnam. We intend to become a strategic partner and facilitate a smooth and effective implementation of an Energy Support programme, with sustainable benefits to the people of Vietnam."

"EU Support to the Development of Sustainable Energy in Viet Nam for 2014 – 2020 period will contribute to improving energy generation and consumption in Vietnam, increasing the share of clean and renewable energy in the energy mix, and improving access to reliable and sustainable energy services by the people", stressed Vice Minister Vuong.

At the workshop, MOIT and the EU Delegation agreed on the way forward for a reinforced cooperation in the field of sustainable energy. This agreement has been materialized through the signing of the two co-chairs - Dr. Franz Jessen and Vice Minister Hoang Quoc Vuong at the workshop. This Agreement sets the ground for the enhanced cooperation between the two sides.

Attending the workshop were representatives from Government Agencies, Development Partners Agencies, Financing Institutions, Private Sector and Non-Government Organisations, etc.

**Media Contact:** Ms Vien Ngoc Bich - Delegation of the European Union to Vietnam, telephone: 84-4-3 9461783 or email: bich.vien@eeas.europa.eu