

**STATEMENT OF VIET NAM AT THE THIRTY SECOND SESSION OF THE
COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE,
22-26 May 2023**

*Delivered by H.E. Ambassador Nguyen Trung Kien,
Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic Viet Nam to United Nations
and other International Organization in Vienna
Vienna, 22 May 2023*

Madam Chair,

The Delegation of Viet Nam joins the other delegations in congratulating you on your election and wishes to extend our full support to your chairmanship. Viet Nam associates itself with the statement made by the Pakistani Ambassador on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and the statement by the Malaysian Ambassador on behalf of the Asia Pacific Group. In its national capacity, Viet Nam would like to make the following remarks.

[Madam Chair,]

The world is facing global challenges including non-conventional security issues that threaten national security, social safety and human security. Transnational organized criminals with connections to corrupted officers in public sector, including officers in the criminal justice system, pose great challenges to the effectiveness of the criminal justice system. Aside from its huge advantages, the robust development of information technology is regrettably being mis-used for criminal purposes. In this regard, a well-functioning criminal justice system that ensures access to justice and contributes to a safe and secure society, needs to be efficient and accountable. These are also the cores of the commitments expressed in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 16.

Madam Chair,

Viet Nam would like to emphasize that the rights to access to justice and to live in a safe and secure society remain the basic human rights, well recognized in the UN Charter, international law and national law. We would like to re-

confirm our determination to act as an active and responsible member of the international community in implementing its commitments to ensure the full and effective implementation of these rights. In conducting the Justice Reform Strategy, Viet Nam is working towards the goals of *“establishing a strong, transparent, democratic justice system that effectively serve the people and nation; ensuring justice activities, with judiciary activities as core being efficient and effective; justice institutions focusing on protecting justice, human rights and also serving as an effective tool in protecting law and the socialist legal system, fighting against crimes and violations; justice reform aiming at human right protection is the driving force for socio-economic development and vice versa, socio economic development goal is the basis to implement justice reform”*. Enormous achievements have been made in the justice reform so far such as institutionalization targeting on building up a civilized, modern and equal justice system; establishment of trust, transparent and effective criminal institutions; and increased efficiency in the criminal justice system through multisectoral cooperation. In addition, the Government of Viet Nam is working constructively on the National Strategy in Justice Reform towards 2045, with a goal of establishing criminal justice institutions, especially judicial system, that are free from corruption and operate on the principles of equality, integrity, transparency and accountability.

Madam Chair,

We are of strong belief that international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice matters is crucial in realizing the goals of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, especially Goal 16. Despite challenges posed in the post pandemic recovery process, Viet Nam continues to push forwards cooperation activities and programs. EU – Viet Nam Justice and Legal Empowerment Programs, UNICEF-Viet Nam Project of Strengthened Access to Justice and Protection of Minors in Contact with the Law, just to name a few, are vivid expressions of our commitment to enhance effective international cooperation in

crime prevention and criminal justice.

In its own capacity, Viet Nam continues to implement in good faith its obligations under international treaties, including the UN Convention against Corruption and UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crimes, numerous international instruments on counter-terrorism, regional and bilateral agreements on preventing and combating crimes, extradition, mutual legal assistance. Viet Nam is also fulfilling its internal procedures to become a member of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing UNTOC. Over a year from the last session, Viet Nam has concluded several bilateral agreements on exchange of intelligence information and transfer of sentenced persons. The conclusion of these agreements reflects our practical approach in criminal cooperation.

Madam Chair,

In enhancing the integrity and efficiency of the criminal justice system, it is essential to ensure effective, transparent and capable human resources in the crime prevention and criminal justice system, especially law enforcement, judges and judiciaries. Capacity building with focus on information technology training in this regard is essential. Viet Nam highly values the role and works of the UNODC in supporting member states in this effort. We strongly believe that technical support from UNODC will help member states strengthen its judicial integrity, improve credibility and ability to facilitate access to justice and prevent crime. We count on the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the governing body of UNODC to continue supporting member states in this field, aiming towards the full implementation of the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law as well as the achievements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

I thank you Chair./.