



**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM**

2 Ngoc Ha, Ba Dinh, Hanoi

Tel: (84-4) 38438160; Fax: (84 - 4) 38454319; Email: bnn@fpt.vn

To: H.E. Mr. Kjell Storlökken,
Ambassador of the Royal Norwegian Embassy

H.E Mr. John Hendra,
The UN Resident Coordinator in Vietnam

Hanoi, 10 April, 2009

Ref. The implementation of the UN-REDD Programme in Vietnam

Excellency,

Following the letter dated 17 November 2008 of H.E. Mr. Cao Duc Phat - the Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam (MARD) to H.E Mr. John Hendra on Vietnam's interest in the Quick Start Initiative of the UN Programme on Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN-REDD) funded the Royal Norwegian Government, I am very pleased to inform you that the proposal of Vietnam was approved by the UN-REDD Policy Board in the Meeting held from 9-10 March 2009 in Panama. According to Policy Board decision, Vietnam will receive about USD 4.38 million for strengthening institutional and technical capacity at national and local levels to implement the REDD. On this occasion, I would like to express our great thanks to the Government of Norway and the United Nations Participating Agencies (FAO, UNDP and UNEP) to valuable and timely support that enable Vietnam to manage forest sustainably and to joint the international effort in minimizing negative impacts of climate change. The REDD implementation will also contribute to the sustainable development in Vietnam. We also express our special thanks to the officials of the Royal Norwegian Embassy, the Norwegian Climate and Forest Initiative and of the UNDP Country Office in Hanoi for their valuable support and cooperation.

The support from the UN-REDD Quick Start Initiative is very important. However, the REDD implementation requires substantial investment and inter-sector approach. Therefore, during the official visit of the State Secretary for International Development of Norway, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam would like to seek for more opportunities to develop further cooperation between the two countries in implementing the National Target Programme to Respond to Climate Change, in general, and the Action Plan Framework to Respond to Climate Change of MARD as well as the REDD Programme, in particular. We do hope the outcomes of this initiative will be very promising and our forest owners will have more opportunities to access to the new and sustainable financial sources and mechanisms for forest management and development activities on the ground.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy and the UN agencies the assurances of its highest consideration.

Yours sincerely

Dao Xuan Hoc
Vice Minister