

Administration of Donald J. Trump, 2017

Joint Statement by President Trump and President Tran Dai Quang of Vietnam

November 12, 2017

1. At the invitation of President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Tran Dai Quang, President of the United States of America Donald J. Trump paid a state visit to Hanoi, Vietnam, from November 11 to 12, 2017. The two leaders discussed measures to strengthen and expand the Comprehensive Partnership between their two countries based on mutual understanding, shared interests, and a common desire to promote peace, cooperation, prosperity, and security in the Indo-Pacific region. Both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to deepening ties on the basis of previous joint statements between the two sides; respect for the United Nations Charter and international law; and each other's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and respective political systems.
2. President Trump congratulated Vietnam on hosting a successful Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Leaders' Meeting in Danang. The two leaders reaffirmed their intent to continue high-level contacts and exchanges of delegations, and to strengthen existing dialogue mechanisms, including party-to-party dialogues. Both sides highlighted the expanding and mutually beneficial economic relations between the United States and Vietnam, and underscored their shared desire to create jobs and favorable conditions for commerce and business in both countries.
3. The two leaders pledged to deepen and expand the bilateral trade and investment relationship between the United States and Vietnam through formal mechanisms, including the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA). They welcomed the return of market access for United States distillers dried grains into the Vietnamese market and new access for Vietnamese star apples into the United States market. The leaders committed to seek resolution of remaining agricultural trade issues, including those regarding siluriformes, shrimp, and mangoes, and to promote free and fair trade and investment in priority areas, including electronic payment services, automobiles, and intellectual property rights enforcement.
4. The two leaders welcomed the announcement of \$12 billion in new commercial agreements during President Trump's visit. Both leaders also welcomed expanding bilateral energy ties, including discussions between companies from both sides on Vietnam's import of liquefied natural gas from the United States, as well as steps by Vietnam to enhance its capacity for solar power generation with the support of the United States.
5. Affirming their commitment to deepened defense cooperation and shared resolve to address regional security challenges, President Quang thanked the United States Government for the transfer of a Hamilton-class Coast Guard cutter to help improve Vietnam's maritime security and law enforcement capabilities. Both leaders welcomed the plan for the first ever visit, in 2018, by a United States aircraft carrier to a Vietnamese port. They affirmed the 2018–2020 Plan of Action for United States-Viet Nam Defense Cooperation to implement the 2011 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Advancing Bilateral Defense Cooperation and the 2015 Joint Vision

Statement on Defense Relations, strengthening bilateral defense relations in areas of maritime security, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, peacekeeping operations, and overcoming war legacy issues. In this regard, the two leaders welcomed the early visit of the United States Secretary of Defense to Vietnam.

6. The two leaders underscored that their two countries would deepen and gradually expand security and intelligence cooperation, enhancing information sharing and joint training on issues of mutual concern. The leaders expressed their intent to strengthen cooperation on cyber security through increased exchanges of delegations and information sharing, in order to promote an open and secure cyberspace. President Quang also expressed interest in closer collaboration on aviation safety and security, and counterterrorism.
7. Both leaders reaffirmed the importance of continued cooperation to address the legacies of war. In this regard, President Quang expressed appreciation for the contribution of the United States to the successful dioxin remediation at Da Nang Airport, and welcomed the United States commitment to contribute to remediation at Bien Hoa Airport. He welcomed further United States assistance for persons with disabilities. President Trump expressed his appreciation for Vietnam's full and continued cooperation in accounting for United States personnel still missing from the war, and pledged to cooperate with Vietnam in its efforts to locate its missing soldiers. The two leaders committed to cooperation in the removal of remnants of explosives from the war.
8. Both leaders affirmed their support for enhancing people-to-people ties to strengthen mutual understanding, cooperation, and friendship between the people of the United States and Vietnam, including through professional and academic exchanges, the launch of the Fulbright University Vietnam, \$500,000 in Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) alumni grants, and the arrival of the first ever Peace Corps volunteers in Vietnam.
9. President Trump and President Quang welcomed the exchange of Agreed Minutes on the intent of the United States to acquire the "D30" site in Hanoi for the construction of a new embassy facility, in accordance with the laws of both countries. President Trump expressed United States support for Vietnam to acquire better diplomatic and consular facilities in the United States.
10. The two leaders recognized the importance of protecting and promoting human rights.
11. The two leaders discussed and welcomed initiatives to preserve peace and stability and to advance cooperation and development in the Indo-Pacific region. The two leaders recognized the central role of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in the region, and pledged to respect and support the centrality and unity of ASEAN in the evolving regional architecture. Both sides expressed support for ASEAN to play a stronger role in addressing traditional and non-traditional security challenges such as terrorism, natural disasters and humanitarian crises, illegal drugs, and transnational criminal organizations. The leaders committed to deepening the United States-ASEAN Strategic Partnership based on the principles outlined in the 2016 Sunnylands Declaration. They welcomed the 50th anniversary of ASEAN's founding and the 40th anniversary of United States-ASEAN relations, and looked forward to commemorative activities, including the ASEAN-United States Commemorative Summit in Manila on November 13, 2017.

12. Both leaders expressed grave concern over North Korea's nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs and tests, which violate United Nations Security Council resolutions and threaten international peace and security. They urged all countries around the world to fully and strictly implement all relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, and agreed to deepen bilateral cooperation to ensure their effective enforcement. The two leaders agreed on the importance of the peaceful denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.
13. The two leaders underscored the strategic importance to the international community of free and open access to the South China Sea, the importance of unimpeded lawful commerce, the need to respect freedom of navigation and over-flight, and other lawful uses of the sea. The two sides reiterated the stance on the South China Sea in the previous United States-Vietnam and United States-ASEAN joint statements, including their call on parties to refrain from escalatory actions, the militarization of disputed features, and unlawful restrictions on freedom of the seas. They reaffirmed their shared commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with international law, including full respect for legal and diplomatic processes. They called for the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), and an early conclusion to an effective, legally binding Code of Conduct for the South China Sea (COC). They further called for all South China Sea claimants to clarify and comport their maritime claims in accordance with the international law of the sea as reflected in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and to implement their international legal obligations in good faith in managing or resolving these disputes.
14. The leaders noted that, as a partner of the Mekong River Commission (MRC) and a founding member of the Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI), the United States supports the efforts of the Lower Mekong countries to sustainably manage the region's water and environmental resources for the benefit of all. President Quang acknowledged the leading role of the United States in reducing global carbon emissions and innovating clean energy technologies, and he thanked the United States for its assistance to Vietnam in advancing climate mitigation and adaptation efforts.

NOTE: The joint statement referred to U.S. Secretary of Defense James N. Mattis. An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Categories: Joint Statements : Vietnam, President Quang.

Names: Mattis, James N.; Quang, Tran Dai.

Subjects: Armed Forces, U.S. : Servicemembers :: POW/MIA remains, recovery efforts; Asia : Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN); Asia : South China Sea, maritime territorial disputes; Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC); Commerce, international : Free and fair trade; Defense, Department of : Secretary; Education : Foreign exchange programs; Environment : Climate change; North Korea : Ballistic missiles, testing and development; North Korea : International diplomatic efforts; North Korea : Nuclear weapons development; Peace Corps, U.S.; Terrorism : Counterterrorism efforts; Vietnam : Educational exchanges with U.S.; Vietnam : Human rights issues; Vietnam : President; Vietnam : President Trump's visit; Vietnam : Relations with U.S.; Vietnam : Security cooperation with U.S.; Vietnam : Trade with U.S.; Vietnam : Unexploded ordnance removal and dioxin remediation, U.S. support.

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