

Speech by Mr Tran Ba Viet Dung, Director General International Cooperation Department Ministry of Education and Training

UNIS Campus, 17 October 2008

Mr. Hendra and his UN Staff, Dr. Barder and his Faculty, Staff and Board, UNIS Parents, and Students, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Ministry of Education and Training, Vietnam I am proud to be here at such a special event -the 20th Anniversary of the United Nations International School of Hanoi (*or for short we call it UNIS Hanoi*).

This event marks the growth of the school and its historical establishment.

20 years ago, on June 07, 1988, UNIS Hanoi was established by Decree 373/QD based on the commission by the Chairman of Ministers' Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and signed by the Minister of Education. To set forth the principles of operation, a Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Ministry of Education, was signed on June 20, 1988, which laid the foundation and established UNIS Hanoi as the first international school in Vietnam.

The Ministry of Education and Training, Vietnam would like to congratulate United Nations International School of Hanoi regarding its many accomplishments over the last 20 years. From the numerous successes of its current and former students to this beautiful, modern, state of the art campus hosting 850 students, UNIS Hanoi has established itself as a model and a symbol of the best in international education.

Under the sponsorship, leadership and influence of the United Nations here in Hanoi, the school has risen to be one of the top schools in all of East Asia. As the school goes forward for the next 20 years and beyond, I would like to sincerely wish UNIS Hanoi continued success. We are fortunate to have such a school as this in Vietnam. May UNIS Hanoi continue to maintain its high standards and outstanding reputation so that it will have an even greater positive impact on Education in Vietnam.

Best of luck to Dr. Barder and his Faculty, Staff and Board, UNIS Parents, and Students.

May I take this opportunity to bring you – the UNIS Hanoi - the most beautiful flowers from the Ministry of Education and Training, Vietnam as a token of congratulations and appreciation.

Thank you.