AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY

ON

THE EXEMPTION OF VISA REQUIREMENT FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Government of the Republic of Italy, hereinafter referred to as "the Contracting Parties",

desirous of promoting their bilateral relations,

considering the interest in strengthening the existing friendly relationship and with a view to facilitating the travel of citizens of both countries, holding diplomatic passport,

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Citizens of the Contracting Parties, holders of valid diplomatic passports, and not accredited in the territory of the other Contracting Party, shall be exempt from visa requirement to enter, transit through, stay on and leave the territory of the receiving State up to ninety (90) days (in one or several periods) within six (6) months, since the day of arrival in the territory of the host State. For citizens of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the period of ninety (90) days mentioned above shall begin from the date of first entry in Schengen Area.

Article 2

This Agreement does not exempt the members of diplomatic mission, consular posts as well as representatives of international organizations, located in the territory of the other Contracting Party, as well their family members holding valid diplomatic passports, from the visa obligation for their accreditation before the host State.

The above mentioned persons, after the accreditation, may enter,

transit through, stay on and leave the territory of the host State without visa during the period of their assignment.

Article 3

Citizens of the Contracting Parties, holders of diplomatic passports mentioned in Articles 1 and 2 of this Agreement, may enter or leave the territory of the other Contracting Party at all border crossing points open to international passengers' traffic.

Article 4

This Agreement shall not affect the obligation of citizens of the Contracting Parties, referred to in Articles 1 and 2, to respect the legislation of the receiving State.

Article 5

The Agreement does not affect the right of the competent authorities of each Contracting Party to refuse entry into or stay in its territory of any citizens of the other Contracting Party who are considered undesirable.

Article 6

For reasons of national security and public order each Contracting Party reserves the right to suspend, either in whole or in part, the implementation of this Agreément.

The other Contracting Party shall be notified about suspension of implementation of this Agreement through diplomatic channels, not later than 72 hours before the entry into force of such measure.

The suspension of the implementation of this Agreement shall not affect the rights of nationals, mentioned in Articles 1 and 2 of this Agreement, who already stay in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

Article 7

The Contracting Parties shall exchange specimens of the diplomatic passports through diplomatic channels not later than thirty (30) days before the entry into force of this Agreement.

In case of introduction of a new diplomatic passport or modification of the existing one, the Contracting Parties shall convey to each other through diplomatic channels specimens of these passports, not later than thirty (30) days before the date the new passports or modifications enter into force.

Article 8

The Agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the Contracting Parties by additional Protocols or exchange of Diplomatic Notes. These documents shall be considered as an integral part of this Agreement.

Article 9

Any differences or disputes arising from the interpretation of the provisions of this Agreement shall be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation between the Contracting Parties through diplomatic channels.

Article 10

This Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth (30th) day from the date of the receipt through diplomatic channels of the last written notification, by which the Contracting Parties have formally communicated each other that their respective internal procedures, necessary for its enter into force, have been completed.

This Agreement shall remain in force for an indefinite period and shall remain effective before expiration of three (3) months from the date of the receipt by one of the Contracting Parties through diplomatic channels of written notice of termination of the other Contracting Party.

Done in Milan on 13th July 2010, in two originals in Vietnamese, Italian, and English languages, all being equally authentic.

In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF **VIETNAM**

Nowen Rine Curng Deputy Minister

Ministry of foreign Affairs

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF

THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY

Franco Frattini Minister Ministry of foreign Affairs