AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND
ON
VISA EXEMPTION FOR HOLDERS OF ORDINARY PASSPORTS

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

Desiring to promote the existing friendly relationship and to facilitate travel between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Kingdom of Thailand;

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

- 1. Vietnamese nationals, who are holders of valid Vietnamese ordinary passports, shall be exempt from visa requirement for entry into, exit from and transit through the territory of the Kingdom of Thailand at all points of entry open to international passenger traffic.
- 2. Thai nationals, who are holders of valid Thai ordinary passports, shall be exempt from visa requirement for entry into, exit from and transit through the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at all points of entry open to international passenger traffic.
- 3. The passport holders referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall be permitted to stay in the territory of the other Contracting Party for a period not exceeding 30 (thirty) days from the date of entry.

Article 2

The competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties shall, as soon as possible, inform each other, through diplomatic channels, of any changes in their respective laws and regulations concerning the entry, exit and stay applied to foreigners.

Article 3

- 1. This Agreement shall not exempt the holders of the said passports from the obligations of respecting laws and regulations in force in the territory of the host country.
- 2. The competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties reserve the right to refuse the entry or shorten the duration of stay of any nationals of the other Contracting Party on the ground of national security, public order or health.

Article 4

For reasons of national security, public order or health, either Contracting Party may, in whole or in part, suspend the implementation of this Agreement. The commencement and the termination of such suspension shall be notified immediately to the other Contracting Party through diplomatic channels.

<u>Article 5</u>

The Contracting Parties shall exchange, through diplomatic channels, specimens of the current ordinary passports or specimens of any new ordinary passports 30 (thirty) days before they are introduced or before this Agreement comes into force.

Article 6

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- 1. This Agreement shall enter into force 60 (sixty) days from the date of signing and shall remain valid for an indefinite period unless it is terminated by either Contracting Party by giving a written notice to that effect 3 (three) months in advance through diplomatic channels.
- 2. This Agreement may be amended or supplemented by mutual consent of the two Contracting Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

Done in duplicate at Bangkok on... 9.... May 2000, in the English language.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

Nguyen Dy Nien Minister of Foreign Affairs

Surin Pitsuwan Minister of Foreign Affairs