

ANNEX 1
IMPLEMENTATION PLANS FOR THE ICCPR

This Annex includes:

I. Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QD-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on Strengthening the Effectiveness of the Implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's Recommendations

II. List of competent authorities issuing action plans on the implementation of the Decision No. 1252/QD-TTg

III. Relevant results, solutions and activities

PRIME MINISTER

No: 1252/QĐ-TTg

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

Independence – Freedom - Happiness

Hanoi, 26 September 2019

DECISION

**ON APPROVING THE PLAN ON STRENGTHENING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL
AND POLITICAL RIGHTS AND THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMITTEE’S RECOMMENDATIONS**

The PRIME MINISTER

Pursuant to the Law on Organization of the Government dated 19 June 2015;

Pursuant to the Law on Treaties dated 9 April 2016;

At the proposal of the Minister of Justice,

DECIDES:

Article 1. To approve the Plan on Strengthening the Effectiveness of the Implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee’s Recommendations (hereinafter referred to as “the Plan”), with the following contents:

I. PURPOSES AND REQUIREMENTS

1. Purposes

a) Clearly defining mandates and their appropriate implementation roadmap in strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the ICCPR provisions and the United Nations Human Rights Committee’s recommendations, thereby contributing to improving the people’s enjoyment of civil and political rights in accordance with the Constitution, laws and regulations and socio-economic conditions of Viet Nam; satisfying the requirements on external and internal relations, and the national security and social order and safety.

b) Enhancing the roles and responsibilities of, and assigning specific tasks to, relevant ministries and agencies, and strengthening the effectiveness of the cooperation among agencies in the due, effective and consistent implementation process.

2. Requirements

a) The Plan must be organized and implemented in conformity with the Vietnamese Communist Party’s views, undertakings, guidelines of, and the State’s policies and laws, on human rights; in accordance with the provisions of the 2013 Constitution, and Chapter VIII of the 2016 Law on Treaties. With regard to the implementation of the ICCPR provisions and

the recommendations related to the law making, it is necessary to consider the roadmap for legislative programs of the National Assembly.

b) The implementation of the Covenant and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations must be consistent with the functions, duties and powers of all agencies at all levels.

c) Relevant ministries and agencies assigned to lead or cooperate in the implementation must make and carry out specific plans and programs according to their schedules and with their effectiveness guaranteed.

d) Close and consistent collaboration and coordination among relevant ministries, agencies and localities must be secured; difficulties and problems arising out from the implementation the Plan must be promptly resolved or reported to the competent authorities for resolution.

II. MAJOR MANDATES AND SOLUTIONS OF THE PLAN

1. Continuing the incorporation of the ICCPR provisions into Vietnamese laws and regulations, and improving the laws and regulations to implement the ICCPR

a) Reviewing and assessing the compatibility between the draft laws and resolutions of the National Assembly and the ordinances of the National Assembly Standing Committee and the ICCPR in the drafting process.

b) Researching and proposing law improvements to ensure their compatibility with the ICCPR, including provisions on restriction of rights, anti-discrimination and others.

c) Developing a comprehensive report to assess the incorporation of the ICCPR provisions into Vietnamese law, identifying domestic law provisions that neither comply with nor conform to the ICCPR, and recommending the incorporation of the ICCPR provisions into Vietnamese law and proposing law improvements to implement the ICCPR.

2. Continuing to improve the effectiveness of the implementation of laws and regulations on civil and political rights

a) Issuing and implementing national action plans and programs to eliminate stigmatization and discrimination against women (in order to increase women's participation in all fields and eliminate gender-based violence) and vulnerable groups, especially people with disabilities, children, people of ethnic minorities, the LGBTI community, the HIV/AIDS infected.

b) Improving the effectiveness of receiving complaints and denunciations in a convenient, safe manner, and increasing the number of handled complaints and denunciations related to violations of individuals' civil and political rights to better ensure the rights to file complaints and denunciations.

c) Continuing to improve the effectiveness of the implementation of civil and political rights in criminal proceedings.

d) Increasing supportive activities to protect civil and political rights.

dd) Improving the quality of activities in compensation and support for victims of acts of violation of civil and political rights.

e) Strengthening inspection, examination, supervision and statistics on the implementation of civil and political rights.

3. Continuing to promote civil and political rights through dissemination, education and training

a) Disseminating Viet Nam's achievements on law development and implementation and the information on Dialogues between the United Nations Human Rights Committee and Viet Nam on the third periodic Country Report.

b) Continuing to disseminate the content of the ICCPR, the General Comments, the Recommendations of the United Nations Human Rights Committee, and the third periodic Country Report of Viet Nam and related documents.

c) Disseminating externally Viet Nam's achievements on guarantee of human rights (with foreign countries and at international and regional organizations, and at international and regional multilateral mechanisms and forums on human rights).

d) Disseminating and providing education on the provisions of the ICCPR in order to create positive changes in the awareness of educational managers, teachers and learners.

4. International cooperation activities, researches on relevant international treaties, and the performance of periodic reporting obligations as required by the ICCPR and recommended by the United Nations Human Rights Committee

a) Implementing the periodic reporting and notification of the implementation of the ICCPR and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations.

b) Strengthening international cooperation to effectively implement the ICCPR and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations, including participating in the United Nations Human Rights Committee's sessions.

c) Continuing to research the possibility of establishing a national human rights agency in conformity with Viet Nam's economic, cultural and social conditions, and the international treaties, which Viet Nam has concluded or acceded to.

d) Conducting research on the possibility of accession to relevant international treaties to better ensure civil and political rights.

dd) Ensuring the reporting on the implementation of the ICCPR and the recommendations as required by Article 40 of the ICCPR and the recommendations of the United Nations Human Rights Committee.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

1. On the basis of the mandates in the Appendix attached to this Decision, relevant ministries, agencies and localities shall, within their functions and duties, promulgate their plans before 15 December 2019, and send to the Ministry of Justice for monitoring or supplementing, and integrating into national plans, schemes, strategies and national target programs on human rights and other rights of citizenship. In the course of implementation, relevant ministries and agencies shall research the general comments and recommendations of the United Nations Human Rights Committee to have a common awareness and knowledge, and urgently carry out on schedule the activities in the Plan approved by the Prime Minister.

2. The Ministry of Justice has, acting as the focal point, the duty to give advisory opinions to the Prime Minister in organizing, directing, supervising and speeding up and inspecting the implementation of the Plan nationwide; and to preside over a 4-year review of the implementation of this Plan in order to draw experiences for the implementation of the Covenant and the subsequent Dialogues.

3. Ministers, the heads of ministerial-level agencies, the heads of government agencies, and the presidents of province-level people's committees shall direct, supervise and speed up the performance of activities in the Plan; continue to carry out activities to ensure and promote specific civil and political rights in the other decisions and plans of the Prime Minister; periodically notify the implementation results to the Ministry of Justice before 30 November every year for synthesis.

4. The Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuracy are requested, pursuant to their respective functions and duties, to research the comments and recommendations of the United Nations Human Rights Committee to proactively and effectively implement the ICCPR's contents; and to strengthen the inspection, examination, supervision and handling of violations of the Covenant's provisions.

5. The Central Committee of Vietnam Fatherland Front and its member organizations are requested to engage in the implementation according to their respective functions and duties.

IV. BUDGET

The implementation of the Plan is covered by the state budget. The ministries, central agencies and localities shall, with their respective mandates in this Plan, proactively arrange

their respective legally stipulated annual budget and other lawful funding sources for the implementation of the mandates in the Plan.

Article 2. This Decision shall take effect from the date of signing.

Article 3. Ministers, the heads of ministerial-level agencies, the heads of government agencies, and the presidents of province-level people's committees shall implement this Decision.

Recipients:

- Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Ministers;
- Ministries, ministerial-level agencies, Government agencies;
- Province-level People's Councils, province-level People's Committees;
- Central Party Commission for External Relations;
- Central Propaganda Commission;
- Office of the Central Party Committee;
- Ethnic Minority Affairs Council and the Committees of the National Assembly;
- Office of the National Assembly;
- Supreme People's Court;
- Supreme People's Procuracy;
- Central Committee of Vietnam Fatherland Front;
- Central agencies of mass organizations;
- Office of the Government: The Chairman and Minister, Deputy Minister Nguyen Sy Hiep, the Assistant to the Prime Minister, Departments: International Cooperation, Law, E-portal;
- Archives, Internal Affairs (03 copies).

**ON BEHALF OF THE PRIME MINISTER
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER**

Pham Binh Minh

APPENDIX

MANDATES AND SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS (ICCPR) AND THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

(Attached to the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019)

No.	Specific mandates and solutions	Lead agency	Cooperating Agencies	Output	Deadline
A.	Continuing the incorporation of the ICCPR provisions into Vietnamese laws and regulations, and improving the laws and regulations to implement the ICCPR				
I.	Reviewing and assessing the compatibility between the draft laws and resolutions of the National Assembly and the ordinances of the National Assembly Standing Committee and the ICCPR in the drafting process	the Ministry of Justice	- Relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court are requested to collaborate in the implementation	Pieces of primary and secondary legislations enacted in accordance with the provisions of the Covenant	Every year
II.	Researching and proposing law improvements to ensure their compatibility with the ICCPR				
1.	Reviewing the laws and regulations on the restriction of rights, and proposing for their improvements in the following fields:				
1.1.	National defence (national emergency). Attention is paid to non-derogable rights in case of emergency, and procedures for informing internationally in case of	the Ministry of National Defence	the Ministry of Public Security; other relevant agencies	Reports on reviewing the laws and regulations, and proposing improvements thereto	- Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022

	emergency				
1.2.	National security (attention is paid to the concept of national security, crimes violating the national security and etc. in Penal Code)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Public Security (the Law on National Security and other implementing legislation) - the Ministry of Justice (Penal Code) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other relevant ministries - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties 	Reports on reviewing the laws and regulations, and proposing improvements thereto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022
1.3	Anti-terrorism (including the definition of the acts of terrorism, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Public Security (reviewing the general matters in the Law on Anti-Terrorism) - the Ministry of Justice (reviewing the relevant provisions in the Penal Code; and summing up the review results) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministries: National Defence, Foreign Affairs, Transportation, Finance, and Information and Communications; the State Bank; and other relevant ministries and agencies - Province-level People's Committees, and other relevant agencies and organizations 	Reports on reviewing the laws and regulations, and proposing improvements thereto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022
1.4	Religion (attention is paid to prohibited acts; registration procedure for religious activities, recognition of religious organizations; guarantees for religious activities; mechanisms on dealing with complaints and denunciations, and the handling of	the Ministry of Internal Affairs (the Government Committee on Religious Affairs)	Other relevant ministries and agencies	Reports on reviewing the laws and regulations, and proposing improvements thereto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022

	violations in the field of religion; etc.)				
1.5	Information and communications (attention is paid to prohibited acts; the handling of administrative violations; etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Information and Communications (the Law on Network Information Safety, the Law on the Press, the Law on Publication, and other implementing legislation) - the Ministry of Public Security (the Law on Cybersecurity and other implementing legislation) 	Other relevant ministries and agencies	Reports on reviewing the laws and regulations, and proposing improvements thereto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022
1.6	Law provisions on the restriction on rights in the field of immigration and residence (attention is paid to restrictions on Vietnamese citizens' rights to exit and entry; the handling of administrative sanctions in the field of immigration and residence, etc.)	the Ministry of Public Security	- the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other relevant ministries and agencies	Reports on reviewing the laws and regulations, and proposing improvements thereto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022

1.7	Law provisions on the restriction of rights in the handling of administrative violations (attention is paid to administrative custody, application of administrative measures and etc.)	the Ministry of Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Public Security, and other relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Court is requested to collaborate in the implementation 	Reports on reviewing the laws and regulations, and proposing improvements thereto	2020
2.	Reviewing and improving the laws and regulations on non-discrimination, with a focus on:				
2.1.	Research on the possibility of enacting a comprehensive anti-discrimination law that includes adequate and effective protection against all forms of discrimination across all sectors, and a comprehensive list of prohibited grounds of discrimination, including race, color, ethnicity or social origin, disability, age, sexual orientation and gender identity, any other conditions	the Ministry of Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Labor - Invalids and Social Affairs; the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, the Ministry of Health, and relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties 	Assessment report on the possibility to prepare a Law on Anti-Discrimination to submit to the Prime Minister	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022

2.2.	Reviewing the laws and regulations, and proposing for their improvements to guarantee the equality between men and women, against gender-based discrimination (including LGBTI), HIV/AIDS-infected persons, with a focus on:				
a	Labor matters (attention is paid to retirement age, and mechanism for handling labor complaints and lawsuits in connection with discrimination...)	the Ministry of Labor - Invalids and Social Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Procuracy, the Supreme People's Court and Vietnam General Confederation of Labor are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022
b	Criminal matters (attention is paid to the possibility to criminalize marital rape and sexual abuse)	the Ministry of Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Public Security - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022
c	Health matters (attention is paid to surgery for sexual reaffirmation for intersex children, sexual reassignment for transgender)	the Ministry of Health	the Ministry of Labor - Invalids and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Public Security, and other relevant		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report:

	persons, gender recognition without medical requirements...)		ministries and agencies		2022
d	Family and marriage matters (attention is paid to minimum age for marriage, the role of women in family, legal recognition and protection of same-sex marriage, etc.)	the Ministry of Justice	- Other relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Court is requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their functions and duties		- Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022
dd	Population administration (attention is paid to law provisions on permanent residence registration that might result in discrimination against persons of ethnic minorities, and etc.)	the Ministry of Justice	- Other relevant ministries and agencies		
3.	Reviewing laws and regulations, and proposing for their improvements in the following:				
3.1.	Laws and regulations to ensure the independence of the judicial system (attention is paid to the tenures of judges, criteria for appointment of judges, and etc.)	the People's Supreme Court is requested to preside over the implementation	- the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Public Security, and other relevant ministries and agencies		- Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022

3.2.	Laws and regulations on drug detoxification (attention is paid to the labor regime of treatment-seeking persons at detoxification establishments, especially at compulsory detoxification establishments ...)	the Ministry of Labor - Invalids and Social Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Public Security; the Ministry of Justice - the People's Supreme Court is requested to collaborate in the implementation 	Reports on research on law improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022
3.3.	Continued research on reducing the number of crimes punishable by death penalty	the Ministry of Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties 	Reports on research on law improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022

3.4.	Criminal law on anti-torture (attention is paid to the possibility of criminalizing torture act as a separate crime, of removing the provisions on excluding the criminal liability of persons who commit acts of torture, and of removing the statute of limitations on criminal prosecution against torture-related crimes, in the Penal Code ...)	the Ministry of Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of National Defence, and other relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties 	Reports on research on law improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022
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3.5.	Juvenile justice (attention is paid to the detention and trial of juveniles, and the child age to ensure their conformity with international standards ...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Justice - the Ministry of Labor - Invalids and Social Affairs (with regard to amending laws and regulations relating to the definition of the child age) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties 	Reports on research on law improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022
3.6.	Cases where force and weapons are used by law enforcement officers	the Ministry of Public Security	- the Ministry of National Defence, and other relevant ministries and agencies	Reports on research on law improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022
3.7.	Right to association (attention is paid to the rights to join or form labor unions of choice, foreign funding sources for associations ...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Home Affairs (with regard to the draft of Law on Associations) - the Ministry of Labor - Invalids and Social Affairs (with regard to the 	- Other relevant ministries and agencies	Reports on research on law improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022

		<p>representative organizations of employees in the Labor Code)</p> <p>- Vietnam General Confederation of Labor is requested to collaborate in the implementation (regarding trade union matters in the Law on Labor Union)</p> <p>- the Ministry of Planning and Investment (with regard to foreign funding sources for associations)</p>			
3.8.	<p>Right to peaceful assembly (including the right to protest; the right to organize conferences and seminars with foreign elements involved ...)</p>	<p>- the Ministry of Public Security (with regard to the right to protest)</p> <p>- the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (with regard to the right to organize conferences and seminars with foreign elements involved, as defined in Decision No.</p>	<p>- Other relevant ministries and agencies</p>	<p>Reports on research on law improvements</p>	<p>- Initial report: 2020</p> <p>- Final report: 2022</p>

		76/2010/QD-TTg)			
3.9.	Right to vote (attention is paid to the right to vote of persons serving imprisonment sentences, etc.)	the Office of the National Assembly is requested to preside over the implementation	Other relevant ministries and agencies	Reports on research on law improvements	- Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022
3.10.	The rights of persons of ethnic minorities (attention is paid to the possibility of enacting a separate Law on Ethnic Minorities ...)	the Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs	Other relevant ministries and agencies	Reports on research on law improvements	- Initial report: 2020 - Final report: 2022
III.	Developing a comprehensive report on assessing the incorporation of the ICCPR provisions into Vietnamese law, on identifying provisions being not yet compatible with the ICCPR, and proposing a continued incorporation of the ICCPR provisions into Vietnamese law, and law improvements to implement the ICCPR	the Ministry of Justice	- Other relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties	Assessment reports (the content of this report shall be reflected in the Reports sent to the Human Rights Committee)	2020 and every 2 years afterwards
B.	Continuing to improve the effectiveness of the implementation of laws and regulations on civil and political rights				
I.	Issuing national action plans and programs, and allocating sufficient human and financial resources to	- the Ministry of Labor - Invalids and Social Affairs (with regard to matters on	- Other relevant and ministries agencies	- National action plans and programs on promoting and protecting the rights of women	- New plans: 2019 - 2022

	effectively implement the plans and programs to eliminate stigmatization and discrimination against: (1) women (to increase women's participation in all areas and to eliminate gender violence); and (2) Vulnerable groups, including the disabled, children, persons of ethnic minorities, the LGBTI community, and HIV/AIDS-infected persons.	women, children and people with disabilities) - the Ministry of Health (with regard to matters on people living with HIV/AIDS, LGBTI) - the Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs (with regard to matters on persons of ethnic minorities)	- Province-level People's Committees collaborate in the implementation within their competence - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties	and vulnerable groups - For fields with national action plans and programs already issued, preliminary assessment reports and assessments reports on the implementation are required	- For fields with national action programs and plans: According to the progress stated in the programs and plans
II.	Improving the effectiveness of receiving complaints and denunciations in a convenient, safe manner, and increasing the number of handled complaints and denunciations related to violations of individuals' civil and political rights to better ensure the rights to file complaints and denunciations	- Ministries and agencies according to their respective assigned functions and duties - Province-level People's Committees implement within competence		- Convenient and safe channels for receiving complaints and denunciations - An increased rate of complaints and denunciations being handled over the years	Every year
III.	Continuing to improve the effectiveness of protection on the civil and political rights in criminal proceedings				
1.	Increasing the number of family and juvenile courts	the People's Supreme Court is requested to preside over the		New family and juvenile courts established, or an increased number of family and juvenile	2019 - 2022

		implementation		courts	
2.	Reducing the rate of corrected or annulled first-instance judgments in criminal cases, of wrongful or unjust trials/hearings, and of claims for the State compensation in criminal proceedings	the People's Supreme Court and the People's Supreme Procuracy are requested to preside over the implementation within their respective functions and duties		<p>- A gradually decreased rate of appeals and/or protests over the years</p> <p>- A gradually decreased rate of wrongful or unjust trials/hearings resulting in claims for the State compensation over the years</p>	Every year
3.	Strengthening the effectiveness of investigation and/or prosecution against crimes infringing upon civil and political rights	<p>- the People's Supreme Court and the People's Supreme Procuracy are requested to preside over the implementation within their respective functions and duties</p> <p>- the Ministry of Public Security</p>		Statistical reports on investigations, prosecutions, and trials/hearings on crimes infringing upon civil and political rights	Every year
4.	Enhancing the independence of litigation-conducting persons in criminal proceedings; better guaranteeing the rights of persons held in custody and temporary detention in criminal proceedings, and the right to a fair trial	- the People's Supreme Court and the People's Supreme Procuracy are requested to preside over the implementation within their respective functions		A gradually decreased number of complaints and denunciations in criminal procedure activities over the years	Every year

	(attention is paid to the right to access to defend counsels; the right to judicial review on decisions on arrest or custody in accordance with judicial procedures, etc.)	and duties - the Ministry of Public Security			
IV.	Increasing supportive activities to protect civil and political rights				
1.	Increasing the number of legal aid activities, especially legal aid for vulnerable people, including victims of violations of civil and political rights	- the Ministry of Justice - Province-level People's Committees implement within their competence	- the Ministry of Public Security, and other relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties	Specific legal aid activities	2019 - 2022

2.	Increasing the quantity and quality of legal aid officers and lawyers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Justice - Province-level People's Committees implement within their competence - Viet Nam Bar Federation implements within their functions and duties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other relevant ministries and agencies; 	A gradually increased number of legal aid officers with high quality every year	Every year
V.	Improving the quality of activities in compensation and support for victims of acts of violation of civil and political rights				
1.	Increasing in number and diversifying facilities to support victims of acts of violations of civil and political rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism: for victims of domestic violence or gender violence within the family - the Ministry of Labor - 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An increased number of facilities that support victims of acts of violations of civil and political rights - Support in diverse forms 	Every year

		Invalids and Social Affairs: for victims of human trafficking			
2.	Increasing the rate of resolved claims for the State compensation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministries within their respective functions and duties - the People's Supreme Court and the People's Supreme Procuracy are requested to preside over the implementation 		The gradually increased rate of resolved claims for the State compensation over the years	Every year
3.	Reviewing and assessing the facilities and internal regulations of detention facilities, reformatories and detoxification establishments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of National Defence, and the Ministry of Labor - Invalids and Social Affairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties 	Reports on reviewing and assessing the facilities and internal regulations of detention facilities	Initial report: 2020 Final report: 2022
VI.	Strengthening inspection, examination, supervision and statistics on the implementation of civil and political rights				
1.	Improving the quality and	- Ministries within their		Improved quality of	Every year

	effectiveness of inspection, examination and supervision for the implementation of civil and political rights, especially on the implementation of administrative procedures related to civil and political rights.	<p>respective functions and duties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Province-level People's Committees implement within their competence - the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuracy are requested to preside over the implementation within their respective functions and duties 		inspections, examinations and supervisions on the effective implementation of civil and political rights	
2.	Making statistics on the implementation and guarantee of civil and political rights, especially statistics on complaints, denunciations and lawsuits related to violations of civil and political rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministries within their respective functions and duties - Province-level People's Committees implement within their competence - the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuracy are requested to preside over the implementation within their respective functions 		Annual database and statistical systems on civil and political rights	Every year

		and duties			
C.	Continuing to promote civil and political rights through dissemination, education and training				
I.	Disseminating Viet Nam's achievements on law development and implementation and the information on Dialogues between the United Nations Human Rights Committee and Viet Nam on the third periodic Country Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Ministry of Justice develops materials for the dissemination - the Ministry of Information and Communications conducts the dissemination 	Other relevant ministries and agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Documents and publications for the dissemination - Specific dissemination activities 	2019 - 2020
II.	Continuing to disseminate the content of the ICCPR, the General Comments, the Recommendations of the United Nations Human Rights Committee, and the third periodic Country Report of Viet Nam and related documents. In particular:				
1.	The National Assembly delegates; officials of the National Assembly's Committees	the Office of National Assembly is requested to preside over the implementation	the Ministry of Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Materials, publications and other appropriate forms of dissemination - Law-related workshops, seminars, meetings and etc. 	Every year
2.	Legal officials of ministries and central agencies; and legal rapporteurs	the Ministry of Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Materials, publications and other appropriate forms of dissemination - Law-related workshops, 	Every year

			<p>are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties</p> <p>- Province-level People's Committees collaborate in the implementation within their competence</p>	seminars, meetings and etc.	
3	<p>Persons competent to conduct legal proceedings; officers engaging in the handling of administrative violations and the judgment execution; officers at detention facilities; state employees and public servants at compulsory detoxification establishments and compulsory education centers</p>	<p>- the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of National Defence (detention facilities and compulsory education centers)</p> <p>- the Ministry of Labor – Invalid and Social Affairs (compulsory detoxification establishments)</p> <p>- the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuracy are requested to preside over the implementation within</p>	<p>- the Ministry of Justice</p> <p>- Province-level People's Committees collaborate in the implementation within their competence</p>	<p>- Materials, publications and other appropriate forms of dissemination</p> <p>- Law-related workshops, seminars, meetings and etc.</p>	Every year

		their respective functions and duties			
4.	Disseminating to people (including persons held in custody, detention facilities, inmates, persons subject to administrative handling measures in reformatories, compulsory education centers and compulsory detoxification establishments)	the Ministry of Justice	the Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs	- Printed books and leaflets, and other appropriate forms for the dissemination; translated versions in ethnic minority languages - Specific dissemination activities	Every year
III.	Disseminating externally Viet Nam's achievements on guarantee of human rights (with foreign countries, at international and regional organizations, and at international and regional multilateral mechanisms and forums on human rights)	the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Information and Communications, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of National Defence, the Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs, the Ministry of Home Affairs, and other relevant ministries and agencies	- Documents and publications for the dissemination - Reports on the results of organizing and participating in international forums, seminars and conferences	Every year
IV.	Improving education, and raising the awareness of respect and compliance with the ICCPR, relevant documents and Vietnamese law on civil and political rights				
1.	Training on the ICCPR content and relevant documents for experts, state employees and public servants engaging in the law compliance at ministries and	Ministries within their respective functions and duties	Province-level People's Committees collaborate in the implementation within their	- Reports on the results of organizing training courses - Training materials and programs	Every year

	central agencies; central law rapporteur; investigators		competence		
2.	Training on the ICCPR content and relevant documents for experts, state employees and public servants engaging in the prosecution and adjudication	the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuracy are requested to preside over the implementation within their respective functions and duties		- Reports on the results of organizing training courses - Training materials and programs	Every year
3.	Disseminating and providing education on the provisions of the ICCPR in order to create positive changes in the awareness of educational managers, teachers and learners	- Ho Chi Minh National Political Academy - the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuracy are requested to preside over the implementation within their respective functions and duties	Ministries: Education and Training, Labor - Invalids and Social Affairs, Justice, Finance, National Defense, Police, Foreign Affairs, and related agencies at the proposal of the lead agency	- Textbooks at all educational levels; reference books and training materials. - Workshops, seminars, conferences, and training courses	Every year
D.	International cooperation activities, researches on relevant international treaties, and the performance of periodic reporting obligations as required by the ICCPR and recommended by the United Nations Human Rights Committee				
I.	Implementing the periodic	- Ministries implement		Preliminary assessment reports	Every year, or

	reporting and notification of the implementation of the ICCPR and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations	according to their respective mandates in the Plan - the People's Supreme Court and the People's Supreme Procuracy are requested to preside over the implementation		and assessment reports on the implementation	according to practical requirements
II.	Strengthening international cooperation to effectively implement the ICCPR and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations, including participating in the United Nations Human Rights Committee's sessions.	- Ministries within their respective functions and duties - the People's Supreme Court and the People's Supreme Procuracy are requested to preside over the implementation		- International cooperation agreements and programs - Reports on organizing and attending international forums, seminars, workshops and conferences on the ICCPR - Delegations to foreign countries	Every year
III.	Continuing to research the possibility of establishing a national human rights agency in conformity with Viet Nam's economic, cultural and social conditions, and the international treaties, which Viet Nam has concluded or acceded to.	the Ministry of Public Security	Other relevant ministries and agencies	Research report on the possibility of establishing a national human rights agency	2022

IV.	Conducting research on the possibility of accession to relevant international treaties to better ensure civil and political rights				
1.	Researching the possibility of accession to the optional protocols to the ICCPR	the Ministry of Justice	Other relevant ministries and agencies	Research report on the possibility of accession to be submitted to the competent authorities	2022
2.	Researching the possibility of accession to the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	the Ministry of Public Security	Other relevant ministries and agencies	Research report on the possibility of accession to be submitted to the competent authorities	2022
V.	Ensuring the reporting on the implementation of the ICCPR and the recommendations as required by Article 40 of the ICCPR and the recommendations of the United Nations Human Rights Committee				
1.	Developing follow-up reports on the implementation of the United Nations Human Rights Committee's 2019 recommendations	the Ministry of Justice	- Other relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties	The follow-up report providing updates on the implementation of the Human Rights Committee's 2019 recommendations	2020
2.	Developing periodic country reports on the implementation of the ICCPR and subsequent follow-up reports at the request of the United Nations Human Rights	the Ministry of Justice	- Other relevant ministries and agencies - the Supreme People's Procuracy and the Supreme People's Court	Reports to the Human Rights Committee	2022 (Fourth Periodic Report) - According to

	Committee		are requested to collaborate in the implementation, within their respective functions and duties		the deadline set by the Human Rights Committee for subsequent periodic country reports
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II. LIST OF COMPETENT AUTHORITIES ISSUING ACTION PLANS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION NO. 1252/QĐ-TTg

According to Section III.1 of Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg, “on the basis of the mandates in the Appendix attached to this Decision, relevant ministries, agencies and localities shall, within their functions and duties, promulgate their plans” or “supplementing, and **integrating** into national plans, schemes, strategies and national target programs on human rights and other rights of citizenship”, through review, the Ministry of Justice found that the following ministries, branches and localities have issued their own action plans to implement Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg (a total of **36** agencies have issued the Plan).

No	Issuing agencies	Decisions/Documents
1.	Ministry of Justice	Decision No. 3028/QĐ-BTP on the issuance of the plan of the Ministry of Justice on strengthening the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee’s recommendations
2.	Ministry of National Defence	Plan No. 13341/KH-BQP on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee’s recommendations
3.	Ministry of Information and Communications	Decision No. 433/QĐ-BTTTT on approving the plan for implementation of the United Nations Human Rights Committee’s recommendations
4.	People's Committee of Bà Rịa - Vũng Tàu	Plan No. 168/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister’s Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee’s recommendations
5.	People's Committee of Bình Thuận	Plan No. 4031/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister’s Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee’s recommendations
6.	People's Committee of Cà Mau	Plan No. 143/KH-UBND on the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee’s recommendations in Cà Mau

		province
7.	People's Committee of Cần Thơ	Plan No. 171/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations
8.	People's Committee of Đắk Lắk	Plan No. 4043/KH-UBND on effectively implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations
9.	People's Committee of Đồng Nai	Plan No. 871/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations
10.	People's Committee of Đồng Tháp	Plan on strengthening the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations
11.	People's Committee of Gia Lai	Plan No. 2461/KH-UBND on the implementation of the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations
12.	People's Committee of Hồ Chí Minh	Official Letter No. 497/UBND-NCPC on implementation of Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg
13.	People's Committee of Hải Phòng	Plan No. 282/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Hải Phòng Province
14.	People's Committee of Hậu Giang	Plan No. 3002/KH-UBND on strengthening the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in

		Hậu Giang Province
15.	People's Committee of Hòa Bình	Plan No. 190/KH-UBND on the implementation of the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 in Hòa Bình Province
16.	People's Committee of Khánh Hòa	Plan No. 11502/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations
17.	People's Committee of Nam Định	Plan No. 131/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations
18.	People's Committee of Phú Thọ	Plan No. 5257/KH-UBND on strengthening the implementation of International Covenant on Civil and Political rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Phú Thọ Province
19.	People's Committee of Sóc Trăng	Plan No. 05/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations
20.	People's Committee of Thái Bình	Plan No. 27/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Thái Bình Province
21.	People's Committee of Thừa Thiên Huế	Plan No. 230/KH-UBND on strengthening the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations
22.	People's Committee of Yên Bái	Plan No. 261/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on

		Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations
23.	People's Committee of Bắc Kạn	Plan No. 283/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Bắc Kạn Province
24.	People's Committee of Tây Ninh	Plan No. 2390/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Tây Ninh Province
25.	People's Committee of Kon Tum	Plan No. 2175/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Kon Tum Province
26.	People's Committee of Hà Giang	Plan No. 237/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Hà Giang Province
27.	People's Committee of Quảng Bình	Plan No. 2111/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Quảng Bình Province
28.	People's Committee of Bình Phước	Plan No. 252/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations

		Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Binh Phước Province
29.	People's Committee of Vĩnh Phúc	Plan No. 165/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Vĩnh Phúc Province
30.	People's Committee of Ninh Thuận	Plan No. 1784/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Ninh Thuận Province
31.	People's Committee of Quảng Ninh	Plan No. 130/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Quảng Ninh Province
32.	People's Committee of Điện Biên	Plan No. 2904/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Điện Biên Province
33.	People's Committee of Bắc Giang	Plan No. 3930/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Bắc Giang Province
34.	People's Committee of Đà Nẵng	Plan No. 7369/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations

		Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Đà Nẵng Province
35.	People's Committee of Lào Cai	Plan No. 213/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Lào Cai Province
36.	People's Committee of Vĩnh Long	Plan No. 3930/KH-UBND on implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1252/QĐ-TTg dated 26 September 2019 on approving the Plan on strengthening the effectiveness of the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Human Rights Committee's recommendations in Vĩnh Long Province

III: RELEVANT RESULTS, SOLUTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- *Footnote 4:* The Prime Minister's Decision No 15/2020/QĐ-TTg dated 22 April 2020 on providing for the implementation of policies to support people facing difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic; the Government's Resolution No. 21/NQ-CP on procurement and use of COVID-19 vaccines; the National Assembly's Resolution No. 30/2021/QH15 dated 28 July 2021; the Prime Minister's Decision No. 20/2021/QĐ-TTg dated 1 October 2021 on the implementation of policies on supports from the Unemployment Insurance Fund for employees and employers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic; the National Assembly Standing Committee's Resolution No. 12/2021/UBTVQH15 dated 30 December 2021 on allowing the application of a number of health-related mechanisms and policies for the prevention and control of the COVID-19 pandemic; the Government's Resolution No. 68/NQ-CP dated 1 July 2021 on policies to support COVID-19-hit employees and employers (with its amendments on 8 October 2021); the Prime Minister's Decision No. 09/2022/QĐ-TTg dated 4 April 2022 regarding the provision of credits to pupils and students with difficult circumstances for purchase of computers and equipment for their online learning; the Prime Minister's Decision No. 16/2022/QĐ-TTg dated 8 July 2022 on mechanism to support recurrent expenditures for public health service units that have insufficient revenue due to the impact of the COVID-19,...

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The Presidium of the Vietnam General Federation of Labour's Decision No. 643/QĐ-TLD dated 22 May 2020 on support for COVID-19-impacted unionists and employees from union funds and other social resource mobilization; the Presidium of the Vietnam General Federation of Labour's Decision No. 1921/QĐ-TLD dated 15 January 2021 on provision of financial support to unionists or employees impacted by the COVID-19 and natural disasters on the occasion of the Vietnamese Lunar New Year 2021; the Presidium of the Vietnam General Federation of Labour's Decision No. 2606/QĐ-TLD dated 19 May 2021 on emergency financing for union members and workers affected by the COVID-19 in the fourth outbreak from 27 April 2021; etc.

All resources have been mobilized to support people nationwide in the disease prevention and control, such as implementing the model of "Happiness Center/Happiness Supermarket" (supporting people, especially those in difficult circumstances, and priority is given to poor women and/or migrant women so that they can buy basic necessities with zero payment); to organize online music programs "Stay Strong Việt Nam"; the Tinh Thuong Microfinance Institution, under the Central Committee of the Vietnam Women's Union, launches a

preferential interest rate loan package of VND 1,400 billion for members affected by the COVID-19; encouraging the East Meets West to deploy the program "Women's initiative for no one being left behind in the prevention and control of the COVID-19 ". Practical programs, such as "Millions of gifts to share love", "For women's smiles", "Godmothers", have been implemented.

- *Footnote 7:* Decisions on issuance of annual plans on law dissemination and education, grassroots mediation, and building up communes that meet to access-to-law standards: Decision No. 3121/QD-BTP dated 28 December 2018, Decision No. 2658/QD-BTP dated 31 December 2020 and Decision No. 36/QD-BTP dated 12 January 2022 of the Ministry of Justice; the Prime Minister's Decision No. 977/QD-TTg dated 11 August 2022 approving the Project for strengthening the people's capacity for access to law, which clearly defines the responsibility of the people and competent authorities to strengthen the people's capacity of access to law; Decision No. 452/QD-BTP approving the Project on "Strengthening the dissemination of fundamental contents of the ICCPR and Vietnam's laws on civil and political rights to state employees, civil servants, public employees and people in the period of 2015-2020" and Decisions on promulgation of plans on implementation of law dissemination and education and grassroots mediation in 2021 and 2022, which include plans on dissemination of the ICCPR as set forth in Decision No. 409/QD-BTP dated 23 March 2021 and Decision No. 458/QD-BTP dated 28 March 2021 of the Ministry of Justice.

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In addition to a number of activities organized by ministries and agencies as mentioned in Annex III, the Ministry of Justice has compiled 13 skits; 87 law-related Q&As on civil and political rights (in 2019); 12 leaflets translated into 05 ethnic minority languages (Thai, Jarai, Bana, Cham, Hmong) and 296 law-related Q&As on civil and political rights (2020); law education and dissemination materials on civil and political rights, including 08 topics and 100 Q&As on election and organizational structures of state bodies; coordinated with the United Nations Children's Fund to develop and print 12,000 copies of leaflets and popular comics on law provisions on child marriage and consanguineous marriage in Vietnamese, Thai, and Mong languages. These materials were distributed to people and students of secondary schools in 05 provinces: Ha Giang, Dien Bien, Lai Chau, Yen Bai and Cao Bang (in 2021).

The Ministry of Justice has set up and operates a national law education and dissemination web portal (<https://pbgdpl.gov.vn>) to provide a comprehensive range of information on policies and laws and regulations issued by state agencies from the central to grassroots levels to ensure the right to access to legal information of people and businesses. In 2022, electronic

lectures were developed and published to cover such topics as: (i) human rights, and fundamental rights and obligations of citizens in the 2013 Constitution; (ii) children's rights; (iii) citizens' right to freedom of belief and religion; (iv) the Law on Grassroots Democracy; (v) the Government's Decree No. 20/2021/ND-CP dated 15 March 2021 regulating social assistance policies for beneficiaries of social protection; etc.

- *Footnote 12*: The Ministry of Health, in the process of preparing a submission dossier for development of a Law on Gender Transformation, and a report on policy research and orientations for developing the Law (from 2016 to 2022), collaborated with many organizations, such as UNWOMEN, UNDP and other organizations to conduct many research activities, seminars and surveys on orientations for developing law provisions on requirements for individuals to apply for gender transformation, the recognition of gender transformation, and medical facilities that are allowed to perform gender transformation.

- *Footnote 14*: The assessment plan on the 5-year implementation of the Law on State Compensation Liability has been issued, with a view to conducting researches and proposing amendments thereto (Decision No. 1983/QĐ-BTP dated 7 October 2022).

- *Footnote 15*: Since 1999, efforts to send children to school have contributed to narrowing the gender gap between boys and girls. The percentage of school-age girls who neither attend nor drop out of school has decreased and become lower than that of school-age boys as compared to the past, although there is not much change in this rate between boys and girls. The rate of boys and girls not attending school in 1999, 2009 and 2019 is 18.5% vs. 23.5%, 17.3% vs. 15.3% and 9.2% vs. 7.5% respectively.

- *Footnote 19*: 100% of women of childbearing age have convenient access to modern methods of contraception, reproductive support, and infertility prevention in the community; the rate of women of childbearing age using contraceptive methods will reach 50% by 2025 and 52% by 2030, and the number of teenagers and young adults with unwanted pregnancy will reduce by two thirds; 75% of family planning service providers, including those in the non-public sector, will meet legally-prescribed quality standards by 2025, and 90% by 2030; over 95% of communes will continue to provide non-clinical contraceptives through population collaborators and village health workers by 2025, reaching 100% by 2030; 75% of health stations in the areas with high fertility rate are capable of providing prescribed contraceptive methods by 2025, reaching 95% by 2030; over 95% of district-level governments have medical facilities that provide family planning services and perform clinical contraceptive methods; technical support will be provided to the downline by 2025, reaching 100% by 2030.

- *Footnote 21*: Other documents are Joint Circular No. 01/2022/TTLT-VKSNDTC-TANDTC-BCA-BQP-BLDTBXH dated 18 February 2022 providing the coordination among competent agencies in the receipt and settlement of denunciations or reported information about criminal offenses, petitions for initiation of criminal proceedings, investigation, prosecution and first-instance trial of cases of sexual abuse against under-18 persons; the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs' Circular No. 02/2021/LDTBXH dated 24 June 2021 guiding the implementation of a number of articles of the Government's Decree No. 20/2021/ND-CP dated 15 March 2021 providing social assistance policies for beneficiaries of social protection; the Ministry of Finance's Circular No. 84/2019/TT-BTC stipulating expenditures for the victim support work and victims in the Government's Decree No. 09/2013/ND-CP dated 11 January 2013 promulgating the implementation of a number of articles of the Anti-human Trafficking Law; the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1629/QĐ-TTg dated 28 September 2021 approving the Program on prostitution prevention and combat for the 2021-2025 period; the Prime Minister's Decision No. 782/QĐ-TTg dated 27 May 2021 approving the Program on prevention and reduction of illegal child labor for the 2021-2025 period, with orientations toward 2030.

- *Footnote 22*:

Regularly-promoted mass communication and communication in the community with various forms and measures, especially activities in response to the National Day against Trafficking in Persons - July 30 every year; communication strategies to change behavior in the community; the program "Accompanying Border Women" in the period 2018-2020 with professional measures, patrol, control and cross-border immigration management effectively implemented in 110 border communes; organizing the peak period for suppressing crimes of human trafficking and illegally taking people abroad nationwide, with a focus on the border lines with Cambodia, Laos and China.

For instance: coordinating with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the British Embassy in Hanoi, the British Council in Vietnam, and China to carry out many cooperation activities; developing and finalizing a Manual on human trafficking prevention for procurators; organizing a training course to share anti-human trafficking experiences for the Network of Procurators directly getting involved in the handling of human trafficking cases in many localities, and developing and finalizing a Handbook on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters related to human trafficking cases; coordinating with UNDP to develop documents and organize training on skills to handle human trafficking cases in Hanoi;

The Central Committee of the Vietnam Women's Union has initiated social mobilization to implement the theme "Safety for Women and Children" in such activities as: "School

Consultation", "Safe village", "Safe Street", "Safe Bus", "Reliable Address in the Community" and etc., and to set up and maintain communication models on human trafficking prevention at the grassroots level, e.g. "Safe Migration"; choosing a variety of communication approaches that are suitable to the characteristics of women and people in different regions, and organizing joint communication campaigns in border provinces; upgrading Hotline 111 on support for women and children and connecting it with Hotline 1900.9696.680 for prompt support, advice, connection and intervention for victims of violence, abuse and/or human trafficking.

- *Footnote 30*: For example, streamlining the birth registration procedures, creating favorable conditions for people to apply for birth registration; organizing on-site and online birth registration for people to easily exercise this right; organizing professional training courses on civil status registration and management, birth registration, registration for recognition of father, mother or child for judicial-civil status officers at the commune level, and for civil status officers of district-level Justice Division and the province-level Department of Justice; organizing inspection teams to examine the civil status registration; enhancing the implementation of the National Electronic Civil Status Database Project; expanding the application of the electronic civil status registration and management system to 63/63 provinces and centrally-run cities; etc. The above-mentioned efforts aim to ensure the right to birth registration for all children, especially ethnic minority children.

- *Footnote 30*: The Project "Preserving and promoting the traditional costumes of Vietnam's ethnic minorities in the current period"; the Program of cultural and artistic activities for remote, border and ethnic minority areas, and islands in the 2021-2030 period; the Project "Preserving, restoring and promoting the values of folk songs, folk dances and folk music of ethnic minorities associated with tourism development in the 2021-2030 period; the Project "Periodically organizing cultural, sports and tourism exchanges in ethnic minority areas in regions and nationwide in the period of 2021-2030"; the Project "Preserving and promoting the value of folklore of ethnic minorities by 2030"../.