AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

ON CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC CO-OPERATION

The Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, hereinafter referred to as "the Parties".

recognizing the importance of the friendship and overall cooperation between the two countries;

desirous of developing their relations in the spheres of culture, education, science, sports, arts, mass media, publications, tourism and health care service;

based on the principles of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit;

have agreed as follows :

Article 1

The Parties shall support the development of mutual cultural contacts for a better understanding between the peoples of their two countries.

Article 2

The Parties shall encourage and facilitate direct contacts and cooperation between educational and scientific institutions of both countries and promote the exchange of nationals recommended by the other Party for the purpose of study, training, carrying out research and specialized activities in their respective educational and scientific institutions.

Article 3

The Parties shall promote the exchange of information, documents and publications in the fields of education, science and culture.

Article 4

Each Party shall invite the representatives of the other Party to attend courses on language, literature, and culture in order to enrich the knowledge and awareness of the language and culture of their respective country.

Article 5

The Parties shall encourage the cooperation in the area of library and museology between the two countries and promote the exchange of publications in the fields of common interest.

Article 6

The Parties shall keep each other informed of the artistic events and festivals organized in their respective country and encourage participation in these events.

Article 7

The Parties shall study the possibility of organizing exhibitions in the field of fine and applied arts on the basis of reciprocity.

Article 8

The Parties shall encourage their representatives to take part in music and other cultural events held in both countries.

Article 9

The Parties shall promote and develop cooperation in the sphere of tourism.

Article 10

The Parties shall encourage direct contacts between radio and television agencies of both countries and promote the exchange of programmes.

Article 11

The Parties shall promote cooperation between publishing houses and book distributors in the translation and printing of the scientific and art works of the two countries.

Article 12

The Parties shall promote and deepen cooperation between sports and youth organizations of the two countries.

Article 13

The Parties shall encourage and support cooperation between health institutions of the two countries.

Article 14

The Parties shall support the establishment of contacts between cultural and social organizations.

Article 15

The Parties shall develop cultural, educational and scientific cooperation within the framework of UNESCO and other international organizations.

Article 16

On the basis of this Agreement, relevant ministries, agencies and institutions of the two countries could subsequently sign Plans, Protocols and other related documents between them.

Article 17

This Agreement shall not in any way affect the implementation of the bilateral or multilateral agreements and treaties that either party has signed or will sign with other countries.

Article 18

All differences concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be solved through negotiations between the Parties.

Article 19

The Present Agreement shall be in force for five years since the signing date and its force shall be automatically renewed for every subsequent five-year period unless either Party gives a written notice to the other Party, six months before the date of expiry, informing its desire to terminate the Agreement.

In case the Agreement is terminated as provided for by the abovementioned paragraph, all the programmes and projects that have been previously agreed upon within the framework of this Agreement shall continue to be valid until their accomplishment.

At the request of either Party, this Agreement could be supplemented and amended according to the consent of the two Parties.

Done in Hanoi on 29 October ,1996 in two copies each in the Latvian, Vietnamese and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

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