



Regional Office for South-East Asia

PRESS RELEASE

UN HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE WELCOMES TREATY RATIFICATIONS IN VIET NAM

BANGKOK (9 DECEMBER 2014) - The UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) today welcomed the decision by the National Assembly of Viet Nam on 28 November to ratify the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Ratification and implementation of the Convention against Torture, 30 years since its adoption, is one crucial means to ensure the prevention and absolute prohibition of torture, and to ensure the provision of remedies to victims of torture.

The ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities also represents a significant move towards ensuring the development of an inclusive society – one that promotes and protects the rights of persons with disabilities.

“This important step fulfils a voluntary pledge made by Viet Nam as a candidate for membership in the Human Rights Council”, said Matilda Bogner, the Regional Representative of OHCHR in Bangkok. Viet Nam is a member of the Human Rights Council for the term of 2014 to 2016.

Viet Nam will now be party to seven out of the nine core international human rights treaties and can be counted among those States with the highest rates of treaty ratification in the region. OHCHR welcomes this important development and encourages Viet Nam to take meaningful steps to ensure full implementation of the two treaties, while reiterating its readiness to assist and support the Government of Viet Nam in meeting its treaty obligations.

ENDS

The Regional Office for South-East Asia in Bangkok represents the High Commissioner for Human Rights within South East Asia. The High Commissioner for Human Rights is the principal human rights official of the United Nations and heads the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, which spearheads the United Nations' human rights efforts .

OHCHR website: <http://www.ohchr.org>

OHCHR Regional Office for South-East Asia website: <http://bangkok.ohchr.org/>