

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

on Biodiversity Cooperation

between

Cao Bang Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Viet Nam

and

Guangxi Environmental Protection Department, P.R. China

We, Parties, to this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), Cao Bang Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Viet Nam and Guangxi Environmental Protection Department, China, are aware that the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) lies within a globally important biodiversity conservation hotspot, within which is featured the biodiversity rich karst landscape of Viet Nam's Cao Bang Province and China's Guangxi Province. We are committed to conserving this unique landscape that straddles national and provincial borders through international and inter-provincial cooperation between the respective Parties, who share common concerns and responsibilities for biodiversity conservation. Furthermore, we are convinced that cooperation will be mutually beneficial in promoting mutual understanding, sound and consistent management policies across borders, and peaceful relations.

Chapter 1

The objective of this MoU is to promote cooperation between the Parties to conserve biodiversity, based on principles of equality, common understanding and equitable sharing of benefits.

Chapter 2

The following have been identified by the Parties as mutually high priorities for cooperation:

- 1) Development of a cooperation mechanism for transboundary biodiversity conservation;
- 2) Development of a long-term joint management strategy for transboundary biodiversity conservation;
- 3) Research, monitoring, and assessment of biodiversity;
- 4) Identification, planning and management (including protection) of transboundary biodiversity corridors;

- 5) Building capacity among government officials and local communities in managing landscapes and, in particular, transboundary biodiversity corridors; and
- 6) Promoting environmental awareness among the public about biodiversity conservation.

Chapter 3

According to the above priorities but not limited to them, cooperation between the Parties under this MoU may be conducted in the following ways:

- 1) Joint projects and programmes;
- 2) Joint meetings (including seminars, forums, workshops etc.) and training;
- 3) Exchange visits of experts, officials and community representatives;
- 4) Joint and/or coordinated enforcement patrolling, monitoring surveys and research studies;
- 5) Data, information and knowledge exchange; and
- 6) Other forms of cooperation as mutually identified and agreed.

Chapter 4

The Parties hereby appoint the following as their representatives for facilitating the implementation of this MoU:

- Mrs. HUYNH Thi Mai, Deputy Director, Biodiversity Conservation Agency, Vietnam Environment Administration, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and Mr. BUI Dao Dien, Director, Branch of Cao Bang Environment Protection, Cao Bang Department of Natural Resources and Environment .
- Mr. LIN Weidong, Director of Project Office, Guangxi Environmental Protection International Cooperation and Exchange Center, Guangxi Environmental Protection Department.

Parties will notify each other whenever their representatives are changed.

Chapter 5

All activities pursuant to this MoU shall be undertaken in accordance with the existing laws of Viet Nam and China.

Chapter 6

The MoU shall enter into force on the date of signature by two Parties.

Four copies of the MoU shall be held. Each copy shall be signed in three languages (English, Chinese and Vietnamese). All copies are equally authentic.

When discrepancies of interpretation arise, the English version shall prevail.

Chapter 7

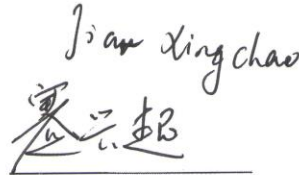
This MoU may be terminated by a written notice by either party, subject to prior consultation with the other Party to try to resolve concerns leading to the potential ending of the agreement. The termination will not affect the validity of any arrangements already made under this MoU.



Thai Hongy Thinh

**Representative
Cao Bang Department of Natural
Resources
and Environment**

Date Month Year



**Representative
Guangxi Environment Protection
Department**

Date 22 Month 1 Year 2015