



SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

Ha Noi, February 28, 2017
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Mr. Jorge Laguna-Celis

Secretary
Secretariat of Governing Bodies and Stakeholders
United Nations Environment Programme
P.O. Box 30552, 00100 Nairobi, Kenya
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Inputs for the theme of the Third Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-3)

Dear Mr. Jorge Laguna-Celis,

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam presents its compliments to the Secretariat of Governing Bodies and Stakeholders. With regard to your letter dated December 20, 2016, we have the honour to provide our comments and suggestions on the theme for the third session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-3) as follows:

1. We agree with the proposed theme for UNEA-3: "A Pollution Free Planet". This theme is relevant to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, has actionable outcomes and is significant in both scope and substance.
2. The following contents should be added to the scope of the theme:
 - Objectives and methodology to achieve the desired results related to the theme of the session.
 - Contents related to impact assessment of environmental pollution on ecosystems and recovery solutions.
 - Contents related to solutions to recover and minimize the impact of pollution on the proposed three groups (People, Prosperity, Planet). In addition, impacts and solutions for the target groups proposed above should be grouped geographically (Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America and West Asia). For example, for the Asia-Pacific region, the disagreements and disputes in the seas can hinder efforts to tackle the pollution of seas in this region.
 - Environmental pollution is a global problem and is particularly severe in developing countries under pressures from population growth and economic growth needs, as well as less efficient production technology. Therefore, within the scope of the theme, there should be a separate topic of development cooperation mechanisms to support developing countries in preventing and combating environmental pollution problems.
 - Proposal for an action program on the prevention of environmental pollution at regional level, discussion and selection of a number of countries in each region to pilot environmental pollution prevention and control mechanisms.
 - Proposal for sharing and exchange of experiences and lessons learned on pollution control.

We hope that our comments and suggestions will be welcomed and should be addressed to the President of UNEA.



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The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of Governing Bodies and Stakeholders the assurance of its highest consideration. *nm*

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Vo Tuan Nhan', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

Vo Tuan Nhan

**Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environment
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam**
