

No. 19818

**UNITED NATIONS
and FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS, ON BEHALF
OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP),
and
VIET NAM**

**Basic Agreement concerning assistance from the World
Food Programme. Signed at Hanoi on 18 February
1979**

Authentic text: French.

Registered ex officio on 3 June 1981.

**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
et ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR
L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE, AU NOM
DU PROGRAMME ALIMENTAIRE MONDIAL (PAM),
et
VIET NAM**

**Accord de base relatif à une assistance du Programme ali-
mentaire mondial. Signé à Hanoi le 18 février 1979**

Texte authentique : français.

Enregistré d'office le 3 juin 1981.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

**BASIC AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS/FAO
WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME AND THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM CONCERNING
ASSISTANCE FROM THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME**

WHEREAS the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (hereinafter referred to as “the Government”) desires to avail itself of assistance from the United Nations/FAO World Food Programme (hereinafter referred to as “the World Food Programme”), and

WHEREAS the World Food Programme is agreeable to affording such assistance at the specific request of the Government,

NOW THEREFORE the Government and the World Food Programme have entered into this Agreement embodying the conditions under which such assistance may be given by the World Food Programme and utilized by the Government in accordance with the General Regulations of the World Food Programme:

Article I. ASSISTANCE REQUESTS AND AGREEMENTS

1. The Government may request assistance in the form of food from the World Food Programme for supporting economic and social development projects or for meeting emergency food needs arising from natural disasters or as the result of other emergency conditions.

2. Any request for assistance shall normally be presented by the Government in the form indicated by the World Food Programme, through the Representative of the World Food Programme accredited to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

3. The Government shall provide the World Food Programme with all appropriate facilities and relevant information needed for assessing the request.

4. When it has been decided that the World Food Programme will give assistance in respect of a development project, a Plan of Operations shall be agreed to by the Government and the World Food Programme. In the case of emergency relief operations, letters of understanding shall be exchanged in lieu of the conclusion of a formal instrument between the Parties.

5. Each Plan of Operations shall indicate the terms and conditions upon which a project is to be carried out and shall specify the respective responsibilities of the Government and the World Food Programme in implementing the project. The provisions of the present Basic Agreement shall govern any Plan of Operations concluded thereunder.

*Article II. EXECUTION OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
AND EMERGENCY RELIEF OPERATIONS*

1. The primary responsibility for execution of development projects and emergency operations shall rest with the Government, which shall provide all personnel, premises, supplies, equipment, services and transportation and defray all expen-

¹ Came into force on 18 February 1979 by signature, in accordance with article VII (1).

diture necessary for implementation of any development project or emergency operations.

2. The World Food Programme shall deliver commodities as a grant without payment at the port of entry and shall supervise and provide advisory assistance in the execution of any development project or emergency operation.

3. In respect of each project, the Government shall designate, in agreement with the World Food Programme, an appropriate agency to implement the project. Should there be more than one food assistance project in the country, the Government shall designate a central coordinating agency for regulating supplies of food as between the World Food Programme and the projects and between the projects themselves. (The Comité de Réception des aides now performs this function.)

4. The Government shall provide facilities to the World Food Programme for observing all stages of implementation of development projects and emergency operations, particularly the distribution of food to recipients.

5. The Government shall ensure that the commodities supplied by the World Food Programme are handled, transported, stored and distributed with adequate care and efficiency and that the commodities are utilized in the manner agreed upon between the Parties. In the event that they are not so utilized, the Programme may require the return to it of the commodities.

6. The World Food Programme may suspend or withdraw its assistance in the event of failure on the part of the Government to fulfil any of its obligations assumed under the present Agreement or any agreement concluded by virtue thereof.

Article III. INFORMATION CONCERNING PROJECTS AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

1. The Government shall furnish the World Food Programme with such relevant documents, records, statements, reports and other information as the World Food Programme may request concerning the execution of any development project or emergency operation, or its continued feasibility and soundness, or concerning the fulfilment by the Government of any of its responsibilities under the present Agreement or any agreement concluded by virtue thereof.

2. The Government shall keep the World Food Programme informed regularly of the progress of execution of each development project or emergency operation.

3. The Government shall present to the World Food Programme audited accounts of the use of commodities supplied by the Programme and of the proceeds of their sale in each development project at agreed intervals and at the end of the project.

4. The Government shall assist in any appraisal of a project that the World Food Programme may undertake, as stated in the relevant Plan of Operations, by maintaining and furnishing to the Programme records required for this purpose and by organizing field visits. Any final appraisal report prepared shall be submitted to the Government for its comments and subsequently to the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, together with any such comments.

Article IV. ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER SOURCES

In the event that assistance towards the execution of a project is obtained by the Government from sources other than the World Food Programme the Parties shall consult each other with a view to effective coordination of all assistance received by the Government.

Article V. FACILITIES, PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

1. The Government shall afford to officials and consultants of the World Food Programme and to other persons performing services on behalf of the Programme such facilities as are afforded to officials of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies.

2. The Government shall apply the provisions of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies¹ to the World Food Programme, its property, funds and assets and to its officials and consultants.

3. The Government shall be responsible for dealing with any claims which may be brought by third parties against the World Food Programme or against its officials or consultants or other persons performing services on behalf of the World Food Programme under this Agreement and shall hold the World Food Programme and the above-mentioned persons harmless in case of any claims or liabilities resulting from operations under this Agreement, except where it is agreed by the Government and the World Food Programme that such claims or liabilities arise from the gross negligence or wilful misconduct of such persons.

Article VI. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any dispute between the Government and the World Food Programme arising out of or relating to this Agreement or a Plan of Operations which cannot be settled by negotiation or other agreed mode of settlement shall be submitted to arbitration at the request of either Party. The arbitration shall be held in Paris. Each Party shall appoint and brief one arbitrator and advise the other Party of the name of its arbitrator. Should the arbitrators fail to agree upon an award they shall immediately appoint an umpire. In the event that within thirty days of the request for arbitration either Party has not appointed an arbitrator, or that the arbitrators appointed fail to agree on an award and on the appointment of an umpire, either Party may request the President of the International Court of Justice to appoint an arbitrator or an umpire. The expenses of the arbitration shall be borne by the Parties as laid down in the arbitral award. The arbitral award shall be accepted by the Parties as the final adjudication of the dispute.

Article VII. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature and shall continue in force unless terminated under section 3 of this article.

2. This Agreement may be modified by mutual consent of the Parties hereto, expressed in an exchange of correspondence. Any relevant matter for which no provision is made in this Agreement shall be settled by the Parties in keeping with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes. Each Party shall give full and sympathetic consideration to any proposal advanced by the other Party under this section.

3. This Agreement may be terminated by either Party by written notice to the other and shall terminate sixty days after receipt of such notice. Notwithstanding any such notice of termination, this Agreement shall remain in force until complete fulfilment or termination of all Plans of Operations entered into by virtue of this Basic Agreement.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 33, p. 261. For the final and revised texts of annexes published subsequently, see vol. 71, p. 318; vol. 79, p. 326; vol. 117, p. 386; vol. 275, p. 298; vol. 314, p. 308; vol. 323, p. 364; vol. 327, p. 326; vol. 371, p. 266; vol. 423, p. 284; vol. 559, p. 348; vol. 645, p. 340; vol. 1057, p. 320, and vol. 1060, p. 337.

4. The obligations assumed by the Government under article V hereof shall survive the termination of this Agreement under the foregoing section 3, to the extent necessary to permit orderly withdrawal of the property, funds and assets of the World Food Programme and the officials and other persons performing services on behalf of the Programme by virtue of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned duly appointed representatives of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and of the World Food Programme respectively have, on behalf of the Parties, signed the present Agreement.

[Signed]

For the World Food Programme:

Name: G. N. VOGEL
Title: Executive Director

Done at: Hanoi
Date: 18 February 1979

[Signed]

For the Government of the Socialist
Republic of Viet Nam:

Name: NGUYEN CO THACH
Title: Vice-Minister for Foreign Af-
fairs

Done at: Hanoi
Date: 18 February 1979
