

No. 32682

**FRANCE
and
VIET NAM**

**Agreement on cooperation in the field of health and medicine.
Signed at Hanoi on 10 February 1993**

Authentic texts: French and Vietnamese.

Registered by France on 29 February 1996.

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et
VIET NAM**

**Accord de coopération dans le domaine de la santé et de la
médecine. Signé à Hanoi le 10 février 1993**

Textes authentiques : français et vietnamien.

Enregistré par la France le 29 février 1996.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH AND MEDICINE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

With a view to strengthening and developing cooperation between France and Viet Nam in the field of health, the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, hereinafter referred to as “the Contracting Parties” have agreed as follows:

MEDICAL TRAINING

1. The Contracting Parties note with satisfaction the development of training activities in the field of medicine and agree to pursue and develop such activities.

2. The internship training programme in French hospitals for Vietnamese doctors shall be expanded and organized in three phases:

(a) *Training and selection*

Missions to Viet Nam shall be organized regularly with French teaching staff, in particular specialists in the fields of paediatrics, surgery, anaesthesia-resuscitation, internal medicine (areas of medical specialization), gynaecology-obstetrics, cardiology, public health and pharmacy (for the pharmacists).

The training shall be provided with the help of the national coordinators for instruction in areas of medical specialization in France and shall involve the referral hospitals and clinical and/or university departments of the relevant areas of specialization in Viet Nam.

At the end of the training period, a written examination, in which candidates shall not be identified by name, and an oral examination shall be conducted in Hanoi and in Ho Chi Minh City to select the doctors and pharmacists to be sent to France for a year to fill posts as interns.

(b) *Admission of Vietnamese doctors as interns*

The doctors selected shall be assigned to various French hospitals and for a year shall perform duties as paid interns in their areas of specialization. During the same period, they shall be enrolled in the faculty of medicine where they shall take courses in their areas of specialization as part of the requirements for the “*attestation de formation de spécialité*” (certificate in specialized training).

Upon validation of such training, they shall be granted the “*attestation de formation de spécialité*” by the President of the host university.

(c) In order to follow up such training, the French teaching staff in charge of the training missions shall organize *post-university training* for former interns in Viet Nam.

¹ Came into force on 10 February 1993 by signature, in accordance with its provisions.

2. (1) The French Party shall endeavour to:

- Help to train the young doctors by providing instruction in the French language;
- Support the establishment of groups of French teaching staff in the above-mentioned areas of specialization, and explore ways of meeting any needs that may arise in other areas. It shall endeavour to find appropriate solutions (paid positions or scholarships, depending on the accommodation capacities of the hospitals in France) for the candidates selected;
- Ensure that the trainees are systematically enrolled at universities and that hospitals with the best supervisory staff capacity, especially establishments linked by agreement to Vietnamese institutions, are selected.

2. (2) The Vietnamese Party shall endeavour to:

- Facilitate the organization of French classes and the participation in such classes of the doctors concerned;
- Facilitate the reception and organization of training missions;
- Encourage the participation of young Vietnamese specialists, regardless of the institutions to which they are attached, in the training provided by such missions.

3. *Admission of Vietnamese doctors to the French training programme leading to the “Diplôme inter-universitaire de spécialité” (Inter-university diploma in specialization)*

The Contracting Parties agree on the importance of developing prospects for the provision of comprehensive specialized training in France for Vietnamese doctors under the conditions currently authorized for the new “*diplôme inter-universitaire de formation*” (inter-university training diploma).

The Vietnamese Party, upon being notified of these new provisions, shall endeavour to indicate its requirements in this regard promptly.

The French Party shall take all necessary steps to facilitate the collection and processing of the applications of candidates.

4. *Cooperation at the university level*

The two Parties welcome the admission of the Vietnamese faculties of medicine to the Association des universités partiellement ou entièrement de langue française (Association of Partially or Wholly French-Language Universities) and encourage the development of university exchange programmes, especially student training courses.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The Contracting Parties welcome the close collaboration between the Pasteur Institute of Ho Chi Minh City and the network of Pasteur Institutes. They agree to support the establishment of cooperation with the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology in Hanoi.

At the request of the Vietnamese Party, the French Party shall consider the feasibility of providing assistance in the field of malaria, especially to the Institute concerned — the National Institute of Malariology.

HOSPITAL REHABILITATION

Aware of the extent of the needs of Vietnamese hospitals, the two Parties have decided to focus particular attention on hospital rehabilitation.

(1) They agree that, in order to ensure efficiency, any assistance that may be provided by France shall be focused on selected priority activities in establishments and services selected on the basis of their place in the country's health network, their role in providing training, and their involvement in the general field of cooperation between France and Viet Nam. In that regard, the Contracting Parties take note of the conclusions of the hospital evaluation mission, which was decided upon at the signing of the 1992 protocol on assistance, proposing a selection of areas for priority action among the following establishments:

- In Hanoi: Viet Duc and Bach Mai hospitals, National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Institute for the Protection of Mothers and Infants, Institute of Ophthalmology;
- In Ho Chi Minh City: Nhi Dong No. 2 hospital (Grall) and Hospital No. 115.

(2) They affirm their concern to ensure a balanced distribution of French assistance among the major university centres in Viet Nam, and shall work together, subject to the availability of resources, to draw up projects incorporating the necessary safeguards to ensure the immediate and long-term success of such projects.

(3) The Vietnamese Party shall endeavour to encourage the drawing up of master development plans for each of the hospitals likely to benefit from such operations so that the various projects involving national or international assistance can be planned and completed in a normal manner.

(4) In carrying out such activities, the Vietnamese Party shall use whatever resources it has at its disposal to renovate and subsequently maintain the facilities where the equipment will be installed.

(5) The French Party shall seek the financing in foreign currency required for the supply of equipment recognized as essential by the Contracting Parties.

(6) The Contracting Parties affirm their concern to ensure that any operation shall include a training plan on hygiene and maintenance.

(7) The Contracting Parties shall emphasize the importance of the role of non-governmental organizations in the provision of assistance to hospitals, in terms of both training and equipment. They shall encourage and facilitate the assistance of such organizations.

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature for an indefinite period. It may be denounced by either Party upon six months' advance notice.

DONE in duplicate in the French and Vietnamese languages, both texts being equally authentic.

DONE at Hanoi, on 10 February 1993

For the Government
of the French Republic:
ROLAND DUMAS
Minister of State, Minister
for Foreign Affairs

For the Government
of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:
NGUYEN TRONG NHAN
Minister of Health