

THE EUROPEAN UNION,

hereinafter referred to as the "Union"

THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM,

THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA,

THE CZECH REPUBLIC,

THE KINGDOM OF DENMARK,

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,

THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA,

IRELAND,

THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC,

THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN,

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC,

THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC,

THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS,

THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA,

THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA,

THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBURG,

HUNGARY,

THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA,

THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS,

THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA,

THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND,

THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC,

ROMANIA,

THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA,

THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC,

THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND,

THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN, and

THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND,

of the one part, hereinafter jointly referred to as the "EU Party", and

THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

of the other part, hereinafter referred to as "Viet Nam",

hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Parties",

RECOGNISING their longstanding and strong partnership based on the common principles and values reflected in the *Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, of the other part*, signed in Brussels on 27 June 2012 (hereinafter referred to as the "Partnership and Cooperation Agreement"), and their important economic, trade and investment relationship, including as reflected in the *Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam*, signed in Brussels on dd/mm/yyyy (hereinafter referred to as the "Free Trade Agreement");

DESIRING to further strengthen their economic relationship as part of, and in a manner coherent with, their overall relations, and convinced that this Agreement will create a new climate for the development of investment between the Parties;

RECOGNISING that this Agreement will complement and promote regional economic integration efforts;

DETERMINED to strengthen their economic, trade and investment relationship in accordance with the objective of sustainable development, in its economic, social and environmental dimensions, and to promote investment under this Agreement in a manner mindful of high levels of environmental and labour protection and relevant internationally recognised standards and agreements;

DESIRING to raise living standards, promote economic growth and stability, create new employment opportunities and improve the general welfare and, to this end, reaffirming their commitment to promoting investment;

REAFFIRMING their commitments to the principles of sustainable development in the Free Trade Agreement;

RECOGNISING the importance of transparency as reflected in their commitments in the Free Trade Agreement;

REAFFIRMING their commitment to the *Charter of the United Nations*, done at San Francisco on 26 June 1945, and having regard to the principles articulated in *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 10 December 1948;

BUILDING on their respective rights and obligations under the *Marrakesh Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization*, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994 (hereinafter referred to as the "WTO Agreement") and other multilateral, regional and bilateral agreements and arrangements to which they are party, in particular, the Free Trade Agreement;

DESIRING to promote the competitiveness of their companies by providing them with a predictable legal framework for their investment relations,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS: