



THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

THE SOUTH CHINA SEA: COOPERATION FOR REGIONAL SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT

HỘI THẢO KHOA HỌC QUỐC TẾ (Lần thứ hai)

BIỂN ĐÔNG: HỢP TÁC VÌ AN NINH VÀ PHÁT TRIỀN TRONG KHU VỰC

11-12 November 2010 Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Co-organizers:

Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam & Vietnam Lawyers Association



The Second International Workshop

"The South China Sea: Cooperation for Regional Security and Development"



10-12 November, 2010, Ho Chi Minh City

Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam

Vietnam Lawyers Association

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Workshop Background

Following the fruitful results of the First International Workshop on the South China Sea: Cooperation for Regional Security and Development (Hanoi, 26-27 November, 2009), the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (DAV) and the Vietnam Lawyers' Association (VLA) are pleased to co-organize the second workshop on the South China Sea, which will be held in Ho Chi Minh City from 10-12 November 2010.

Under the theme "The South China Sea: Cooperation for Regional Security and Development", the Workshop will bring distinguished international scholars from ASEAN countries and China together with those from Australia, Canada, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the United States, and a number of European nations. This Second International Workshop provides an excellent opportunity to assess the current situation in the South China Sea from an interdisciplinary perspective and to consider and discuss measures to maintain peace and stability in the area while promoting regional cooperation.

The Workshop will comprise three main topics: i)The significance of the South China Sea in the changing global and regional context; ii) Recent developments in the South China Sea and implications for regional security and prosperity; and iii) Promoting cooperation in the South China Sea for regional security and development.

PROGRAM

Wednesday, November 10, 2010			
All day	Arrival of participants and hotel check-in		
17.00 - 18.00	Registration for international participants (Grand Indochine Room 1 st floor)		
18.00 - 20.00	Welcome dinner, hosted by Mr. Pham Quoc Anh, President of the Vietnamese Lawyers Association		
	(Grand Indochine Room 1 st floor)		
Thursday, November 11, 2010			
8.00 - 8.30	Registration (For other participants)		
	(Ben Thanh Conference Hall, 1 st Floor)		
8.30 – 9.00	OPENING SESSION (Open for Press)		
	Co - Chair: Prof. Amb. Duong Van Quang, President of the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam Mr. Pham Quoc Anh, President of the Vietnamese Lawyers Association		
	Opening remarks by Prof. Amb. Duong Van Quang , President of the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam.		

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9.00 - 10.30	SESSION I: SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA IN A CHANGING STRATEGIC LANDSCAPE
	Chairperson : Prof. Carlyle A. Thayer , School of Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of New South Wales at the Australian Defense Force Academy
9.00 - 9.15	Maj. Gen (rtd) Vinod Saighal, Executive Director, Eco Monitors Society, New Delhi, India
9.15 - 9.30	The Role of the South China Sea in the Process of East Asian Cooperation.
	Presenter: Prof. Su Hao and Dr. Ren Yuan-zhe , China Foreign Affairs University, Beijing, China
9.30 – 9.45	China, the United States and the South China Sea: a View from Outside
	Presenter: Gen. (Rtd) Daniel Shaeffer , Member of the French think tank Asie 21, France
9.45 – 10.00	The South China Sea: An American Perspective
	Presenter: Prof. Bronson Percival , Senior Advisor, Center for Strategic Studies at CNA (formerly the Center for Naval Analyses), Virginia, USA
10.00 - 10.30	Q&A and Discussions
10.30 - 10.45	Coffee Break/ Group Photo

10.45 - 12.30	SESSION II: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA
	Chairperson: Prof. Geoffrey Till , Joint Services Command and Staff College and a member of the Defence Studies Department of King's College, London, UK
10.45 – 11.00	The South China Sea: Back to the Future?
	Presenter: Dr. Mark J. Valencia , Research Associate, National Asia Research Program National Bureau of Asian Research and Woodrow Wilson Center, USA
11.00 - 11.15	Rising Tension in the South China Sea and Implications for Regional Security
	Presenter: Prof. Leszek Buszynski, Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australian National University
11.15 - 11.30	Security Assessment and Prospect of the South China Sea Area
	Presenter: Mrs. Kang Fong , Secretary of Publisher, Institute of Chinese Communist Studies, Taiwan
11.30 - 11.45	Recent Developments in the South China Sea: From Declaration to Code of Conduct
	Presenter: Dr. Tran Truong Thuy , Research Fellow and Director of South China Sea Studies Programme, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam.
11.45 - 12.30	Q&A and Discussion
12.30 - 13.30	Lunch (Parkview Restaurant, Ground Floor)

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13.30 - 15.15	SESSION III: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA (Cont.)
	Prof. Vladimir Mazyrin, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Far Eastern Studies, Russian Academy of Science
13.30 - 13.45	Recent Developments in the South China Sea and Implications for Regional Security and Prosperity
	Presenter: Prof. Carlyle A. Thayer , School of Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of New South Wales at the Australian Defense Force Academy
13.45 - 14.00	The United States - China Competition in the South China Sea: Strategic Implications for Regional Security
	Presenter: Dr. Fu-Kuo Liu, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of International Relations, National Chengchi University, Taiwan
14.00 - 14.15	When the Elephants dance China, the United States and the South China Sea
	Presenter: Prof. Geoffrey Till , Joint Services Command and Staff College and a member of the Defence Studies Department of King's College London, UK
14.15 - 14.30	Misperceptions, National Interests, and Law in the South China Sea
	Presenter: Research Prof. Stein Tønnesson , Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), Norway.
14.30 – 15.15	Q&A and Discussion
15.15 - 15.30	Coffee Break

15.30 - 16.30	SESSION IV: DISPUTES IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ISSUES
	Chairperson: Dr. Mark J. Valencia, Research Associate, National Asia Research Program National Bureau of Asian Research and Woodrow Wilson Center, USA
15.00 - 15.15	Activities in Disputed Marine Areas - Issues of Legality and Legitimacy
	Presenter: Prof. Ian Townsend-Gault, Faculty of Law, University of British Columbia, Canada
15.15 - 15.30	The Impact of Artificial Islands on Territorial Disputes over the Spratly Islands
	Presenter: Prof. Keyuan Zou , Harris Chair in International Law, Lancashire Law School, University of Central Lancashire, UK.
15.30 - 15.45	The Impact of the Submissions to the CLCS on Competing Claims in the South China Sea
	Presenter: Prof. Robert Beckman, The Centre for International Law (CIL), National University of Singapore.
15.45 - 16.15	Q&A and Discussion
16.15 - 16.30	Coffee Break

16.30 - 17.45	SESSION V: DISPUTES IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ISSUES (cont.)
	Chairperson: Research Prof. Stein Tønnesson, Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), Norway.
16.30 – 16.45	Three Disputes and Three Objectives: China and the South China Sea
	Presenter: Prof. Peter Dutton , China Maritime Studies Institute, US Naval War College, USA
16.45 – 17.00	Dotted Lines in the South China Sea: Fishing for a (Legal) Solution
	Presenter: Prof. Erik Franckx , Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, President of the Department of International and European Law, and Mr. Marco Benatar , Department of International and European Law, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium
17.00-17.15	Maritime Delimitation in International Law and Impacts on the South China Sea Disputes
	Presenter: Dr. Nguyen Thi Lan Anh , Programme for the South China Sea Studies, Deputy Dean of International Law Department, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam
17.15 – 17.45	Q&A and Discussion
18.30 - 21.00	Dinner for international participants and local speakers <i>(Grand Indochine Room 1st floor)</i>

8.30 - 10.15SESSION VI: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA: PROGRESS AND PROSPECTS Chairperson: Prof. Leszek Buszynski, Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australian National University 8 30 - 8 45 **Experiences in 20 Years of Informally Managing Potential Conflicts in** the South China Sea Presenter: **Prof. Hasjim Djalal**, Director, Centre for South - East Asian Studies, Indonesia 8.45 - 9.00 Dispute Settlement and Conflict Management in the South China Sea -**Assessing Progress and Challenges** Presenter: Prof. Ramses Amer, Senior Research Fellow, Center for Pacific Asia Studies (CPAS), Department of Oriental Languages, Stockholm University, Sweden. 9.00 - 9.15ASEAN and China keep Peace in the South China Sea: A Personal View Presenter: **Prof. Ba Hamzah**, Senior Research Fellow, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. 9.15 - 9.30The South China Sea: Three Periods, Four Challenges, Two Regional **Approaches and One Hope** Presenter: **Prof. Nguyen Hong Thao**, Hanoi National University, Vietnam 9.30 - 10.15 **Q&A** and Discussion 10.15 - 10.30 Coffee Break

Friday, November 12, 2010

10.30 – 12.30	SESSION VII: COOPERATION IN THE SOUTH CHINA
	SEA: EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS
	Chairperson: Prof. Hasjim Djalal, Director, Centre for South - East Asian Studies, Indonesia
10.45 – 11.00	Cooperation in the South China Sea: Views on the Philippines-Vietnam Cooperation on Maritime and Ocean Concerns
	Paper written by Atty. Henry S. Bensurto , Secretary General, Commission on Maritime and Ocean Affairs Secretariat (CMOAS), Department of Foreign Affairs of Philippines, delivered by Mr. Nomer B.Ado II , Deputy Secretary General of CMOAS
11.00 – 11.15	Cooperation in the Gulf of Tonkin: the China - Vietnam Fishery Agreement Revisited
	Presenter: Ms. Li Jianwei , Deputy Director, China National Institute for South China Sea Studies, Hainan, China.
11.15 – 11.30	Joint Marine Biodiversity Projects in the South China Sea: Efforts Made in the SCS Workshop Process
	Presenter: Prof. Yann-huei Song, Institute of European and American Studies, Academia Sinica, Nankang, Taipei, Taiwan
11.30 – 11.45	Cooperation for Security and Development in the South China Sea
	Presenter: Amb. Rodolfo C. Severino, Head, ASEAN Studies Centre, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore
11.45 - 12. 30	Q&A and Discussion
12.30 - 13.30	Lunch (Parkview Restaurant, Ground Floor)

13.30 – 15.00	SESSION VIII: PROMOTING COOPERATION FOR SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA
	Chairperson: Prof. Ian Townsend-Gault, Faculty of Law, University of British Columbia, Canada
13.30 – 13.45	Perspectives and Proposed Approach on Cooperation for Regional Security and Development in the South China Sea
	Presenter: Mr. Alberto A. Encomienda, DagatKalingaAlaga, Inc., Philippines
13.45 – 14.00	Implementing CBMs in the 2002 DOC: A Roadmap to Managing the South China Sea Dispute
	Presenter: Dr. Ian Storey, Editor, Contemporary Southeast Asia; Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore
14.00 – 14.15	International Joint Development of Fisheries Resources
	Presenter: Dr. Wang Hanling, Institute of International Law, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, China
14.15 – 14.30	All for one, one for all: Promoting economic cooperation in the South China Sea
	Presenter: Mr. Nazery Khalid , Senior Fellow, Maritime Institute of Malaysia
14.30 – 14.45	Approaches for Cooperative Activities in the South China Sea
	Presenter: Mr. Vu Hai Dang, Candidate of Doctorate of the Science of Law in Marine Environmental Law at Schulich Law School, University of Dalhousie, Canada
14.45 – 15.15	Q&A and Discussion

15.15 - 16.00	CLOSING SESSION (Open for Press)
	Closing remarks by Presidents of the organizing institutions and Chairpersons of Sessions:
	Prof. Amb. Duong Van Quang , President of the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam.
	Mr. Pham Quoc Anh, President of the Vietnamese Lawyers Association.
	Prof. Carlyle A. Thayer , School of Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of New South Wales at the Australian Defense Force Academy
	Prof. Geoffrey Till , Joint Services Command and Staff College and a member of the Defence Studies Department of King's College London, UK
	Prof. Vladimir Mazyrin, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Far Eastern Studies, Russian Academy of Science
	Dr. Mark J. Valencia , Research Associate, National Asia Research Program National Bureau of Asian Research and Woodrow Wilson Center, USA
	Prof. Stein Tønnesson, Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), Norway.
	Prof. Leszek Buszynski, Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australian National University
	Prof. Hasjim Djalal , Director, Centre for South - East Asian Studies, Indonesia
	Prof. Ian Townsend-Gault, Faculty of Law, University of British Columbia, Canada
16.30 - 19.00	Ho Chi Minh City Tour (Please be at the Hotel lobby at 16.30)
19.00 - 21.30	Farewell Dinner , hosted by Prof. Amb. Duong Van Quang , President of the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (Please be at the Hotel lobby at 18.30 - for participants not joining the city tour)
Saturday November 13	Departure

MEETING GUIDELINES

Venue: New World Saigon Hotel, 76 Le Lai Street, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City

Workshop Secretariat

Mrs. Ngo Thu Huong, Mobile +84 912378782, Email: huongngothu2010@gmail.com

Registration and identification badges

A registration counter will be set up for registration.

Time and venue:

• 10 November: 17.00 - 18.00 (Grand Indochine Room 1st floor)

• 11 November: 8.00 – 8.30 (*Ben Thanh Conference Hall, 1st Floor*)

Badges will be issued upon completion of registration by participants and verification by the Conference staffs at the registration counter.

Delegates are required to wear identification badges visibly at all times while attending the Workshop and related social functions. A lost or misplaced badge must be reported immediately by the badge holder to the Workshop Secretariat.

Dress code

Formal business attire is required for the Opening Session.

For other sessions, business casual is appropriate.

Internet

Wireless Internet is available at the Conference Hall

Immigration

All delegates must hold passports that are valid for at least six months upon their arrival in Vietnam.

With regard to visa, participants are requested to contact the Embassies of Vietnam in their respective countries on the visa requirements.

Participants from ASEAN Member countries (and some other countries) do not need visa to enter Vietnam

Transportation

The Organizing Committee will arrange transportation for arriving participants from/to the Tan Son Nhat International Airport to/from New World Hotel Sai Gon.

Sight-seeing tour

At the end of the Workshop, the Organizing Committee will organize a sight-seeing activity. Interested participants are required to notify the Organizing Committee during registration.

16.30: Bus pick up participants at hotel lobby.

Go around the city heart, visit to Post Office Center, Notra Dame Catheral, take pictures on tour.

17.30: Pass by the City Opera House, HCM Committee Hall, and do shopping at Ben Thanh Market.

18.30: Continue tour to the downtown, get on board for the dinner on cruise.

Meals

Breakfast will be provided daily at the hotel. All other meals will be provided as indicated in the program.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

International Participants

1.	Prof. Leszek Buszynski	Strategic and Defence Studies Centre in the Australian National University	Australia
2.	Prof. Carlyle A. Thayer	School of Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of New South Wales, Australian Defence Force Academy, Canberra	Australia
3.	Prof. Erik Franckx	President of the Department of International and European Law and Director of the Centre for International Law at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel	Belgium
4.	Mr. Marco Benatar	Department of International and European Law, Vrije Universiteit Brussel.	Belgium
5.	Ms. Shazainah Shariffuddin	Director, Department of Policy Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Brunei
6.	Ms. Arnyfariza Jaini	Second Secretary, Department of Policy Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Brunei
7.	Mr. Irawan Abdullah	Diplomatic Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Brunei
8.	Mrs. Khlot Thyda	President, Royal Academy of Cambodia	Cambodia
9.	Ms. Keo Socheath	Royal Academy of Cambodia	Cambodia
10.	Prof. Ian Townsend-Gault	Faculty of Law, University of British Columbia, Canada	Canada
11.	Mr. Vu Hai Dang	Candidate of Doctorate of the Science of Law in Marine Environmental Law at Schulich	Canada

		Law School, University of Dalhousie, Canada	
12.	Ms. Li Jianwei	Deputy Director, Research Center for Maritime Economy, National Institute for South China Sea Studies	China
13.	Ms. Xiayun Ni	Director of US Foreign Policy Program of American Institute in China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR)	China
14.	Dr. Ren Yuan-zhe	Center for Strategic and Conflict Management, China Foreign Affairs University	China
15.	Dr. Wang Hanling	Institute of International Law, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing	China
16.	Prof. Su Hao	China Foreign Affairs University, Beijing, China	China
17.	Dr. Yann-huei Song	Institute of European and American Studies, Academia Sinica, Nankang, Taipei	Chinese Taipei
18.	Dr. Fu Kua Liu	Director of 1st Division Institute for International Relations, Taipei	Chinese Taipei
19.	Mrs. Kang Fong	Secretary of Publisher, Institute of Chinese Communist Studies	Chinese Taipei
20.	Mr. Chen Kuo-Chung	Section Chief of International Affairs - Institute of Chinese Communist Studies	Chinese Taipei
21.	Ms. Chang Tan-Lung	Researcher, Institute of Chinese Communist Studies	Chinese Taipei
22.	Mr. Li Chun-Yu	Researcher - Institute of Chinese Communist Studies	Chinese Taipei
23.	Gen. (rtd) Daniel Schaeffer	Member of the French think tank Asie21	France

24.	Mr. Martin Kremer	Head of the Southeast Asia Division in the German Federal Foreign Office	Germany
25.	Dr. Mathias Fueracker	Legal Officer International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea	Germany
26.	Maj. Gen (rtd) Vinod Saighal	Executive Director, Eco Monitors Society, India	India
27.	Prof. Hajim Djalal	Centre for South East Asian Studies	Indonesia
28.	Mr. Pohan Hazairin	Acting Director General/Acting Head of the Policy Planning and Development Agency	Indonesia
29.	Mr. Sardjana Agus	Director/Head of the Centre of Policy Planning and Development for International Organization	Indonesia
30.	Mr. Arby Ardhya Erlangga	Deputy Director, Centre of Policy Planning and Development for International Organization	Indonesia
31.	Mr. Tetsuo Kotani	Special Research Fellow The Okazaki Institute, Tokyo	Japan
32.	Mr. Ahn Se Hyun	University of Seoul, Department of International Relations	Korea
33.	Dr. Hak-Bong Chang	Director of International Marine Affairs and Territory Research Dept, Korea Maritime Institute	Korea
34.	Dr. Park Young-Ki	Korea Maritime Institute	Korea
35.	Mrs. Malayvieng Sakonhninhom	Director General, Institute of Foreign Affairs, MOFA	Laos
36.	Mr. Somphay Vongmahachack	Researcher, Institute of Foreign Affairs, MOFA	Laos
37.	Mr. Hamzah Ben Ahmad	University of Malaya, MALAYSIA	Malaysia
38.	Mr. Hasnan Zahedi Ahmad Zakaria	National Security Council, Prime Minister's Department	Malaysia

39.	Mr. Mohd Melmy Ahmad	National Security Council, Prime Minister's Department	Malaysia
40.	Mr. Nazery Khalid	Maritime Institute of Malaysia	Malaysia
41.	Mr. Ariffin Dato' Noor Farida	Research, Treaties and International Law Department	Malaysia
42.	Ms. Siti Naaishah Binti Hambali	Distinguished Fellow, Asean Law Association, Faculty Of Law University Kebangsaan Malaysia	Malaysia
43.	Mr. Azfar Mohamad Mustafar	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia	Malaysia
44.	Mr. Aung Lynn	Deputy Director -General, Asean Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar	Myanmar
45.	Ms. Myat Thida Aye	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar	Myanmar
46.	Ms. Wai Mon	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar	Myanmar
47.	Prof. Stein Toennesson	Research professor, Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)	Norway
48.	Mr. Nomer B.Ado II	Deputy Secretary General, Commission on Maritime and Ocean Affairs Secretariat	Philippines
49.	Mr. Alberto A. Encomienda	Executive Director, DagatKalingaAlaga, Inc.	Philippines
50.	Ms. Amparo Pamela H. Fabe	Senior Fellow, Philippine Institute for Peace, Violence and Terrorism	Philippines
51.	Prof. Vladimir Mazyrin	Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Far Eastern Studies, Russian Academy of Science	Russia
52.	Prof. Robert Beckman	The Centre for International Law (CIL), National University of Singapore.	Singapore

53. Dr. David Koh	Senior Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore; Visiting Research Fellow at the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam	Singapore
54. Amb. Rodolfo C. Severino	Head of ASEAN Studies Centre, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies	Singapore
55. Dr. Ian Storey	Editor of Jounal of Contemporary Southeast Asia, Fellow of Institute of Southeast Asian Studies	Singapore
56. Prof. Ramses Amer	Department of Oriental Languages, Stockholm University, Sweden, National Institute for South China Sea Studies, Haikou, Hainan, China, and Swedish Institute of International Affairs	Sweden
57. Col. Narut Smitatilaka	Staff Officer, Strategic Studies Centre	Thailand
58. Dr. Thanyathip Sripana	Institute of Asian Sudies, Chulalongkorn University	Thailand
59. Prof. Geoffrey Till	Joint Services Command and Staff College and a member of the Defence Studies Department of King's College London	UK
60. Prof. Keyuan Zou	Lancashire Law School of the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan), United Kingdom	UK
61. Prof. Mark J. Valencia	Research Associate, National Asia Research Program, National Bureau of Asia Research and Woodrow Wilson Center, USA	USA
62. Prof. Peter Dutton	China Maritime Studies Institute, U.S. Naval War College	USA
63. Prof. Bronson Percival	Senior Advisor, Center for Strategic Studies at CNA (formerly the Center for Naval Analyses), Virginia, USA	USA

64. Mrs. Meredith Miller	Vice President The National Bureau of Asia Research, Washington DC, USA	USA
65. Mr. Tim Cook	Project Director, Political and Security Affairs, The National Bureau of Asia Research (NBR), USA	USA

Local Participants

Scholars

1.	Mr. Vũ Thanh Ca	Deputy Director, Institute of Sea and Islands Management, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
2.	Prof. Nguyễn Bá Diến	Head of Center for International Law of the Sea, Faculty of Law, Hanoi National University
3.	Mr. Nguyễn Đức Hùng	Former Ambassador to Canada, Senior Advisor to the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam
4.	Prof. Đỗ Tiến Sâm	Director of the Institute for China Studies
5.	Prof. Nguyễn Hồng Thao	Hanoi National University
6.	Mr. Nguyễn Xuân Thành	Institute of International Relations, Ministry of Defense
7.	Dr. Trần Công Trục	Former Head of the Government's Border Committee

Observers from Vietnam Government's Ministries and Agencies

1.	Major Gen. Trần Văn Hương	National Defense and Security Department, Ministry of Planning and Investment
2.	Mr. Lê Hồng Tiến	National Defense and Security Department, Ministry of Planning and Investment
3.	Mr. Đinh Trần Lợi	Department 1, Ministry of Finance
4.	Mr. Vũ Khắc Tức	Department 1, Ministry of Finance

5.	Mr. Trần Hiệp	Deputy Director General, Department of General Affairs, Party's National External Relations Committee
6.	Dr. Đặng Công Minh	Head of External Relations Division, Vietnam Marine Police
7.	Colonel Nguyễn Văn Hải	Head of Mapping Department, Vietnam Navy General Staff
8.	Colonel Phú Văn Lam	Head of External Relations Division, Vietnam Marine Police
9.	Colonel Phạm Văn Trình	Head of Search and Rescue Division, Vietnam Navy Command
10.	Ms. Lê Thị Lệ Thu	Department of External Relations, Ho Chi Minh City
11.	Mr. Phạm Việt Dũng	Deputy Director, Exploration Division, Petro Vietnam
12.	Mr. Bùi Quốc Tuấn	Law and International Cooperation Division, PetroVietnam
13.	Mr. Bạch Ngọc Chiến	Director, Vietnam Television VTV4

Observers from Vietnam MOFA

1.	Mr. Nguyễn Duy Chiến	National Border Commission
2.	Mr. Nguyễn Mạnh Đông	Law and International Treaty Department
3.	Ms. Phạm Thu Hằng	Press and Information Department
4.	Mr. Vũ Lê Thái Hoàng	Policy Planning Department
5.	Mr. Dương Chí Hiển	ASEAN Department
6.	Ms. Trần Thanh Hà	National Border Commission
7.	Ms. Vũ Hải Vân	National Border Commission
8.	Mr. Nguyễn Quang Vinh	National Border Commission
9.	Mr. Đoàn Khắc Việt	North East Asia Department

Vietnamese Lawyers Association

1.	Dr. Phạm Quốc Anh	President
2.	Prof. Lê Minh Tâm	Vice President and Secretary General
3.	Mr. Đàm Xuân Toan	Deputy Secretary General
4.	Dr. Nguyễn Thị Sơn	Deputy Secretary General, Director of International Business and Law Academy
5.	Prof. Mai Hồng Quỳ	Rector, University of Law, Ho Chi Minh City
	Others	

Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam

1.

Prof. Amb. Durong Văn Quảng President

2.	Mr . Đặng Đình Quý	Vice President
3.	Mr. Nguyễn Hùng Sơn	Deputy Director - General, Institute of Strategic Studies and Foreign Policy
4.	Dr. Trần Trường Thủy	Research and Director of Program for South China Sea Studies
5.	Dr. Nguyễn Thị Lan Anh	Program for South China Sea Studies, Deputy Dean of Faculty of International Law
6.	Dr. Nguyễn Nam Dương	Institute of Strategic Studies and Foreign Policy

Diplomatic Missions in Vietnam

Others

1.	Ms. Chantelle Woodford	Consul, Australian	Australia
		Consulate-General	

2.	Ms. Michael Hoy	Second Secretary, Australian Embassy Hanoi	Australia
3.	Mr. Vũ Tú Đạt	The Canadian Embassy	Canada
4.	Mr. Hieh Bor Huei	First Secretary, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Hanoi	Chinese Taipei
5.	Mr. Yoshio Uchiyama	Counselor, Japanese Embassy in Vietnam	Japan
6.	H.E Mr Pitono Purnomo	Ambassador, the Indonesian Embassy in Vietnam	Indonesia
7.	Mr. Syamsudin Sidabutar	Minister Counselor, the Indonesian Embassy in Vietnam	Indonesia
8.	Mr. Lee Sang Hoon	Vice Consul-General, the Korean Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City	Korea
9.	Mr. Mohd Zulkarnain Abu Bakar	Second Secretary, the Malaysian Embassy in Vietnam	Malaysia
10.	Mr. Pong Kok Tian	Consul-General, The Singapore Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City	Singapore
11.	Mr. Richard Homer	Political Officer at the British Embassy in Vietnam	UK

International and Local Press

Biographies of Participants

Ramses Amer

Ramses Amer - Associate Professor and PhD in Peace and Conflict Research - is Senior Research Fellow, Department of Oriental Languages, Stockholm University, Sweden, and Research Associate, Swedish Institute of International Affairs, Stockholm, Sweden, Major areas of research include a) security issues and conflict resolution in Southeast Asia and the wider Pacific Asia and b) the role of the United Nations in the international system. He is the author of The Sino-Vietnamese Approach to Managing Boundary Disputes, Maritime Briefing, Vol. 3, No. 5 (Durham: International Boundaries Research Unit, University of Durham, 2002). He is Co-editor, with Carlyle A. Thayer, of Vietnamese Foreign Policy in Transition (Singapore: Institute for Southeast Asian Studies; and, New York: St Martin's Press, 1999). He is Co-editor, with Ashok Swain and Joakim Öjendal, of Globalization and Challenges to Building Peace (London, Chicago and New Delhi: Anthem Press, 2007); and, of The Democratization Project: Opportunities and Challenges (London and New York: Anthem Press, 2009). He is also co-editor with N. Ganesan, of *International Relations in* Southeast Asia: Between Bilateralism and Multilateralism (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2010). He has also contributed to international journals and books and has written reports on issues of Southeast Asian Affairs and on the United Nations.

Nguyen Thi Lan Anh

Dr. Nguyen Thi Lan Anh is currently the Vice Dean of the International Law Faculty of the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam. Dr. Lan-Anh received her Ph.D. in International Law from University of Bristol, the United Kingdom, and L.L.M. from University of Sheffield by the sponsor of ORS Award for International Research Students of Outstanding Merit and Research Potential and Chevening Scholarship. Dr Lan-Anh has research interests in ocean law and policy, maritime security, and the South China Sea issues. Currently, she takes part in the Research Programme on the South China Sea of the DAV and is a member of the Research Project on International Maritime Crimes of the Center for International Law, the National University of Singapore.

Robert Beckman

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Percival has written a book on China's growing influence in Southeast Asia. *The Dragon Looks South: China and Southeast Asia in the New Century* was published in 2007. He has also spoken in the United States and abroad on China's goals and activities in Southeast Asia and the Indian Ocean. In February 2010 he testified before Congress at hearings on China and Southeast Asia.

In the past few years, Percival's classified publications have included studies for the U.S. government on maritime security in the Indian Ocean and on a strategy for U.S.-Indian maritime cooperation. He has also presented conference papers, in New Delhi and Singapore, on the regional security environment and growing Chinese and Indian naval ambitions and power.

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Peter Dutton is an Associate Professor of Strategic Studies in the China Maritime Studies Institute at the U.S. Naval War College. His current research focuses on American and Chinese views of sovereignty and international law of the sea and the strategic implications to the United States of Chinese legal and policy choices. Prof. Dutton's most recent publication is an article on China's perspectives on legal rights and interests in the South China Sea entitled "Through a Chinese Lens," (USNI Proceedings, April 2010). Selected additional publications include "Caelum Liberam: Air Defense Identification Zones Outside Sovereign Airspace," (American Journal of International Law, October 2009), "Charting a Course: US-China Cooperation at Sea," (China Security, April 2009), "Scouting, Signaling and Gate-Keeping: Chinese Naval Operations in Japanese Waters and the International Law Implications," (China Maritime Studies Monograph, April 2009), and "Carving Up the East China Sea," (Naval War College Review, Spring 2007). Additionally, Professor Dutton has

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Alberto Encomienda

Mr. Alberto A. Encomienda, a career Foreign Service Officer of the Republic of the Philippines recently retired with the rank of Chief of Mission, Class I. He served as the country's Ambassador to Greece, Malaysia and Singapore. His career specialization is Oceans Law and Policy with an LLM degree from the University of London in 1972, and Columbia University in 1978.

His government work in Oceans Policy and Law of the Sea, concentrated in the decade leading to his retirement, saw Mr. Encomienda as head of the then Maritime and Ocean Affairs Unit (MOAU) under the Office of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, which was at the same time the Secretariat of the high-level Cabinet Committee on Maritime and Ocean Affairs (CABCOM-MOA). The CABCOM-MOA was later abolished and at the same time the MOAU was upgraded to the Maritime and Ocean Affairs Center (MOAC) to which devolved the agenda of the CABCOM-MOA and its policy formulation and oversight functions. MOAC functions were later transferred to the Office of the President to give a higher profile and prominence to the Ocean concerns of the country facing modern paradigms as an archipelagic State, through the creation of the Commission on Maritime and Ocean Affairs (CMOA) chaired by the Executive Secretary. Mr. Encomienda headed the CMOA Secretariat for a year after its establishment.

In his Track I role, Mr. Encomienda had an early exposure into practical ocean governance activity in an UNCLOS Part IX setting when he presided over the conduct of Exercise Luzon Sea (ELS 1) and the Philippines-Vietnam Joint Oceanographic and Marine Scientific Research Expedition in the South China Sea (JOMSRE-SCS) III and IV activities reflected in the Proceedings of the Conference on the Results of the RP-Vietnam Joint Oceanographic and Marine Scientific Research Expedition in the South China Sea (JOMSRE I to IV) and Exercise Luzon Sea (ELS) organized and held under MOAC auspices, during his tenure as its Secretary-General. Mr. Encomienda retired from diplomatic service in February 2009.

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He has awarded the Prix of INDEMER-2000 by the Institute of Economic Laws of the Sea, Monaco, for the best thesis: *Vietnam faces to the problem of seaward extension in the South China Sea*, University of Paris I, Pantheon-Sorbonne, 1996. Selected Publications:

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Vietnamese), and editor of *The South China Sea: Cooperation for Regional Security and Development* (Hanoi, Thegioi Publisher, 2010).

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Dr. Mark J. Valencia is an internationally known maritime policy analyst, political commentator and consultant focused on Asia. Currently he is a Research Associate with the National Asia Research Program. Recently he was a Visiting Senior Fellow at the Maritime Institute of Malaysia and a Visiting Senior Scholar at Japan's Ocean Policy Research Foundation. From 1979 to 2004, Dr. Valencia was a Senior Fellow with the East-West Center where he originated, developed and managed international, interdisciplinary projects on maritime policy and international relations in Asia. Before joining the East-West Center, he was a Lecturer at the Universiti Sains Malaysia and a Technical Expert with the UNDP Regional Project on Offshore Prospecting based in Bangkok. He has a Ph.D in Oceanography from the University of Hawaii and a M.A. in Marine Affairs from the University of Rhode Island.

Dr. Valencia has published some 15 books and more than 150 articles and is a frequent contributor to the public media. Selected major policy relevant works include *The Proliferation Security Initiative: Making Waves in Asia* (Adelphi Paper 376, International Institute for Strategic Studies, October 2005), *Military and Intelligence Gathering Activities in the Exclusive Economic Zone: Consensus and Disagreement* (co-editor, *Marine Policy Special Issues*, March 2005 and January 2004); *Maritime Regime Building: Lessons* Learned and Their Relevance for Northeast Asia (Martinus Nijhoff, 2002); *Sharing the Resources of the South China Sea* (with Jon Van Dyke and Noel Ludwig, Martinus Nijhoff, 1997); *A Maritime Regime for Northeast Asia* (Oxford University Press, 1996); *China and the South China* Sea *Disputes* (Adelphi Paper 298, Institute for International and Strategic Studies, 1995); *Atlas for Marine Policy in East Asian Seas* (with Joseph Morgan, University of California Press, Berkeley, 1992); and *Pacific Ocean Boundary Problems: Status and Solutions* (with Douglas Johnston, Martinus Nijhoff, 1991).

Dr. Valencia has been a Fulbright Fellow to Australia (2007) and to Malaysia (1985), an Abe Fellow, a DAAD (German Government) Fellow, an International Institute for Asian Studies (Leiden University) Visiting Fellow, and a U.S. State Department –sponsored international speaker. He has also been a consultant to international organizations (e.g., IMO, UNDP, UNU, PEMSEA); government institutions and agencies (in, e.g., Canada, Japan, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Vietnam and the USA); and numerous private entities (e.g., Shell, CONOCO, and legal firms handling maritime issues).

Zou Keyuan

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He has published over 50 refereed English papers in nearly 30 international journals including Asian Yearbook of International Law, Asia-Pacific Journal of Environmental Law, Chinese

Journal of International Law, Columbia Journal of International Affairs, Criminal Law Forum, International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law, International Lawyer, Journal of Environmental Law, Journal of International Maritime Law, Journal of International Wildlife Law and Policy, Journal of Maritime Law and Commerce, Lloyd's Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly, Marine Policy, Maritime Policy and Management, Netherlands International Law Review, Ocean Development and International Law, Ocean Yearbook, Singapore Journal of International and Comparative Law, Ocean and Coastal Management and Yearbook Law and Legal Practice in East Asia. His recent single-authored books include Law of the Sea in East Asia: Issues and Prospects (London/New York: Routledge, 2005), China's Marine Legal System and the Law of the Sea (Leiden/Boston: Martinus Nijhoff, 2005), China's Legal Reform: Towards the Rule of Law (Leiden/Boston: Martinus Nijhoff, 2006), and China-ASEAN Relations and International Law (Oxford: Chandos, 2009).

He is member of Editorial Boards of the *International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law* (Martinus Nijhoff), *Ocean Development and International Law* (Taylor & Francis), *Journal of International Wildlife Law and Policy* (Taylor & Francis), *The Polar Journal* (Routledge), and *Chinese Journal of International Law* (Oxford University Press), and Advisory Board of the *Chinese Oceans Law Review* (Hong Kong: China Review Culture Limited).

Ren Yuan-zhe

Dr. Ren Yuan-zhe is a lecturer in the Department of Diplomacy at the China Foreign Affairs University, and program officer for Strategic and Conflict Management within this university. He got his Ph.D. in diplomacy from China Foreign Affairs University in 2009. His research interest mainly covers diplomatic studies and international relations in the Asia-Pacific region, especially China's relationship with ASEAN countries, both bilaterally and multilaterally. He has been teaching and doing research on those aspects and has published some articles on them.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES OF RESEARCH

SESSION I: SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA IN A SHIFTING STRATEGIC LANSCAPE

Maj. Gen (rtd) Vinod Saighal, Executive Director, Eco Monitors Society, New Delhi, India

It is almost an historical truism that whenever a major intervention in the geopolitical domain by a world power takes place, it is seldom, if ever, possible to get back to the status quo ante. Something on these lines has taken place in 2010 in South China Sea region, where China's military and economic surge has reached proportions that could dwarf the combined might of the other countries having geographic contiguity to the South China Sea. The paper that follows dwells on some of these aspects.

The Role of the South China Sea in the Process of East Asian Cooperation.

By Prof. Su Hao and Dr. Ren Yuan-zhe, China Foreign Affairs University, Beijing, China

The South China Sea is a piece of important marine to connect South Asia and South East Asia. After the Cold War, through the joint efforts of countries around the South China Sea, South China Sea has maintained peace and stability, so as to create a excellent atmosphere for China and ASEAN countries, and even the whole East Asian regional cooperation among countries. At present, the process of regional integration in East Asia made a series of progress, and the relationship between countries in the region has been further improved. The past year, the strong involvement of US caused a great deal of uncertainty to the South China Sea and the East Asian regional security environment. The South China Sea issue has become the focus of international attention. This process of regional integration in East Asia has a certain degree of negative impact. However in fact, the neighboring countries of the South China Sea haven't aroused direct confrontation and conflict. This article will focus on regional cooperation in East Asia concerning the South China Sea issue. Firstly the authors will review the current progress of regional integration in East Asia and sum up the region's efforts to resolve the South China Sea; Secondly, the analysis will highlight the main reason for the South China Sea, especially the United States factors; Finally the authors try to propose the preliminary policy recommendations concerning the peaceful solution of South China Sea making it a host of regional cooperation so as to promote the further development of regional integration in East Asia.

"China, the United States and the South China Sea: a view from outside".

By General (rtd) Daniel Schaeffer, Researcher at the French think tanks "International focus" and "Asie 21"

"The recent assertiveness of China over the South China Sea by declaring it as being in its "core" interests has raised concerns among all the countries in the World that have interests in

the free use of that maritime area, among them the South East Asian Nations and the United States . That is the reason why the question has become a new subject of conflicts between Pekingand Washington when each of the two countries neither interpret the same way the concept of freedom at sea nor the clauses of the Law of the sea as well. Even if Peking have some reasons to defend its interests over that sea, as the other countries have theirs too, the way China expresses that defence is excessive as far as its economical as well as its strategic interests are concerned. And they are excessive because the interpretation that China gives to the Law of the sea is excessive."

The South China Sea: An American Perspective

By **Prof. Bronson Percival**, Senior Advisor, Center for Strategic Studies at CNA (formerly the Center for Naval Analyses), Virginia, USA

U.S. policies on the South China Sea have remained consistent for 15 years, but interest has waxed and waned. Chinese actions over the past 3 years have provoked increasingly strong reaffirmations of U.S. support for freedom of navigation and for negotiations on conflicting claims in this sea, as well as for legal rights within China's EEZs. Little progress has been made on clarifying and resolving issues. Ambiguity in China's position on its claims and alleged "core interest" remains an impediment. Tensions appear to have now been dampened. A U.S. – Vietnamese partnership as a hedge against Chinese assertiveness has been strengthened, but on balance U.S. officials would prefer not to add the South China Sea to the list of Sino-U.S. bilateral issues. If China softens its stance and appears to agree to negotiations with ASEAN, American attention to the South China Sea may once again subside.

SESSION II: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

The South China Sea: Back to the Future?

By **Dr. Mark J. Valencia**, Research Associate, National Asia Research Program National Bureau of Asian Research and Woodrow Wilson Center, USA

Unfortunately, there has been little positive progress regarding the disputes. To the contrary, over the past two years there has been a sequence of developments regarding the South China Sea that has significant implications for regional security. These include the Impeccable incident, China's unilateral banning of fishing in the Gulf of Tonkin and its arrests of Vietnamese fishing boats, China's alleged declaration of the South China Sea as a "core interest," the Vietnam/Malaysia joint extended continental shelf submission, China's official objection thereto, the US statement of 'national interest' in the outcome of the disputes and how and where it was made, its offer to mediate them, China's strong rejection thereof, and the 'softened' US-ASEAN statement on the South China Sea. These developments have occurred in the context of deteriorating US/China relations and a regional debate regarding the nature and very desirability of a US security role in the region. Moreover, these developments

have become conflated and are reinforcing, raising fundamental questions for Southeast Asia concerning its regional security. This paper analyzes these threads and their reinforcing nature, identifies some of the fundamental questions they raise, and concludes that a dramatic compromise may be necessary to avert a worst scenario.

Rising Tensions in the South China Sea and Implications for Regional Security

By **Prof. Leszek Buszynski**, Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australian National University

Tensions have risen in the South China Sea as China has become more assertive in pressing its territorial claims. The Chinese now talk about the South China Sea as their "core interest" on the same level as Tibet and Taiwan, a claim they had never made before. Many observers of the South China Sea dispute have made the assumption that the Chinese claim to both the Paracels and Spratly Islands would be eventually adjusted in a favourable regional settlement, but recent cases of Chinese assertiveness in the Western Pacific cast doubt upon this supposition. In July 2010 China confronted the US over the staging of annual naval exercises with South Korea in the Yellow Sea. After China protested the US moved the exercises to the Western side of the Korean Peninsula. China staged its own military exercises in the South China Sea in the same month. China also confronted Japan in September 2010 over Islands after the Japanese coast guard arrested the captain of a Chinese fishing vessel near the disputed Senkaku/Diaoyu waters. Japan backed down and released the captain which will no doubt embolden the Chinese to adopt similar ways of dealing with other territorial disputes. In the South China Sea China continues to arrest and detain ASEAN fishermen which creates considerable resentment. The Chinese leadership may have been confident that a weakened US and an indecisive Japan would be unable to resist their pressure over these territorial disputes and the South China Sea in particular. Nonetheless, at the ASEAN Regional Forum in July the US declared that it would become involved in the South China Sea as a mediator and would not simply allow China to dominate the issue. America action rallied the ASEAN claimants that were most concerned about Chinese moves and moved to strengthen defence ties with both Indonesia and Vietnam as a hedge against China. In this situation of great power maneuvering a resolution of the dispute is a long way off and will await clarification of Beijing's intentions.

Recent Developments in the South China Sea: from Declaration to Code of Conduct

By **Dr. Tran Truong Thuy**, Director and Research Fellow, South China Sea Studies Programme, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam.

This paper focuses on recent developments in the South China Sea since signing of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) between ASEAN and China in 2002. As the most powerful country in the region, China sets the tone for the dispute in the South China Sea. After Beijing adopted a more accommodating stance in the South China Sea disputes, a DOC was reached. The DOC was signed to provide the foundation for

long-term stability in the area and foster understanding among the countries concerned. However, recent developments in the South China Sea affirmed the limits of the DOC in preventing the occurrence of tensions, incidents, and skirmishes in the region. As Beijing adopted a more harder approach, tensions have arisen in the South China Sea, and opportunities have been created for United States to intervene into the issues and strengthen their position in the region. In recent months, Beijing has voiced softer tone on the issues to ensure neighboring countries and to gain back partly damaged image in the region. Therefore, it is high time now for China and ASEAN to fully implement the DOC and Beijing should accept a binding regional Code of Conduct, which would ensure smaller parties from being intimidated and make them more confident to proceed with cooperative activities in the South China Sea and by that way preventing others from interference into the issue.

SESSION III: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA (Cont.)

Recent Developments in the South China Sea and Implications for Regional Security and Prosperity

By **Prof. Carlyle A. Thayer**, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of New South Wales at the Australian Defense Force Academy

This paper provides a broad overview of four major topics. First, it discusses tensions in China-United States relations and their implications for Southeast Asia. This section will focus how China and the United States employ naval power to shape the political environment This section also critically examines the concept of "core national interest" that is attributed to Chinese officials. Second, the paper review multilateral efforts to address the South China Sea with a particular focus on the 17th ASEAN Regional Forum ministerial meeting and the inaugural meeting of the ASEAN Defence Ministers Plus process. Third, the paper review China-Vietnam interaction in the South China Sea with a particular focus on China's annual unilateral fishing ban and seizure of Vietnamese fishing boats. Fourth, the paper reviews the status the Declaration on Conduct (DOC) of Parties in the South China Sea and progress by the China-ASEAN working group to implement the DOC. The paper concludes on a note of cautious optimism that there is likely to be some progress in implementing confidence building measures in the South China Sea but that sovereignty claims will remain intractable.

When the Elephants dance..... China, the United States and the South China Sea

By **Prof. Geoffrey Till**, Joint Services Command and Staff College and a member of the Defence Studies Department of King's College, London, UK

Many accounts of the current South China Sea dispute focus on its legal dimension, or the resource issues, or the light it sheds on the relationship within ASEAN or between its members and China. This paper, instead, will focus on the symbolic aspect of this island dispute for China and for the United States, a country that is not a claimant but which appears nevertheless however to be getting ever more involved in the conduct of the dispute and in discussions about its final possible resolution, because of the manner in which Americans in

general, and the US Navy in particular, think about the concept of the freedom of the seas. This is not 'just' a legal issue. It is much more a philosophical, cultural approach which is markedly different from the Chinese perspective on such matters. The paper will end with some brief speculations about the implications of this for the dispute and for the various countries involved in it.

Misperceptions, National Interests, and Law in the South China Sea

By **Prof. Stein Tønnesson**, International Peace Research Institute (PRIO), Norway.

This paper struggles with the relationship between power and law in the disputes over maritime delimitation and sovereignty to islands in the South China Sea. It seeks to define and weigh the relative importance of the main national interests of the states involved, notably China. Then it argues that the most important long term national interests are best served by a policy that does not rely on the use of force, but on pushing for a resolution of the disputes based on international law. On this basis the paper also claims that if the top national leaders in the region give sufficient strategic attention to the South China Sea, fully understand what the law of the sea actually says about maritime delimitation, and act in accordance with their overall national interests, then we are likely to see a resolution of the disputes within the next ten-twenty years.

SESSION IV: DISPUTES IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ISSUES

Activities in Disputed Marine Areas - Issues of Legality and Legitimacy

By Prof. Ian Townsend-Gault, Faculty of Law, University of British Columbia, Canada

Competing claims to sovereignty over islands and jurisdiction over adjacent waters in East and Southeast Asia have placed difficulties in the way of those seeking to explore and exploit resources, not to mention other activities which have nothing to do with either. But activities continue on a larger or smaller scale, albeit in the face of threats and warnings. And there are proposals for an expansion of uses, such as the construction of a runway on one island, possibly to facilitate aerial surveillance, and the promotion of tourism in the Eastern/South China Sea. All this gives rise to at least two questions. First, does the existence of a sovereignty/jurisdictional dispute preclude activities which might called under the regimes of the exclusive economic zone, the continental shelf, marine scientific research, and the preservation and protection of the marine environment and biological diversity, even if the proposed activities can be considered "beneficial"? Second, what exactly constitutes a "dispute" for these purposes? One state may object to the conduct of an ocean activity taking place under the jurisdiction of another, but is it not possible to apply objective criteria which suggest that the former state has no standing to make such an objection, that its rights at international law are not being violated? This paper examines these issues as they arise with particular reference to the ocean areas of East and Southeast Asia.

The Impact of Artificial Islands on Territorial Disputes over the Spratly Islands

By **Prof. Keyuan Zou**, Harris Chair in International Law, Lancashire Law School, University of Central Lancashire, UK.

The issue of artificial islands in the South China Sea has little been detailed discussed in the context of territorial and maritime disputes. Even in international law, the term "artificial islands" remains controversial and there is no universally accepted definition of it, though several provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea mention "artificial islands". With the development of science and technology and the increasing endeavors of nations States to creep over more space from the oceans, the issue of artificial islands becomes more salient. This paper attempts to discuss this issue in an international law perspective with special reference to the Spratly Islands and to provoke more discussions about it in future.

The Impact of the Submissions to the CLCS on Competing Claims in the South China Sea

By Prof. Robert Beckman, The Centre for International Law (CIL), National University of Singapore.

SESSION V: DISPUTES IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ISSUES (cont.)

Three Disputes and Three Objectives: China and the South China Sea

By Prof. Peter Dutton, China Maritime Studies Institute, US Naval War College

There are three basic disputes in the South China Sea, each with its own parties, rule sets, politics, and security concerns. Disputes over sovereignty involve the question of what coastal state has the right to exercise sovereignty over the islands in the South China Sea archipelagoes. Disputes involves the delimitation of jurisdiction involves drawing boundary lines over neighboring coastal state sea zones and at its core is related to resource management. China complicates these first two disputes by maintaining an ambiguous claim over the water space within its nine-dashed line. The third category of disputes relates to control over the water space itself and is fundamentally about the correct interpretation of international law concerning the balance of coastal state and international rights and obligations in the EEZ. This dispute primarily involves only China and the United States, but many other countries around the globe have an interest and a stake in its outcome. China's three regional objectives that play a role in determining its South China Sea policies include regional integration, resource development, and enhanced security. Beginning in 1996, China embarked on a policy that focused its efforts on the first two objectives. China was able to work steadily toward achieving these objectives with relatively little interference from the United States until 2009, when China shifted its policies and began focusing on the third objective—security through maritime control. The result of this policy shift has been increased tensions between China and the United States and Southeast Asia. In order to ensure peaceful resolution of disputes and to guarantee regional stability, a meaningful Code of Conduct and regional cooperation to achieve sustainable resource management are also required.

Dotted Lines in the South China Sea: Fishing for a (Legal) Solution

By **Prof. Erik Franckx**, Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, President of the Department of International and European Law, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

On 7 May 2009, the People's Republic of China sent a *note verbale* to the UN Secretary-General protesting a Malaysian-Vietnamese joint submission and a Vietnamese individual submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf. In clarifying the PRC's position, the document refers to an attached map of the South China Sea portraying an enigmatic U-shaped line consisting of nine dotted dashes. The assertion of this "U-line" has made quite a splash in international circles, giving rise to a host of questions as to its origins, what it means and ultimately what its value could be in the ongoing maritime rows.

The aim of this study is to offer an international legal analysis of this map. The paper starts off with a brief discussion of the history of the cartographic piece and some recent developments in this regard. Thereafter, the legal merit of various (and at times fickle) interpretations of the U-line will be assessed. We will derive arguments predominantly from the law of the sea to demonstrate that the Chinese claims connected to the 9 dotted dashes are debatable as a matter of international law. The focus will then turn to case law pertaining to cartographic evidence. Factors derived from this body of jurisprudence lead us to conclude that the map would in all likelihood be accorded fairly weak probative force before a court of law. Finally, we will show that even if the map were to be legally significant it could not be used against other interested parties in the dispute as a result of the latter's effective protest.

Maritime Delimitation in International Law and the Impacts on the South China Sea Disputes

By **Dr. Nguyen Thi Lan Anh**, Programme for the South China Sea Studies, Deputy Dean of International Law Department, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam

Any maritime delimitation certainly must depart from the entitlement of the land territory. However, in the South China Sea dispute, the sovereignty issues is currently in a deadlock, thus it is noteworthy to look at a different angle, the general principle of maritime delimitation, to draw the maritime prospect awaiting the claimants and to facilitate the settlement of the dispute. The contemporary law concerning maritime delimitation method is defined as a process in which the equidistant line is firstly and provisionally constructed and then, asking for the adjustment of this line based on the presence of relevant circumstances. Among some possible relevant circumstances, the presence of islands of the parties to the dispute were usually considered as relevant circumstances. However, the maximum half effect of all the small islands in these cases was obtained with the back up of the coastline from the mainland, and much less effect if they stood individually without the supportive effect of the mainland in maritime delimitation with a mainland. With the tiny in size, the presence of the islands of the Spratlys and the Paracels themselves or the disproportionality between the

coasts of the islands of the two archipelagos and those of the mainland of coastal states will definitely be considered as relevant circumstances in any maritime delimitation. Therefore, in maritime delimitation the overlapping between exclusive economic zone and continental shelf of the Spratlys and Paracels with those of the mainland of littoral states, the Spratlys and Paracels will likely have to reduce their effect (if any) for the full effect of the mainland. In maritime delimitation the overlapping between internal water, territorial sea and contiguous zones of some islands of the Spratlys and Paracels with exclusive economic zone from the mainland of some littoral states, such islands of the Spratlys and Paracels will likely be enclaved with 12 nautical miles. These prospects reveals the result that in whatever scenario, the maritime zones generated from the mainland of littoral states up to 200 nautical miles will belong to the coastal states. The sovereignty claims over the Paracels and the Spratlys as well as their legal regime will only affect the doughnut area beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines of coastal states. These prospects are resulted from the application rule of maritime delimitation without any reference to the settlement of sovereignty issue. Therefore, it would be better for the parties in the South China Sea dispute to shelve the sovereignty claims and cooperate with each other to develop a joint cooperation regime in the doughnut area.

SESSION VI: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA: PROGRESS AND PROSPECTS

Experiences in 20 Years of Informally Managing Potential Conflicts in the South China Sea

By Prof. Hasjim Djalal, Director, Centre for South - East Asian Studies, Indonesia

The informal efforts to manage potential conflicts and confrontation in the South China Sea and to convert them to dialogue and cooperation have taken a long road since 1980's. Indonesia has taken the initiative to carry out the efforts through Annual Workshop in Indonesia and through various Technical Working Groups (TWGs), Groups of Experts Meeting, and other Study Groups (SGs) in various capitals and places around the South China Sea area. Originally, for the first 10 years the Process was supported by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) through the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, and thereafter by the various participating authorities around the South China Sea themselves. The Workshop process has also established Special Fund, voluntarily contributed by the participating authorities. The Special Fund could be used to support the participation of the various authorities that could not participate in the activities of the Workshop Process, to help finance the agreed cooperative programs, and to defray some costs of the Center for the Southeast Asian Studies in Jakarta in helping to manage the process.

So far, the Workshop Process has been held in Indonesia 19th times and the preparation is now being held for the 20th Workshop in Bandung, Indonesia, in November 2010. Various other meetings have taken place in various cities around the South China Sea.

So far, the Workshop have established TWG on Marine Scientific Research (TWG-MSR), TWG on Resources Assessment (TWG-RA), TWG on Marine Environmental Protection

(TWG-MEP), TWG on Safety of Navigation, Shipping and Communications (TWG-SNSC), and TWG on Legal Matters (TWG-LM). Some of these TWGs have been rather successful than the others, such as the TWG on MSR and on MEP. The TWG MSR for instance, has conducted marine biodiversity expedition around the Indonesian Anambas Islands in the South China Sea and the results has been published internationally. At this moment, the Workshop Process is preparing other scientific cooperative programs. Some of the efforts at promoting dialogues between the parties and discussions on confidence building process have also brought better understanding between the various parties/participants.

A lot of lessons have been learned from the process during the last almost 20 years. Those lessons indicated some conditions for successful efforts and some basic principles that should be observed in managing potential conflicts. The paper discussed some of these lessons in informally managing potential conflicts.

Dispute Settlement and Conflict Management in the South China Sea - Assessing Progress and Challenges

By **Prof. Ramses Amer**, Senior Research Fellow, Center for Pacific Asia Studies (CPAS), Department of Oriental Languages, Stockholm University, Sweden.

The paper will assess the progress made in dispute settlement and conflict management in the South China Sea. The challenges that persist in the South China Sea area will also be analysed in the paper. The progress made will be outlined through an overview of settled and managed territorial disputes in the South China Sea and adjacent area, i.e. the Gulf of Thailand and the Gulf of Tonkin. The will be followed by an analysis of the settlement and management approaches. The challenge of the un-settled disputes will be analysed and assessed by highlighting both the nature of the disputes and the efforts in managing them. The paper will be concluded by a broader assessment of progress made and remaining challenges in the South China Sea from the perspectives of dispute settlement and conflict management.

ASEAN and China keep Peace in the South China Sea: A Personal View

By **Prof. Ba Hamzah,** Senior Research Fellow, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

This paper has asserted that despite some territorial disagreements in the South China Sea, as neighbours, China and ASEAN have over the years forged an endurable economic, cultural and political relationship.

Those who have viewed China as a regional trouble-maker have tended to play down its contribution to regional peace. The events of 1974, 1988 and 1995 are always highlighted as evidence of unilateralism and aggressiveness against its immediate neighbours.

Often unappreciated and ignored are activities that China has done to promote peace in the South China Sea. China's decision-albeit reluctantly- to embrace the 2002 declaration of State Parties in the South China Sea and the Agreement on the Delimitation of the Territorial Sea, Exclusive Economic Zones and Continental Shelves in the Beibu Gulf and the Agreement on

Fishery Cooperation in the Beibu Gulf in 2000(ratified in 2004) are two examples (among many) of the effort by China to build peace.

This paper holds the view that China and ASEAN China have the capacity to keep peace in the South China Sea. There is no need for outsiders to get involved in their dispute which could reignite the anguish that the region experienced during the first Cold War era.

The South China Sea: Three Periods, Four Challenges, Two Regional Approaches and One Hope

By Prof. Nguyen Hong Thao, Hanoi National University, Vietnam

SESSION VII: COOPERATION IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA: EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS

Cooperation in the South China Sea: Views on the Philippines-Vietnam Cooperation on Maritime and Ocean Concerns

By **Atty. Henry S. Bensurto**, Secretary General, Commission on Maritime and Ocean Affairs Secretariat (CMOAS), Department of Foreign Affairs of Philippines.

The paper highlights and describes the cooperative activities of the Philippines and Vietnam on Maritime and Ocean Concerns, which are considered as confidence building measures by both countries to manage their differences in the South China Sea. It will discuss the framework in which these cooperative endeavors are undertaken, and more importantly, draws out lessons from the experience of the Philippines and Vietnam that may be beneficial in future bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the South China Sea.

Cooperation in the Gulf of Tonkin: the China-Vietnam Fishery Agreement Revisited

By **Ms.** Li Jianwei, Deputy Director, Research Center for Maritime Economy, National Institute for South China Sea Studies and Chen Pingping, Research Fellow, Research Center for Maritime Economy, National Institute for South China Sea Studies

The Agreement on Fishery Cooperation in the Gulf of Tonkin between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was signed in December 2000 and came into effect in June 2004 after ratification from both countries. Since then China and Vietnam have made efforts in implementing the Agreement and its following Protocol by measures within their own countries and by bilateral cooperation. This paper focuses on the cooperation arrangements between the two countries in general with emphasis on implementation practice on China side. In this way the writers examine the achievements made and problems still exist, in hope of shedding lights on future cooperation on reaching the goal of sustainable fishery in the Gulf of Tonkin.

Joint Marine Biodiversity Projects in the South China Sea: Efforts Made in the SCS Workshop Process

By **Prof. Yann-huei Song,** Institute of European and American Studies, Academia Sinica, Nankang, Taipei

The South China Sea (SCS) is one of the world's richest marine biodiversity areas, with abundant and diverse marine resources. In recent years, however, due to rapid economic development and population growth, marine biodiversity in the SCS is losing. The unresolved problems of sovereignty and maritime iurisdiction in the overlapping disputed areas have created further obstacles for the needed cooperation in marine environment and biodiversity conservation in the area. Beginning in 1991, the participants of the Informal Workshop on Managing Potential Conflicts in the South China Sea (the SCS Workshop) agreed to recommend to the relevant governments to explore areas of cooperation in the SCS, which include the study of marine biodiversity. As a result, in March 2002, a joint biodiversity project was carried out around the undisputed Indonesian Islands of Anambas in the SCS. Later on, China, Taiwan, Vietnam, and the Philippines have been asked to consider the possibility of joint biodiversity studies in the northeast and northwest area of the SCS in order to complete the picture of biodiversity in the SCS as a whole. In 2006, china and Vietnam stated that they were not ready to do so. This paper studies joint efforts made by the participating authorities in the SCS Workshop process to understand better the current state of marine biodiversity in the SCS. It is suggested that the SCS Workshop process should join the world to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity 2010. A new joint biodiversity project, if adopted, can make the 20th Anniversary of the Workshop process more memorable.

Cooperation for Security and Development in the South China Sea

By **Amb. Rodolfo C. Severino,** Head, ASEAN Studies Centre, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore

The clashing interests of the claimants to jurisdiction over the land features in and the waters of the South China Sea make it highly unlikely for their conflicting claims to be resolved either through negotiations or through adjudication by an international body. However, tensions, instability, volatility and the likelihood of conflict could be reduced if each claimant were to bring its position closer to compliance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and if all of them were to arrive at further agreement on each of the elements of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea that the foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and China's special envoy issued in November 2002. It would also help if an understanding could be reached between major naval powers and coastal states on what could and could not be done by foreign states and their vessels in the exclusive economic zones of coastal states. So would the general maintenance and improvement of the overall relations between China and ASEAN and its members and between China and the United States.

SESSION VIII: PROMOTING COOPERATION FOR SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

Recent Developments in the South China Sea and Implications for Regional Security and Prosperity

By: Mr. Alberto A. Encomienda, DagatKalingaAlaga, Inc., Philippines

It is now half a century since the South China Sea disputes began as a low-intensity political issue among certain riparian States in the northern sector of the sea. It was a low-intensity conflict at the beginning for two reasons. Firstly the claimant States were weakened States in the post-colonial and early post-World War II period. Secondly, the South China Sea was believed to be barren of mineral and petroleum resources. At this point in time, a span covering fifty years, the circumstances have completely changed. The riparian States are fast growing economies and the competition has intensified for resources needed for continued and fast-paced economic development. During the same span of time, there were no effective initiatives from within the region to resolve the conflict. A more visible later attempt is through crafting a Code of Conduct that was later downgraded into a Declaration among parties to the conflict. This single initiative took all of the past decade with not much progress towards any semblance of a solution. The Declaration, after adoption, went into dormition and some draft guidelines formulated for its implementation, mainly confidence-building measures, was not even discussed among the parties. This time, there is a move to once again resuscitate the Code of Conduct. Perhaps this second time around it will succeed, all the way to signature, ratification and entry into force. Would this be a promising eventual development to await with bated breath? Regrettably, nothing much to inspire confidence.

A new tack with old ingredients have recently been separately suggested. One is addressing non-traditional issues, and another is pursuing joint cooperation/joint development. The twin concepts are promising, but must be pursued in tandem. It should be given serious consideration by claimant States.

Implementing CBMs in the 2002 DOC: A Roadmap to Managing the South China Sea Dispute

By **Dr. Ian Storey,** Editor, Contemporary Southeast Asia; Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore

Tensions are rising in the South China Sea due a combination of factors including the failure of ASEAN and China to implement cooperative confidence building measures (CBMs) outlined in the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DoC). If present trends continue, and tensions are allowed to fester, there is a growing risk of miscalculation and even conflict. Stability in the South China Sea is vital for the continued economic development of countries in the Asia Pacific, and regional states voiced their concerns in 2010 at the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus). Due to the increasing frequency of incidents at sea, there is an urgent need for ASEAN and China to move forward with the concrete implementation of the DoC. This paper recommends how some of the CBMs identified in the DoC can be operationalized.

International Joint Development of Fisheries Resources

By **Dr. Wang Hanling,** Institute of International Law, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, China

All for one, one for all: Promoting economic cooperation in the South China Sea

By Mr. Nazery Khalid, Senior Fellow, Maritime Institute of Malaysia

Of late, the discourse on South China Sea has been dominated by the possibility of military conflicts breaking out among nations staking a claim in this pivotal sea lane of communication. While efforts have been made to cool things off in this cagey theater, it looks a long way off before all parties can set aside their differences and cooperate in areas of common interest and benefit. Lost amid the increasingly aggressive posturing and adversarial tone among claimants is the emphasis on how they can benefit from realising the economic potential of the vast living and non-living resources in the Sea, and from unlocking the worth of the trade lanes for common benefit. This modest paper attempts to shift the focus of analysis of the Sea from within the framework of military grandstanding to a 'softer' perspective by focusing on promoting economic cooperation among countries littoral to the Sea. It explores areas of potential cooperation in the Sea such as fishery, oil and gas, shipping, seaborne trade and non-living marine resources, and outlines multilateral efforts which have been made in these areas. While acknowledging the potential for the area to be mired in prolonged tension, the paper calls for the actors to set aside their differences and focus on 'low hanging fruits' to build confidence and trust among them to avoid conflict in the Sea. It spells out recommendations on how economic cooperation can be promoted and achieved, by way of undertaking joint development and capacity building and establishing a regional economic council, among others. The paper concludes with an optimistic tone that although tension in the Sea should not be dismissed, actors involved share too much common interests and an intertwining fate amid today's globalised world, hence it would not be in their interest to let things go out of hand in the Sea. It boldly throws the challenge to governments and policymakers to set aside nationalistic tendencies and act in the best interest of the region by cooperating on economic development, and warns against taking one-upmanship in the Sea too far for the sake of regional peace, stability and prosperity and for future generations.

Approaches for Cooperative Activities in the South China Sea

By Mr. Vu Hai Dang, Candidate of Doctorate of the Science of Law in Marine Environmental Law at Schulich Law School, University of Dalhousie, Canada.

Although the South China Sea dispute seems to get more complicated recently and the perspective for a definitive resolution is still very far away; many initiatives for cooperation have been undertaken by surrounding countries. Most famous examples of such initiatives can include joint expeditions of marine scientific research by the Philippines and Vietnam, the joint undertaking of seismic survey by petroleum companies from China, Philippines and Vietnam, and the continuing South China Sea Workshops. It is widely recognised that these

activities have played an important role in decreasing the tension, enhancing cooperation and encouraging dialogue between participants. For this reason, it is strongly believed that countries surrounding the South China Sea, especially claimants in the South China Sea disputes should develop and implement more cooperative activities. However, if those activities are not conducted in a suitable manner they can raise serious suspicions and lead to strong protestations both from inside the participating country and other concerning states. Examples of such reverse effects are the reaction of China to the Filipino-Vietnamese expeditions during its first phase (from 1996 to 2007) or the severe protestations occurring inside the Philippines and critics from other countries with regard to above the tripartite surveys. There may be many reasons that can explain the reverse effects caused by these two arrangements but the most important one should be that the activities were undertaken in sensitive areas. It is particularly true in the case of the tripartite agreement where the most important rationale for protestations from inside the Philippines was that the government had made "breathtaking concessions in agreeing to the area for study, including parts of its own continental shelf not even claimed by China and Vietnam".

From this perspective, this paper would like to invite the workshop to reflect on an approach for future initiatives in cooperative activities in the South China Sea region to avoid such negative consequences and enhance their effectiveness. This approach is proposed based on the general knowledge relating to marine regional cooperation with consideration of the particularities of the South China Sea's situation.

INDEX 1: INFORMATION ABOUT VIETNAM

People and Language

The population of **Socialist Republic of Viet Nam** is more than 85 million with an urban population consisting of about 19.7%. There are 54 ethic minority groups living in Vietnam. The 'Kinh' people (or the Viet) account for nearly 90% of the population. Major ethic minority groups include the *Tay, Thai, Muong, H'Mong, Dzao* and *Khmer*.

Vietnamese language is the main language. English, French and Russian can be heard in the major cities.

Land & History

The land of Vietnam has an S shape with a total surface area of 329,600 km2. Vietnam has common borders in the North with China, to the East and Southeast with Laos and Cambodia. The West of Vietnam faces the South China Sea. Vietnam's coastline is more than 3,260 kms long. The land is very diverse with mountains, highlands, deltas, rivers and forests. *Hanoi* is the capital and *Ho Chi Minh City* is Vietnam's largest city.

Climate

Vietnam has a tropical climate, which is characterized by lots of sunshine, high rainfall, humidity and two distinguished seasons in general: the cold and dry one from November to April and the other, hot and wet from May to October. Annual average temperatures range from 22°C to 27°C. But the weather usually varies North and South, as between land and mountains.

Currency

The currency is Vietnamese Dong (VND). Foreign currencies can be exchanged at the banks, exchange bureaus or hotel reception desks. Travelers' cheque and most of Credit cards are accepted in the major cities.

Time

Time zone: GMT/UTC + 7 (the same zone as Thailand, Laos and Cambodia) Business days: Monday through Friday.

Business hour: Mornings: 07h30 - 12h00; Afternoons: 13h00 - 16h30.

Museums are usually closed on Monday but you can visit temples and pagodas every day. Most restaurants and shops open from 08h00 till 22h00.

Public Holidays

01 January: New Year's Day

Late January to mid-February: Vietnamese Lunar New Year (04 days off).

30 April: Re-unification Day and 01 May: International Workers' Day.

02 September: National Day

Food and Drinks

There is a wide range of dishes in Vietnam, including the very popular **nem** (spring rolls) and **pho** (Vietnamese noodle soup). They are eaten together with rice or noodles. Not all foods are spicy. Vegetarian foods, dietary dishes & western menus are also available at some

restaurants. A rich variety of tropical fruits is available all year round, however, it will vary depending upon the season.

Imported beers and alcohols are available in hotels, restaurants and shops. There are many Vietnamese brands or country wines made from rice. If you prefer to drink water, please use bottled mineral water, which has an unbroken seal. Do not drink tap water that has not been boiled.

Emergency numbers

Police: 113

Fire Brigade: 114

First Aid: 115

HO CHI MINH CITY

Some 300 years ago, at the beginning of the 17th century, the Vietnamese fleeing the insecurity resulting from the continuous wars between the two rival families, the Nguyen and the Trinh lords, came and settled in the Mekong Delta. They cleared new lands, which became Gia Dinh province at the beginning of the 19th century. On a bank of the Ben Nghe river there appeared an urban centre, Ben Nghe, including a big market, Cho Lon, and a street, Sai Gon. It was the embryo of the present city of Sai Gon-Cho Lon.

On June 2, 1976, the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam solemnly gave Saigon the name of Ho Chi Minh City.

Nowadays Ho Chi Minh city became the economic center of Vietnam.

Climate and weather

Ho Chi Minh City is situated by the Sai Gon River in the centre of the Cuu Long delta. The climate is divided into two seasons. The dry season lasts from November to April, the average temperature is 26° C. The rainy season begins in May and ends in October characterized by sudden heavy rains, the average temperature is 29° C. In general, the climate of Ho Chi Minh City is tropical, it is hot but mild thanks to the sea. Humidity is 80%, low when compared with other regions of the country.

INDEX 2: ORGANISING INSTITUTIONS

THE DIPLOMATIC ACADEMY OF VIETNAM

The Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam was established in accordance with Decision 82/2008/QD-TTg dated 23 June 2008 by the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on the basis of upgrading the Institute for International Relations (successor of the College for Foreign Affairs established in 1959). The Academy carries out strategic research in international relations and foreign policies; undergraduate and graduate training and retraining of Foreign Service personnel; serves as "think tank" in foreign policy for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Party and the State.

Honours: First - Class Labour Order (1994)

Third - Class Independence Order (1999) Second - Class Independence Order (2004)

Ho Chi Minh Order (2009)

Human Resources

The Academy has 211 researchers, faculty members and staff and is expected to have 350 personnel when it is in full service. The majority of researchers and faculty members hold master or doctor degrees and have received overseas training. Among them are 11 associate professors, 19 doctors, 59 masters currently lecturing and conducting research in international politics, international law, international economics, foreign languages, and media and crossculture communication.

Training

The Academy offers training at undergraduate and graduate levels in international relations, international law, international economics, foreign languages, and media and cross-culture communication. Each year, the Academy takes in 60 graduate and 450 undergraduate students in six disciplines of International Relations, International Law, International Economics, International Communication, English and French; 100 college students and 150 on-the-job students. Different training units form an establishment similar to a university with its own faculties and departments.

The Academy has cooperated with overseas universities to offer joint courses, invited foreign trainers to teach foreign languages and European studies and US foreign policies etc. By 2010, the Academy has trained 5000 students for 37 formal university enrolments, 2500 students in 23 secondary enrolments, 369 students in 10 master enrolments and 10 students in 1 doctor enrolment. It has also held 12 on-the-job and 5 second-degree training enrolments.

Research

The Academy carries out strategic research and forecasts on world affairs, international relations, political and economic affairs, security, national defence, law, culture and foreign policies of different nations and regions. The Academy serves as "Think Tank" for the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Party and the State in foreign policies as well as history and theories of international relations.

Besides, it serves as the coordinator in the management of research projects of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It has carried out 250 studies in international relations at both state and

grassroots levels. In the organizational set up of the Academy, the Institute for Foreign Policy and Strategic Studies is an affiliate of the Academy and has three centres, namely the Centre for Political and Security Studies, the Centre for Development and Economic Integration, the Centre for Regional and Foreign Policy Studies.

International Cooperation

The Academy is an active member of many regional and world research networks such as ASEAN-ISIS, NEAS, NEAT, and CSCAP etc. Researchers and faculty members of the Academy regularly attend international colloquiums, seminars and conferences held overseas. Every year, the Academy hosts 60 groups of scholars, international politicians for 60 international seminars. The Department of External Cooperation within the Office of Administration of the Academy acts as the focal point for all cooperation in training, academic research and scholar exchange with overseas universities, academies, institutes, research centres, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

In-service training

The Centre for Continuing Education carries out training and convenes refreshment courses in international relations, foreign policy, diplomatic studies and foreign languages for mid-level officials, public servants and employees in the diplomatic service as well as other officials engaged in diplomatic activities from various ministries, agencies and localities.

Information and Documentation

The Centre for Information and Documentation archives and provides information relating to Vietnam's foreign policy, strategies, political, economic and security situation of regions and countries as well as international organizations. It also seeks to further develop information resources for use in Vietnam and overseas. It has at its disposal 35.000 books and document titles in service of teaching and research of the Academy and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MISSIONS

Decision 82/QD-TTg dated June 23, 2008 by the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam defined the status and functions, duties and powers of the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam as follows:

Status and functions

- 1. The Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam is an income-generating administrative unit under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, established on the basis of upgrading the Institute for International Relations.
- 2. The Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam has the functions of undertaking strategic studies in international relations and foreign policies, undergraduate and postgraduate training and training of mid-career officials.
- 3. The Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam with its headquarters in Hanoi, is a juridical personality, uses the seals with the national emblem, and has its own bank account as provided for by the law.

Duties and powers

- 1. Scientific research:
- a) To study, synthesize and carry strategic forecast of the world situation, international relations, political, security, defence, economic, legal, cultural and foreign policy issues of

countries and territories, to advise the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the formulation, planning and implementation of the foreign policy of the State;

- b) To research and develop theories of international relations of Vietnam on the basis of the Vietnamese diplomatic history, and theories of international relations;
- c) To cooperate in academic exchange with universities, academies, research centers and intergovernmental non-governmental organizations in the country and abroad in accordance with its functions and tasks;
- d) Act as the focal point in the organization and management of scientific research activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 2. Training and mid-career refreshment:
- a) Train human resources at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in international relations, international law, international economics, foreign languages and other subjects in accordance with the law;
- b) Undertake training and organize mid-career refreshment courses in international relations, foreign policy, diplomatic skills, foreign languages for leaders, managers of ministries, provincial departments, officials, public employees in the foreign service, officials working at external relations departments of different ministries and localities; carrying out examination in professional diplomatic skills, foreign languages of relevant officials in accordance with regulations and assigned authority;
- c) Undertake joint training at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, cooperative mid-career training in professional diplomatic training and foreign language studies with local or foreign institutes and organizations.
- 3. Edit and publish scientific works, studies, textbooks, teaching materials and other publications on external affairs, diplomatic history of Vietnam and the world, international relations and other related fields.
- 4. Participate in the dissemination of foreign policies and lines of the State.
- 5. Manage officials, employees, facilities of the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam in accordance with provisions of the law and decentralization of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 6. Perform other duties as assigned or authorized by the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

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THE VIETNAM LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION

The Vietnam Lawyers' Association is a professional socio – political, united organization gathering the voluntary lawyers throughout the country.

The Vietnam Lawyers' Association is member of the Vietnam Fatherland Front under the leadership of the Vietnam Communist Party and the management of the State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The Vietnam Lawyers' Association participates in the international lawyers organizations whose activities conform to its motto and objective.

Motto and objectives

The Vietnam Lawyers' Association widely unites, gathers the Vietnamese lawyers who have done or are doing legal work in the offices of the State, the political organization, the socio – political organization, the professional socio – political organization, the social organization, the economic organization, the cultural organization, the educational organization, the people's armed forces, who volunteer to act for the cause of building and defending their Fatherland, for the defense of the people's right to freedom and democracy, contributing to building a legal science and the Vietnam socialist state governed by law with the objective: the people be rich, the country be powerful the society be equal, democratic and civilized.

The Vietnam Lawyers' Association broadens its friendly relation and co-operation with the lawyers organizations in the world and other organizations under the principle of mutual respect of each others' independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity for the common sake – peace, co – operation and development.

Legal status of the Vietnam Lawyers' Association

Pursuant to the current laws and regulations as well as its Statutes, the legal status of the Vietnam Lawyers' Association is well defined. Pursuant to Article 1 of the Decree No 88/2003/ND-CP, the Vietnam Lawyers' Association shall be one of organizations falling within the scope of application of this Decree. Therefore, the legal status of the Vietnam Lawyers' Association shall be defined by the Law No 102/SL/L1004, the Decree No 88/2003/ND-CP, and its Statutes which was drafted and issued in conformity with the two above legal documents. It is noted that the Vietnam Lawyers' Association, as defined in its Statutes is a professional socio – political organization which conforms with the classification in Article 104 of the Decree No 88/2003/ND-CP. It means that the Vietnam Lawyers' Association shall bear legal status as a legal entity.

In accordance with the Vietnam Communist Party's guidelines and policies on enhancing the Vietnam Lawyers' Association's role and activities as well as the Decree No 88/2003/ND-CP, in its Congress in 2004, the Vietnam Lawyers' Association passed its new Statutes which then was approved by the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the Decision No. 37/2004/AD-BNV of 19 May 2004. The Statutes clearly identifies the Vietnam Lawyers' Association as a professional socio – political organization. This legal status shall create favorable conditions for the Vietnam Lawyers' Association to facilitate its activities and enhance its role. As a professional socio – political organization, the Vietnam Lawyers' Association can widely unties and gathers many Vietnamese lawyers who work in different fields, in the offices of the State and social organizations as well as from different sectors of the economy. Scope of activities and the roles of the Vietnam Lawyers' Association, therefore, shall be legally broadened.

Tasks, power and duties of the Vietnam Lawyers' Association

- 1. To gather in its association those who have been or are being engaged in legal work according to the provision of Article 1 of the Statutes. To build and make it a steady and strong association politically, morally, organizationally and professionally;
- 2. To take part in the law making, to study legal science, to take part in the supervision of the law application; propose to the state organs on the problem to elaborate and carry out the law;
- 3. To take part in propagating, disseminating and training the law, to raise the sense of exercising the law to the Association's members, cadres, government employees and the people;
- 4. To act as consultants of the law, help the poor people and those privileged by policy in legal matters free of charge, build the legal consultant organizations as defined by law:
- 5. To take part in some State management activities as defined by law;
- 6. To coordinate various activities and carry out the task of a member of the Vietnam Fatherland Front;
- 7. To take part in the legal and political activities in service of the political, economic and social tasks, maintain political security, social order and safety;
- 8. To report to the Party and the State the sentiment and aspiration of the legal community; to train members of the Association to enhance their legal knowledge and professional morals; to lit up their spirit and take care of their interests in order to keep them closed to the Association;
- 9. To publish and distribute books, magazines, newspapers on law, meeting the needs for the Association's internal and external activities;
- 10. To take part in the international activities conforming to the Association's motto and objective;
- 11. To persuade the Vietnamese people living abroad to contribute their part to national construction.

Members of the Vietnam Lawyers' Association

The number of members of the Vietnam Lawyers' Association has been rapidly increased in recent years. From 2005 to the beginning of 2008, the number of members increased from 31,000 to 36,000 members who work in legal field such as judges, prosecutors, policemen, legal experts and lawyers.

Structure and organization of the Vietnam Lawyers' Association

The Vietnam Lawyers' Association is organized from the central to the grassroots level which comprises:

- The Central Committee of the Vietnam Lawyers' Association;
- The Association's provincial and city bodies directly affiliated to the Association's Central body
- Association's district, quarter, city bodies directly affiliated to the Lawyers Association at provincial level;
- Lawyers' associations at base level;