

To: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Subject: "Vietnam Peace and Development Foundation – individual UPR submission – China - October, 2013"

Date: 28th February, 2013

We, the Vietnam Peace and Development Foundation, are pleased to realise that China has gained important achievements in the protection and promotion of human rights.

In 1949, when the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Common Program was adopted, it clearly stipulates that State power belongs to the people whose fundamental human rights are secured by the law.

Since then, great effort has been made by the state to safeguard human rights. Periodical National Human Rights Action Plans have been built and issued by the Government with the aim of ensuring and promoting human rights.

The Government has set up various organisations and agencies to protect civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of people; many laws and rules have been issued to control the implementation of the rights such as the Social Insurance Law, the People's Mediation Law and Organisation Rules on the Arbitration of Labour and Personnel Disputes.

The Government has tried its best to create more jobs, improve people's living conditions, ensure social security, and provide people with better and equal access to health and education services.

Millions of jobs are generated every year, making per capita income increase and people's living condition get better.

Health service has been improved with the establishment of community-based health centres, not only in big cities but also in remote areas. Average life expectancy has been increasing steadily while the rate of maternal and infant mortality has been experiencing sharp decrease.

Regarding the right to education, 100 percent of the population has access to compulsory education while higher education and vocational training have always been improved.

The State has also strived to protect fundamental human rights as mentioned in the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights. They have done their best to promote the principle of equality by guaranteeing the rights of all social classes, including ethnic minorities, women, children, elderly people, and people with disabilities.

China has joined effort with the internaitonal community to promote the protection of human rights by acceding international human rights conventions, holding dialogue on human rights, and becoming a member of international human rights organisations such as the United Nations Human Rights Council, and hosting human rights forums in the framework of Asia-Europe Meeting.

In an effort to ensure the exercise and protection of human rights, the State attaches importance to human rights education. The issue is now included in the curriculum as a compulsory subject at school. There are now dozens of human rights research institutes and centres across the country which conduct research on human rights.

China has also had a variety of campaigns to raise people's awareness of human rights protection with cooperation between the government and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Forums and conferences have been held with the participation of domestic and international scholars to discuss ways to improve the efficiency of human rights promotion in the country.

We would like to express our wish that China will continue its effort to encourage the promotion of human rights by completing legal documents, increasing its participation in international forums, and expanding international cooperation in the issue.

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