

**Statement**  
**by Mr. Le Dinh Phuong, Member of the Executive Committee**  
**of the Vietnam Family Planning Association**  
**at the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the HRC**  
**Geneve, 24 September 2009**

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*Mr. President,*

On behalf of the Vietnam Family Planning Association, a professional and non-governmental organization working in the field of population, reproductive health, family planning and HIV/AIDS, I thank the Council for the opportunity to address this important meeting.

I also thank the Government of Viet Nam for involving NGOs like my own in its UPR process through its broad consultations with relevant stakeholders.

*Mr. President,*

We commend the efforts of the Vietnamese Government in the protection and promotion of human rights in the fields of education, healthcare, child rights as well as gender equality and elimination of discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS.

We also appreciate the achievements of Viet Nam in improving living standards, reducing poverty and promoting social justice and progress.

The promulgation of laws on gender equality shows that Viet Nam is paying more and more attention to women's rights and roles.

Although these results are very encouraging, Viet Nam still needs further improvements in quality of population, providing better access to high quality health services, including reproductive health, for ethnic minority people, youth and adolescent, and in further strengthening HIV/AIDS prevention and control.

Over the years, we have received cooperation and support from the Government of Vietnam. Viet Nam Family Planning Association requests its continued support and collaboration to be able to fulfill its mission.

• Thank you.