



**SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM**  
**MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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**STATEMENT BY** Check against delivery.  
**H.E. Mr. Truong Tan Sang**  
**President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam**  
**at the Global Leaders' Meeting on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**  
*(27 September 2015, CR4, UN Headquarters)*

Mr. Chair,

Excellencies,

I commend the initiative to convene the high-level meeting on gender equality and women's empowerment.

The important role of women has been asserted throughout the history of our national building, defense and the current course of national development. Today, Vietnamese women account for 48.8% of the labour force, 24% of parliamentarians and 25% of business leaders. According to the UNDP, Viet Nam is ranked 58<sup>th</sup> in terms of gender equality index, much higher than the HDI ranking of Viet Nam.

Such achievements are attributed to Viet Nam's consistent policy to consider promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment as a top priority. Over the past years, we have exerted tremendous efforts to develop and enhance the national legal corridor, institutional system and the National Strategy on Equality. Moreover, we have also mainstreamed gender equality in the socio-economic development programs and strategies.

Mr. Chair,

Gender equality is not merely a goal but also a cross-cutting issue of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Viet Nam pledges to devote all resources needed to bridge the gender gap in all domains. Viet Nam will continue to step up awareness raising campaigns on gender equality, and work hard to ensure that 100% of its radio and television stations broadcast exclusive gender equality programs. I'm please also to inform you that the "HeforShe" movement has found strong resonance in Viet Nam.

Viet Nam pledges to further improve the access of women, especially those in difficult areas to healthcare, education and employment services. Viet Nam sets a target that by 2020, 50% of its rural women will have access to various forms of vocational training and 95% of women aged 15-40 living in remote areas are literate. The country is also committed to gradually eradicate all forms of violence against women and girls, and also set a target that at least 50% of the reported victims of domestic violence is provided with healthcare and counseling services.

Mr. Chair,

Viet Nam will actively join the UN and the international community in the common efforts to ensure that women, a half of the world, can fully enjoy their rights to equality and are empowered to take part in all political, economic and social fields.

Thank you.