

**Universal Periodic Review for Viet Nam
Submission by the United Nations Country Team in Viet Nam,
November 2008**



I. Background and Framework

A. Scope of International Obligations

Core universal rights treaties	Signature	Ratification or accession
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)		24/9/1982 (a)
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)		24/9/1982 (a)
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)		9/6/1982 (a)
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)	<u>29/7/1980</u>	17/2/1982
CEDAW Optional Protocol	-	-
Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)	<u>26/1/1990</u>	28/2/1990
CRC Optional Protocol 1: Child Soldiers	<u>8/9/2000</u>	20/12/2001
CRC Optional Protocol 2: Sale of Children	<u>8/9/2000</u>	20/11/2001
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	<u>22/10/2007</u>	
Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)	-	-
International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (MWC)	-	-
Other relevant instruments		
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	-	-
ILO Conventions		See annex 1
National Instruments		See annex 2

B. Constitutional and legal framework

Viet Nam is building a legal framework for the protection of human rights, in particular through ratification or accession to five UN instruments (International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD); Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW); and Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)).

Promoting and protecting human rights is an important part of the Government’s reform agenda. As outlined in the publication “Achievements in the Protection and the Promotion of Human Rights in Viet Nam”¹, the Government seeks to ensure the realization of human rights through

¹ Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2005)

the process of economic, social and cultural development in general, and the building and improvement of a modern legal system in particular. A recent (2005), significant development is the promulgation of the Law on Conclusion, Accession, and Implementation of Treaties, which clarifies the relationship between international and national law (see annex 2 for key pieces of legislation providing the legal framework for the protection and realization of human rights in Viet Nam).

The Government has furthermore instructed ministries, other government bodies and localities “to fully develop the legal system and organize effective law enforcement, disseminate widely the international human rights instruments that Viet Nam has ratified, as well as design and implement international cooperation programmes to effectively implement such human rights instruments”.²

C. Institutional and human rights structure

In the absence of a dedicated national human rights institutions or a parliamentary committee on human rights, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs serves as the focal point for the implementation of international human rights treaties. As such, the Ministry is responsible for formulating human rights-related policies and laws, representing the Government at the bilateral and multilateral dialogues on human rights, and for the coordination of several country reports to human rights treaty bodies. The reporting is facilitated by an inter-agency mechanism and process under the Government Steering Committee on Human Rights which has been recently established. The Committee is headed by a Deputy Prime Minister and responsible for all human rights reporting and communications. Viet Nam has not yet established an independent monitoring body on human rights, including a child rights monitoring body as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

D. Policy measures

The Government has established many policies, plans and programmes to support the implementation of the MDGs and the Vietnam Development Goals. The most important ones are the Socio-economic Development Strategy (SEDS 2001-2010) and the national and sub-national Socio-Economic Development Plans (5-year and annual), as well as various National Target Programmes (e.g. on Poverty Reduction) all of which list a wide range of priorities to make growth more pro-poor, socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable. In recent years many sector specific national strategies and action plans have also been developed (see annex 2 for selected list).

II. Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

A. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms, treaty bodies, special procedures

Initial reports have been submitted under all ratified treaties, and in most cases the Government is now engaged in the second to third reporting round. In regard to certain treaties the following is to be noted: 1.) CERD: Viet Nam has completed nine reporting rounds; 2.) CRC: The combined 3rd and 4th report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to be submitted in late

² Directive 41/2004/CT-TTg of the Prime Minister, dated 2 December 2004

2008, included a first-ever survey of children's rights by young people themselves. While not a nationally representative survey, the effort represents a laudable attempt by the Government to have children's views reflected in the official State report; 3.) CEDAW: The Government approved the submission of the first-ever independent shadow report compiled by local civil society to the Committee in 2006. The Government has not yet submitted the 'core document' containing basic information about the country required by all of the treaty bodies. The Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion and Belief visited the country upon official invitation from 19-28 of October 1998. Viet Nam is not presently a member of any human rights treaty body.

B. Implementation of international human rights obligations

Equality and non-discrimination

Although Vietnam has made formidable progress in its socio-economic development since the beginning of the *doi moi* (renewal) era in the mid 1980s, some parts of the population have not enjoyed equally the benefits of the reform process and thus are not able to fully realise rights guaranteed to them under international human rights law and the Vietnamese Constitution.

Evidence has begun to emerge of widening economic and social disparities in recent years. Measuring inequality on the basis of expenditure by income quintile over time shows a gradual rise in inequality: those in the richest quintile increased their share of expenditure by 4 percent between 1993 and 2002, while expenditures by households in the poorest quintile decreased by 0.5 percent.³ Viet Nam's inequities have an important geographic dimension with mountainous provinces accounting for nearly 70 percent of poor households, a figure that is expected to increase to more than 80 percent by 2010.⁴ Moreover, the rate of poverty reduction among ethnic minority groups is slower, which suggests that in the absence of concerted action to reverse these trends ethnic minorities will continue to account for most of the country's poor by the year 2015. Ethnic minority women and children continue to be particularly vulnerable to high levels of poverty and inequity.

As also reflected in the CEDAW Committee comments, women face discrimination in the workplace, community and within the household. The gender division of labour based on traditional roles and beliefs effectively relegates women to a subordinate status in the labour market and therefore contributes to the 'feminisation' of poverty. State sector restructuring and trade liberalization have impacted on women's labour force participation. As industries where women dominate have been privatized, women have moved into private and informal sector jobs which are often unskilled and offer few benefits or safety nets.⁵ Furthermore, women work longer hours than men, reflecting their dual responsibility for productive work and care-giving.⁶ Men dominate economically and in terms of access to resources, for example only 33 percent of land user certificates are issued in the names of women or both spouses⁷ hence also limiting access for women to the formal credit market. Furthermore, women's participation in decision-making is low. Women make up approximately 26 percent of National Assembly representatives,

³ Weeks et al. 2004

⁴ Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs, 2004

⁵ Kabeer, N. and Tran Thi, V. A. (2006) Globalization, Gender and Work in the Context of Economic Transition: The Case of Viet Nam, UNDP, Hanoi

⁶ Ministry of Culture, Sport and Tourism and UNICEF. Results of the Nation-wide Survey on the Family in Viet Nam 2006. Key findings. Hanoi, June 2006

⁷ World Bank et al (2006) Vietnam Country Gender Assessment

but only 8 percent of Central Party Committee members, 12.5 percent of Ministers and 9 percent of Vice Ministers.⁸

Rights to Life, Education and Health

Although economic progress has meant that many more citizens benefit from access to basic services, access to quality education, for instance, remains difficult especially for the most vulnerable groups which include children with disabilities, girls, children affected by HIV/AIDS and ethnic minority children. It is estimated that 20 percent of ethnic minority young women have never attended school,⁹ and many ethnic minority communities are also not provided with relevant education programmes in their mother tongue. Access to education is also constrained by relatively high fees (formal and informal) at all levels of education, for example, in 2006, the average amount spent by households on education per person was 1.2 million VND, compared to only 627,000 VND in 2002.¹⁰ The net primary school completion rate varies from 65.3 percent in the Central Highlands region to 90.2 percent in the Red River Delta region; similarly the rate is 86.4 percent for the majority Kinh population, compared to only 60.6 percent for other ethnic groups.¹¹

A similar picture has emerged for the health sector and access to health services. The highest infant and maternal mortality rates are in the mountainous regions and among ethnic minority groups. Kinh children have a much lower mortality rate than children of other ethnicities (20 per thousand compared to 27 per thousand for IMR, 25 per thousand compared to 35 per thousand for U5MR).¹² The moderate and severe stunting rate of under-5 children is 35.8 percent nationwide, with large disparities between the Kinh majority and ethnic minorities (32 percent for Kinh vs. 52.5 percent for ethnic minorities), and by income (21.1 percent for the richest quintile vs. 46 percent for the poorest quintile).

The maternal mortality rate in Viet Nam was calculated to be 162 per 100,000 live births in 2006. However, the rates vary considerably in different parts of the country with the highest occurring in the mountainous regions and among ethnic minority populations. The Ministry of Health estimates that maternal mortality rates are significantly higher in mountainous and midland regions (269 per 100,000 live births) compared to the deltas (81 per 100,000)¹³.

In the health sector, the government has done reasonably well in making health services available at central, provincial, district and commune levels; healthcare for children under 6 years and for the poor is free of charge. Still, large geographical disparities exist between regions with inadequate distribution of health workers and medical equipment, and considerable variations in quality, which result in unequal health outcomes. In some cases, stigmatizing and patronizing attitudes of health workers and lack of information for patients result in de facto inaccessibility for the most vulnerable groups. In addition, essential patient rights such as confidentiality of information, informed decision for treatment or testing, and options for contraceptive methods are limited.

⁸ National Assembly (2006); Central Party's Organizational Department (2006); National Committee for the Advancement of Women (2006)

⁹ World Bank et al (2006)

¹⁰ GSO, Results of the Viet Nam Household Living Standards Survey 2006

¹¹ Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), GSO and UNICEF, 2006

¹² MICS 2006

¹³ Ministry of Health, Joint Health Review, 2007

Vietnam has one of the highest abortion rates in the region and recently sex-selective abortion appears to reflect son preference¹⁴, the rate of male babies was as high as 120 to 100 in four provinces in 2007.¹⁵

Access to social services such as health and education as well as accommodation, is a particular problem for internal migrants who in many cases have difficulty in accessing such services because of registration requirements.¹⁶ The Government's internal migration policy establishes a four-tier population registration system for residents, although the system has recently been revised to be more inclusive. For fear of violating migration and registration rules and coming into conflict with the law, internal migrants are often reluctant to use such services. Temporary migrants are excluded from targeted anti-poverty programmes even though on any criteria many would qualify as poor.¹⁷ With Viet Nam's rapid economic development and continuing large migration flows from rural areas to urban or peri-urban areas, many migrants will not be able to realize fully their basic human rights.

While Viet Nam has made considerable achievements in guaranteeing the right to safe mobility and protecting Vietnamese against exploitative labor migration, further work is needed to protect both internal and overseas migrants from exploitative situations prior to departure and in the country of destination. With regards to overseas migrants, Vietnamese continue to bear significant pre-departure costs, suffer exploitation and face increasing HIV vulnerability.

The Government is taking steps to address the increasing numbers of people trafficked to China, Malaysia, Taiwan and Cambodia and to curtail the exploitation of Vietnamese women by commercial marriage brokers who arrange marriages to Korean men but many women continue to be exploited through inaccurate and insufficient information, high debts, violence and limited ability to exit marriages.¹⁸ Data from 2007 and 2008 indicate that traffickers are attempting to abduct and smuggle children as young as 1 month old into China from provinces such as Quang Ninh and Ha Giang.¹⁹

Also stressed in the CEDAW Committee report, Vietnam's level of domestic violence is high and a major force in initiating divorce. The first-ever nation-wide Family Survey, conducted in 2006, found that one in five married couples had experienced some form of domestic violence, and that women were generally reluctant to report it due to the belief that it would shame the family.²⁰ Although both men and women experience domestic violence, violence is overwhelmingly perpetrated by men, against women. Women suffer severe stress, and adolescents report feelings of sadness and worry, fear, and losing respect for their parents.²¹

14 World Bank et al (2006)

15 Ministry of Health (2008), *Sex Ratio at Birth, Vietnam 2007* (draft)

16 Dang Nguyen Anh, "Internal Migration: Opportunities and Challenges for Development in Viet Nam" 2003

17 Dang Nguyen Anh 2003

18 Le Bach Duong, Belanger, D. and Khuat Thu Hong (2008) 'Female migration and trafficking from Vietnam'

19 A report from the Quang Ninh People's Committee, August 2008, states that 6 boys under the age of 1 month old were rescued from being trafficked into China. A report by the Steering Committee of the Implementation of the National Programme of Action Against Trafficking in Women and Children (Dec 2007) found that nine children had been abducted and were being trafficked from Ha Giang province in 2007; they were rescued by Vietnamese officials.

20 Ministry of Culture, Sport and Tourism and UNICEF. *Results of the Nation-wide Survey on the Family in Viet Nam 2006. Key findings*. Hanoi, June 2006

21 Ministry of Culture, Sport and Tourism and UNICEF. *Results of the Nation-wide Survey on the Family in Viet Nam 2006. Key findings*. Hanoi, June 2006.

Right to social security

Despite the impressive range of Government plans and policies in the social services, the level of public expenditure in the social sector is still comparatively low. For health sector, while total health expenditure was 5.9 percent of GDP in 2005, public spending was just 1.42 percent of GDP or less than 25 percent of total health expenditure.²² This means health financing relies heavily on private spending, mainly out-of-pocket spending by households. This creates great financial barriers on people's access to health care. While social health insurance coverage is still limited in both coverage and benefits, households generally lack financial protection measures to cope with health payments.

Recent research by the UN suggests that when taken as whole, the Vietnamese social security system is not progressive enough in its coverage and scope. Hence, a large proportion of the beneficiaries of these various social assistance schemes consist of households with members working in the formal sector, including for the public administration, State-owned enterprises and private enterprises employing more than 10 workers, which are typically not among the poorer segments of the society. On the other hand, low-income, poor households, who earn their living in the informal or subsistence sector often do not have access to formal social security schemes. As a result, when taking the current system as the whole, up to 39.1 percent of total social security/assistance expenditure in Vietnam ends up going to the richest quintile of the population, 27 percent to the second richest income quintile, and only 6.6 percent to the poorest quintile of the Vietnamese population. Moreover, poorer households often end up having to pay considerable user fees and other side payments to gain access to basic social services, for instance in health and education.²³

User fees have come to be used as a means of meeting funding shortfalls from state sources. Reliance on user fees places an obligation on Government to protect the rights of those who cannot afford up front costs. Poor households pay a larger share of total expenditures on basic services than rich households. For example, education expenditures by income quintile show Viet Nam's richest parents spend over ten times more than the country's poorest on extra classes for their children (468,000 VND compared to 41,000 VND)²⁴. This is reflected in attainment, with children from rich families having a far better chance of getting into university than children from poor families. The pressure on family budgets of user fees is likely to have the greatest impact on the most vulnerable household members, often women and children, in particular girls. Under-developed regulatory oversight in the context of the rapid shift towards user fees may be creating incentives for personal financial gain at the expense of equity and inclusiveness.

Administration of justice and rule of law

A major objective of the government is to “develop and improve a consistent (...) and transparent legal system”²⁵, ensuring human rights, as well as democratic rights and freedoms of the citizen. Primary objectives for judicial reform include “improving judicial procedures to ensure that they

²² National Health Account 2005, MOH

²³ UNDP, *How Progressive is Social Security in Viet Nam?* 2007

²⁴ VHLSS 2006

²⁵ Politburo Resolution 48-NQ/TW of 24 May 2005 on Strategy for the Development and Improvement of Vietnam's Legal System to the Year 2010 and Direction for the Period up to 2020

will be consistent, democratic, and transparent, as well as respect and protect human rights”²⁶. A 2005 law provides that provisions of treaties to which Viet Nam is a party, including a number of human rights treaties, prevail over conflicting national provisions. Since 1997, the Government has progressively rolled out free legal aid services to the poor and other vulnerable groups. The legal aid centers, now in all 64 provinces, have advised more than 1,000,000 beneficiaries in the first ten years. In addition, non-state organizations such as the Vietnam Lawyers’ Association have begun to set up legal consultancy centers which also provide free legal advice to poor and other vulnerable target groups – there are 30 such centers in Viet Nam at present.

As part of the reform process there has been an adoption of new legislation and regulation to promote grassroots democracy as part of the broader decentralization efforts in the country. Greater public accountability, increased involvement of various national stakeholders, respect for the rule of law, and enhanced accountability and transparency in public institutions are needed to further the full exercise of rights of Vietnamese citizens, particularly the most vulnerable members of society.

A child friendly judicial procedure has been piloted in some provinces. The Criminal Code 1999 is under revision to make it more consistent with international juvenile justice standards. Viet Nam was the first country in Asia to ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child. However domestic legislation still considers the child to be under the age of 16 years, rather than 18 years, as stipulated in the CRC.

In their recommendations to Viet Nam treaty body committees have alerted to a variety of general issues constraining Vietnam in fulfilling its human rights obligations. Some of these are: domestic legislation needs to be made more consistent with international standards, the collection, analysis and quality of data needs to be improved, sufficient resources to fulfill human rights obligations need to be allocated, outstanding Optional Protocols should be ratified, the judiciary needs to be strengthened, independent human rights monitoring mechanisms including of an independent and effective mechanism to monitor the promotion and protection of children’s rights needs to be established, and the various international human rights treaties and recommendations of the treaty bodies need to be more widely disseminated to the public.

III. Achievements, best practices, challenges and constraints

Viet Nam’s tremendous success in poverty reduction has been accomplished without a major increase in inequality, which often accompanies such rapid socio-economic development. This is a major achievement, and one which now needs to be replicated even more strongly in the areas which are still far below national averages, such as remote mountainous areas where the majority of ethnic minorities live.

Since the 1992 Constitution, which first confirmed Viet Nam’s commitment to a socialist rule-of-law state, Viet Nam has developed a comprehensive legal framework. Access to justice has been progressively enhanced through the introduction of state-provided legal aid in 1997, as well as more recent provisions to enable non-state associations to offer free legal services. Recent revisions in 2008 to the Law on the Promulgation of Legal Normative Documents include strengthened requirements for public consultation on all draft legal documents.

²⁶ Politburo Resolution No. 49-NQ/TW of 2 June 2005 on the Judicial Reform Strategy to 2020

In many instances Viet Nam has put in place the basic legislative framework for the realization of the right to health, to life and other rights granted in human rights treaties, but its implementation often remains rudimentary. Effective monitoring and evaluation systems or redress mechanisms are often not in place. A major obstacle in this regard is the lack of relevant, harmonized and continuous data and information, which curtails the development of targeted and locally tuned policies. Existing household, enterprise and labor market surveys do not yet provide specific information on conditions faced for instance by women and girls or migrants and non-registered residents. There is a need for information relating to domestic violence, safe sex, sexual harassment in the workplace, trafficking in human beings, child protection, patterns of male and female domestic and international migration, and conditions of work for female and male migrants. More information is also needed on the extent of female and ethnic minority participation in representative institutions, particularly at the local level, and obstacles that prevent women and ethnic minorities from taking part in the political process.

Problems of coordination exist among line agencies and mass organisations in all fields of social policy and capacity is limited among civil servants, members of the people's councils, people's committees and mass organisations at sub-national level. Knowledge and skills related to evidence-based and pro-poor planning, project management and monitoring related to the rights and needs of the population, including women and children, are rarely adequate. In a country as diverse as Viet Nam, local problems arise that demand local and flexible solutions.

Petty corruption is also starting to curtail citizens from accessing basic services²⁷. With public sector salaries exceedingly low, there are incentives for teachers and health workers to generate additional income through informal fees. Coupled with a lack of a merit-based system for promotion and higher salaries among public servants, there is also limited incentive to provide quality services.

An important challenge in the short term for Viet Nam will be improving and expanding its social protection system. While it is noteworthy that in June 2006 Viet Nam passed a new social insurance law that includes unemployment insurance for the first time, given that the country will soon join the ranks of middle-income countries, it will need to make greater efforts to ensure that mechanisms are in place to promote and institutionalize more equitable development for all its people. The government's approach of establishing national target programmes, while commendable, has not proven to be fully successful in reaching all those eligible for such programmes.²⁸ There is a need for a reform of the Vietnamese social security and protection system, so as to ensure that Viet Nam continues to sustain a process of equitable and socially sustainable economic growth and development.

There has been progress in involving citizens in the decision making processes, also spurred on by the grassroots democracy decree²⁹. For example, a network of civil society organizations working on gender issues called the Gender and Community Development Network (GenComNet) was established in 2005, and the Gender Action Partnership (GAP), comprised of government agencies, donor organizations, UN, international NGOs and GenComNet, facilitates coordination and networking. In April 2008, the Vietnam Association on the Protection of Child

27 Discussion Paper for Biannual Conference and Legal Partnership Forum'(2004), Government Inspectorate

28 Vietnam Development Report 2008

29 The Grassroots Democracy Decree of 1998 promotes more active participation in the decision making processes at the commune and village levels.

Rights was established. Even though the Association is under the state management of MoLISA, it is encouraging to have for the first time ever a national association specializing in child rights in Viet Nam. For the first time in 2006 NGOs prepared an independent shadow report to the CEDAW Committee, an initiative to be encouraged as a good example for civil society engagement. In 2008, NGOs are also preparing a shadow report to the CRC Committee.

The growing role and influence of elected bodies (National Assembly and People's Councils) also represent an important opportunity for the further promotion and realization of human rights in Viet Nam. This shift in the prominence of elected bodies – particularly in their oversight function – may help to increase government transparency and accountability.

IV. Key national priorities, initiatives and commitments to overcome challenges and constraints and improve the Human Rights situation on the ground

Pledges by the State

Through its constitution and with its ratification of five human rights treaties as well as its signing of the Millennium Declaration, Viet Nam has made international and national commitments to respect, protect and realize human rights.

V. Capacity building and technical assistance

The One UN programme framework (One Plan) is the UNCT's key framework for strengthening national capacities and supporting the implementation of the national Socio Economic Development Plan (SEDP) especially in the areas of: policies to support equitable and inclusive growth, availability and quality of social and protection services, environmental protection and management of natural resources and cultural heritage, democratic governance, natural disasters, communicable diseases and emergencies. The UNCT collaborates and coordinates its technical assistance programmes in the human rights field with the donor community.

More specifically the following areas for technical assistance were identified in the One Plan:

- The strengthening and harmonising of disaggregated data collection, analysis and monitoring systems across levels (national/sub-national) in order to have better knowledge of the situation in Viet Nam in relation to human rights and socio-economic development.
- There is a need for reforms to the social welfare system and development of more effective social security and insurance schemes that address problems of equity as Viet Nam continues to develop.
- The increasing role of non-public social service providers requires development of national standards and state oversight to ensure that the rights of all to health, education, protection and other basic services are met. At the same time, specific programmes and solutions have to be developed for hard to reach groups of the population. Better models for service delivery and communication of information to the population, as well as

improved coordination and capacity, planning and monitoring at local levels will be required.

- Fostering a culture of participation among users of services, and in particular women, children and adolescents, in local planning and monitoring will be important drivers of progress in the fulfilment of social rights of Vietnamese citizens in the short, medium and long term. There is a need for more civil society groups who can monitor the effective implementation of laws and take part in policy discussions and consultations, such as for instance during the law making process.
- Supporting the ratification of outstanding human rights treaties and more compliance between national legislation and international standards is needed (e.g. labour standards) There should also be focus on investing in vital, currently non-existent, development strategies, such as a legal aid development strategy.
- Much support is needed in implementing existing laws, policy frameworks and national strategies. There is a strong need to raise awareness among government officials on their role as duty bearers
- The process of criminal justice and penal reform requires reform.

Annex 1:**ILO Conventions ratified and under review**

Core Conventions ratified		
C. 29	Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)	5.03.2007
C. 100	Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)	7.10.1997
C. 111	Discrimination (Employment and Occupation Convention, 1958 (No. 111)	7.10.1997
C. 138	Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)	24.06.1994
C. 182	Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)	19.12.2000
Other Conventions ratified 30		
C. 6	Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) Convention, 1919 (No. 6)	3.10.1994
C. 14	Weekly Rest (Industry) Convention, 1921 (No. 14)	3.10.1994
C. 27	Marking of Weight (Packages Transported by Vessels) Convention, 1929 (No. 27)	3.10.1994
C. 45	Underground Work (Women) Convention, 1935 (No. 45)	3.10.1994
C. 80	Final Articles Revision Convention , 1946 (No. 80)	3.10.1994
C. 81	Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (N. 81)	3.10.1994
C. 116	Final Articles Revision Convention, 1961 (No. 116)	3.10.1994
C. 120	Hygiene (Commerce and Offices) Convention, 1964 (No. 120)	3.10.1994
C. 123	Minimum Age (Underground Work) Convention, 1965 (No. 123)	20.02.1995
C. 124	Medical Examination of Young Persons (Underground Work) Convention, 1965, (No. 124)	3.10.1994
C. 155	Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155)	3.10.1994
C. 144	Tripartite Consultation Convention, 1976 (No. 144)	9.6.2008
Conventions under review		
C. 105	Elimination of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)	
C. 159	Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment for Disabled Persons, 1983 (No. 159)	
C. 184	Safety and Health in Agriculture, 2001 (No 184)	
C. 122	Employment Policy (No122)	

Annex 2:

³⁰ The Minimum Age (Industry) Convention, 1919 (No. 5) was denounced on 24.06.2003.

Key National legislative framework	
Health and Education	<p>Law on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control 2006</p> <p>Law on Pharmaceuticals 2005</p> <p>Law on Drug Prevention and Control 2008</p> <p>Law on Promulgation of Legal Documents 2008</p> <p>Law on Youth 2005</p> <p>Law on Traffic Safety 2007</p> <p>Law on Child Protection, Care and Education 2004</p> <p>Law on Marriage and Family 2000</p> <p>Law on Intellectual Property Rights Protection</p> <p>Law on Health Insurance (in development)</p> <p>Law on Medical Examination and Treatment (in development)</p> <p>Law on Population (in development)</p> <p>Law on Education 2005</p> <p>Law on Vietnamese Guest Workers Abroad (2006)</p>
Other	<p>Law on Accession, Completion and Implementation of International Treaties 2005</p> <p>Resolution 11 of the Communist Party on the Work for Women in the Period of Accelerating Industrialization and Modernization 2007</p> <p>Labour Code, 2007</p> <p>Law on Prevention and Control of Domestic Violence, 2007</p> <p>Law on Gender Equality, 2006</p> <p>Politburo Resolution 48-NQ/TW of 24 May 2005 on Strategy for the Development and Improvement of Vietnam's Legal System to the Year 2010 and Direction for the Period up to 2020</p> <p>Politburo Resolution No. 49-NQ/TW of 2 June 2005 on the Judicial Reform Strategy to 2020</p>
Key National Plans/ Strategies	
<p>National Strategy on HIV/AIDS Prevention to 2010</p> <p>National Strategy for protection and care of the people's health in the 2001-210 period</p> <p>National Strategy for Reproductive Health Care 2001-2010</p> <p>National Strategy for Nutrition 2001-2010</p> <p>National Youth Development Strategy by 2010</p> <p>National Strategy for the Advancement of Women in Vietnam by 2010</p> <p>National Socio-Economic Development Strategy for the period 2001-2010</p> <p>National Population Strategy 2001-2010</p> <p>National Nutrition Strategy 2001-2010</p> <p>National Rural Clean Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy up to 2020</p> <p>National Plan of Action on Injury Prevention up to 2010</p> <p>National Family Strategy 2005-2010</p> <p>National Plan of Action against crime of trafficking in children and women during the period of 2004-2010</p> <p>Education Strategy 2008-2020(in preparation)</p> <p>Education Development Strategic Plan 2001-2010</p> <p>National Education For All Action Plan 2003-2015</p> <p>Five Year Strategic Education Development Plan 2006-2010</p> <p>National Plan of Action on Children 2001-2010</p>	