

JOINT STATEMENT ON TOURISM COOPERATION BETWEEN  
MINISTER OF LAND, INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT OF JAPAN  
CHAIRPERSON OF VIET NAM NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION OF TOURISM  
OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

Recognizing that tourism development cooperation plays an important role in strengthening friendly relations between the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and Japan, and promoting socio-economic cooperative relations, cultural exchange and mutual understanding between the two nations, Vietnam National Administration of Tourism, and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of Japan shared the view on the tourism cooperation areas between the two countries as follows:

Both sides recognized that Japan is endeavoring to rapidly increase the number of overseas travelers through the promotion of the 'Visit Japan Campaign', whereas Viet Nam has been making efforts to increase the number of Japanese tourists to her country by exempting visa requirements for Japanese nationals as of the 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2004.

Both sides confirmed that for the coming time, closer cooperation will be conducted through encouraging mutual visits of their nationals, assisting each other in tourism marketing and promotion, encouraging training and human resources development in tourism industry, technical assistance in development of legal documents, tourism planning including heritage tour, further exchange of tourism experts and tourism related information and encouragement of investment in tourism.

To achieve the above objectives, both sides decided to establish a working group in order to work out and implement concrete tourism cooperation programs. This working group may consist of representatives from government officials and tourism related organizations of the two countries.

Signed in Tokyo on 5 April, 2005

KAZUO KITAGAWA  
Minister of Land,  
Infrastructure and Transport  
Japan

VO THI THANG  
Chairperson of Vietnam National  
Administration of Tourism  
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam