



March 24, 2010

His Excellency, Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung  
Prime Minister  
Socialist Republic of Vietnam

## **Re: Draft Circular to Implement Price Control Mechanisms**

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the memberships of the American Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (AmCham) and the European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (EuroCham), we offer our compliments to your Excellency, and request your attention to our concerns over a draft circular to implement price control mechanisms that the Ministry of Finance is considering.

After a series of letters to the Ministry of Finance and the Office of the Government, our business associations were recently given the opportunity to meet with Finance Ministry officials on March 11 to discuss our concerns about the price control circular. Both AmCham and EuroCham clearly stated at that meeting that our organizations remain concerned that our comments on the draft circular have not been addressed. AmCham and EuroCham respectfully request that you to prevent this draft circular from becoming law.

We remain concerned about the potential impact of greatly expanded registration and price control mechanisms that are contained in the draft circular. In addition to its overall non-market approach to pricing, the circular creates significant new administrative burdens on all enterprises throughout the production and distribution chain for an extensive list of products. The proposed data and information requirements in the draft circular are highly proprietary and business confidential in nature yet would be required from thousands of distribution points throughout Vietnam.

Both AmCham and EuroCham are sensitive to the dangers of rising inflation and other economic challenges that Vietnam is facing. However, we do not believe the proposed circular will help achieve the government's economic goals. Instead, we see this circular as a backward step in market development that will add substantial costs and uncertainty to the private sector doing business here.

AmCham and EuroCham put forward these comments in the hopes of contributing to Vietnam's stable economic and social development. Our memberships thank you in advance for your consideration and we are grateful for the opportunity to have our opinions considered on this important issue.

Respectfully yours,

Hank Tomlinson  
National Chairman, AmCham

Alain Cany  
Country Chairman, EuroCham

cc: H.E. Mr. Vu Van Ninh, Minister of Finance  
H.E. Mr. Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Minister, Office of the Government