

Law of the Vietnam Fatherland Front

(From May 4th, 1999 to June 12th, 1999)

In order to elevate the role of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in the cause of the renewal of the country, to make its contribution to the realization of the socialist democracy, to strengthen the close tie between the people and the Party and the State, to bring into play the patriotism, the tradition of the great national unity which is a decisive factor of the success of the Vietnamese revolution;

To inherit the historical role of the Vietnam National United Front which was established and led by the Communist Party of Vietnam and President Ho Chi Minh;

In accordance with the 1992 Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam;

This Law makes provisions for the Vietnam Fatherland Front.

Chapter I

General Provisions

Article 1: The Vietnam Fatherland Front in the political system

1/ The Vietnam fatherland Front is a political alliance organization, a voluntary federation of political organizations, social-political organizations, social organizations and outstanding individuals representing the various social classes strata, ethnic groups, religions and overseas Vietnamese.

2/ The Vietnam Fatherland Front is a part of the political system of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, a political platform for people' Administration expressing the people's will and aspirations, gathering the block of the great national unity, bringing into play the people's right to be their own masters, a venue for the consultation, co-ordination and unity of action of its member organizations, making its contribution to safeguard the national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, exercising successfully the cause of modernization and industrialization of the country in striving for the objective of a strong country, a prosperous people, and a just and civilized society.

Article 2: Tasks of the Vietnam Fatherland Front

The Vietnam Fatherland Front has the tasks to gather and build the block of the great national unity, to strengthen the political and spiritual unanimity among the people; to propagandize and encourage the people to bring into play their right to be their own masters, to realize the principles and policy of the Party, to strictly implement the Constitution and laws, to supervise the activities of the State bodies, elected deputies and the State officers and functionaries; to collect people's opinions and their recommendations to reflect and propose to the Party and the State; to participate in the building and enforcement of the people's administration; together with the State to take care of and protect the people's legitimate interests; to take part in the development of relationship and co-operation between the Vietnamese and the other peoples in the regions and in the world".

Article 3: The organizational and operational principles of the Vietnam Fatherland Front

The Vietnam Fatherland Front shall be organized and operated in accordance with the Statute of the Vietnam Fatherland Front consistent the Constitution and laws of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The organization and the activities of the Vietnam Fatherland Front shall be based on the principle of voluntary, consultative, co-ordinative and unanimous action.

The Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front which is an executive body of the Vietnam Fatherland Front at each echelon, shall be appointed by the Congress of the Vietnam Fatherland Front at that echelon, and have the responsibility to organize the realization of the tasks of the Vietnam Fatherland Front.

Article 4 : Members of the Vietnam Fatherland Front

The members of the Vietnam Fatherland Front shall be the organizations and individuals defined in the clause 1 of Article 1 of this Law.

In co-ordinating and unifying actions, the members of the Vietnam Fatherland Front shall abide by the Statute of the Vietnam Fatherland Front; the members of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, at the same time, shall still remain the independent characteristic of their organizations.

Article 5 : Relationship between the Vietnam Fatherland Front and the State

1/ The relationship between the Vietnam Fatherland Front and the State shall be that of co-ordination in order to realize the tasks and the obligations according to the provisions of the Constitution and laws.

2/ The relationship between the Vietnam Fatherland Front and the State shall be based on the co-ordinating regulation issued by the Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front and the relevant State bodies at each echelon.

3/ The State shall enable the Vietnam Fatherland Front to achieve its effective results.

Chapter II

**Responsibilities and obligations of
the Vietnam Fatherland Front**

Article 6 : Organizing the block of the great national unity

1/ The Vietnam Fatherland Front shall develop in the diversified manner all forms of operations, the patriotism movements in order to gather, to unite all Vietnamese both at home and abroad, irrespective to their classes, social strata, ethnic groups, belief, religions and their past in order to mobilise all human resources for the building and defence of the Socialist Vietnam Homeland.

2/ The Vietnam Fatherland Front shall expand the activities of outstanding individuals representing the various social classes and strata, ethnic groups, religions in order to mobilize the population to realize the tasks of politics, social economics, security, defence and external affairs of the State.

3/ The Vietnam Fatherland Front shall participate in propaganda and mobilization of the overseas Vietnamese for communal unity, to assist to each other in their life, to maintain the fine cultural identity and the profound national traditions, to preserve closely the tie with their families and the country, to contribute to the building of their home and the country.

Article 7 : Propaganda and mobilization of the population in the realization of the people's right to be their own masters, execution of the policies and laws

The propaganda and mobilization which have been establishing by the Vietnam Fatherland Front for the population in the realization of the people's right to be their own masters and execution of the policies and laws shall be on the basis of :

1/ Realization of the Party's principles, policies, the State's laws;

2/ Co-ordination and participation with the State bodies to organize the mobilization of patriotic movements, to mobilize the people to unite , to assist one another for the economic development, the building of cultural life, the resolution of social problems,

the building of the all- people defense, to maintain political security, social order and safety;

3/ Participation with the people's council, the people's committee at the same echelon to mobilize the people in realizations of the democracy in localities, to guide the people in building the village rules, regulations for the self-governed life at the village and other local residential communities in accordance with the laws, to make their contribution to the building and defense of the people's administration;

4/ Participation in the reconciliation of conflicts in localities in accordance with the provisions of law on the reconciliation;

5/ Collection, review of the people's opinions, aspirations to reflect and propose to the Party and the State.

Article 8 : Participation in election

In accordance with the functions, tasks, obligations and provisions of law on election, the Vietnam Fatherland Front shall organize the consultation, selection, presentation of the candidates for election to the National Assembly, the people's Councils; participate in organization of elections ; co-ordinate with the relevant State bodies to organize the conference of voters in their localities and the meeting between the voters and the candidates; conduct the propaganda, mobilization of the voters to execute the law on election; take part in the supervision on the election of the National Assembly and the people's Councils.

Article 9: Participation in law-making

The Vietnam Fatherland Front shall participate in law making activities as follows:

1/ Recommendation to the National Assembly Standing Committee and the Government on proposed program of making laws and ordinances;

2/ Submission of draft law, ordinances to the National Assembly and the National Assembly Standing Committee;

3/ With the State bodies, the Vietnam Fatherland Front shall jointly promulgate competent resolutions, joint circulars for instruction on the resolution issues relating to legal responsibilities of the Vietnam Fatherland Front when participating on the State management;

4/ Making suggestions on draft laws, ordinances, proposed resolutions, and other legislative documents.

Article 10 : Participation in the litigation, selection of Judges, introduction of the Jury of the people's courts

In accordance with law, the Vietnam Fatherland Front shall have its rights and responsibilities to participate in the litigation and the council of Judge selection, and shall present the qualified candidates to be voted and appointed into the Jury of the people's courts.

Article 11 : Participation in sessions of the National Assembly Standing Committee, Government, people's Councils, people's Committee

1/ The President of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front shall be invited to participate in the meeting the sessions of the National Assembly Standing Committee, Government on discussion of related issues.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front at local echelon shall be invited to participate in the meetings of the people's Council; the people's Committee at the same echelon on discussion of the related issues.

2/ At the regular meeting of the people's Committee, the Vietnam Fatherland Front at the same echelon shall inform its activities in participation in the building of the administration; to propose its recommendation on its necessary issues to the people's Council and the people's Committee.

The State bodies which shall be responsible for reviewing and responding to the Vietnam Fatherland Front's recommendations shall be as specified by law.

Article 12: Activities of supervision

1/ The supervision activities of the Vietnam Fatherland Front shall have a popular characteristics, supporting to the State's supervision, management, inspection, and contribute to the building and safeguarding the integrity and strength of the State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to operate effectively and efficiently and to protect the people's legitimate interests.

The Vietnam Fatherland Front shall supervise the activities of the State organizations, elected duties, cadres and its functionaries according to the law.

2/ The supervision of the Vietnam Fatherland Front shall take following forms :

- a/ Mobilization of people to implement their supervisory rights;
- b/ Participation in the supervision activities of competent State bodies;
- c/ By its activities, collection of the opinions from the population and members of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in order to make recommendation to the authorized State bodies to praise and reward "good work and good people" , to review and settle the cases of violation of law.

The Heads of the responsible organizations shall enable the Vietnam Fatherland Front to fulfill its task of the supervision. The Heads of the responsible organizations shall examine and respond to the recommendation received from the Vietnam Fatherland Front according to the law,.

Article 13 : Activities of the people's external affairs

The Vietnam Fatherland Front shall realize and enlarge its foreign affairs activities vis a vis the peoples in the region and in the world in accordance with the foreign affairs principles of the Party and the State, make its contribution to strengthen the friendship among the peoples, for peace, co-operation and development.

Chapter III

**The Warranties of the activities of
the Vietnam Fatherland Front**

Article 14 : Assistant Apparatus

There must be an assistant apparatus of the Vietnam Fatherland Front. The organization and the staff of the assistant apparatus of the Vietnam Fatherland Front at all echelons shall be established by the authorized organs.

The Vietnam Fatherland Front shall have the responsibility to foster and improve the capability and integrity of the Fatherland Front's cadres.

Article 15: Responsibilities of the related institutions and organizations

1/ The Head of the relevant institution and organization shall be responsible for :

- a/ Facilitating the executive cadres and functionaries appointed to work and co-ordinate with the Vietnam Fatherland Front to fulfill their tasks;

b/ Providing the necessary informations required by the Vietnam Fatherland Front in order to fulfill its tasks in accordance with the provision of law.

2/ The institutions, organizations shall, within the scope of their functions, rights and obligations, be responsible to co-ordinate with the Vietnam Fatherland Front to conduct the mobilizations which are initiated by the Vietnam Fatherland Front or to implement the programs and the projects which are assigned to the Vietnam Fatherland Front.

Article 16 : Finance, property of the Vietnam Fatherland Front

1/ The operating funds of the Vietnam Fatherland Front shall be allocated by the State's budget according to the provisions of law, .

2/ The Vietnam Fatherland Front is permitted to accept, manage and use in accordance with the law the assets which has been entrusted by the State or presented by organizations and individuals at home and abroad.

Chapter IV
Implementation Provisions

Article 17 : Effect

This Law shall be of full force and effect as of the date of promulgation

All provisions related to the Vietnam Fatherland Front , which are inconsistent with this Law are hereby repealed.

Article 18 : Implementation entrustment

The Government and the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front shall, within the scope of their functions, tasks and their obligations, guide the implementation of this Law.

This Law was passed by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at its X legislature, 5th Session on June 12, 1999.

Chairman of the National Assembly

Nong Duc Manh