

Japanese Ambassador to Vietnam

Hiroshi FUKADA's speech

11 July 2014

H.E. Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam,

H.E. Mr. Phung Quang Thanh, Minister of National Defence of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam,

H.E. Mr. Pham Binh Minh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam,

Ms. Ameerah Haq, U.N. Under Secretary General for Field Support,  
Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to extend sincere congratulations on the establishment of the PKO Center of the Ministry of Defence of Vietnam as well as the completion of setting up of Vietnam's first engagement in PKO.

Today, we see the international situation becoming more and more complicated. We do our best toward peace and cooperation in the region and beyond, but still we find attempts to force one's assertions on others, or attempts to unilaterally change the status quo through use of force or coercion.

How should we act in a more unstable world? The rule of law is the key. We must maintain and reinforce the rule of law. Each and

every country small and big, weak and strong, is equal under law. We must uphold this fundamental and indispensable principle.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The Japanese government maintains a policy of “Proactive Contribution to Peace.” The essence of this policy is for Japan to contribute further proactively to realize the international cooperation based on the rule of law. I think our policy of “Proactive Contribution to Peace” and Vietnam’s policy of “International Integration” in the fields of politics and defence have many commonalities.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Japan’s first engagement in the PKO was with UNTAC in Cambodia in 1992. Since then, we have actively participated in various PKOs and cooperated with countries including Vietnam for building up the capacities to fulfill their duties in the PKO missions. We will continue to work together with Vietnam and other countries so that we can better serve for peace and stability in the world.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Vietnam has decided to dispatch its peacekeepers to South Sudan as its first engagement in the PKO. The Japanese Government fully supports this decision. Also, an engineering unit of the Self-Defense Force is deployed in South Sudan. I guarantee Japan’s full support for the Vietnamese PKO activities and Japan’s close cooperation with Vietnamese peacekeepers out there on the ground. This exemplifies the spirit of promoting the bilateral relationship between Japan and Vietnam to the Extensive Strategic Partnership,

which was agreed upon when President Sang visited Japan in March. I swear both Japanese and Vietnamese peacekeepers will cooperate with each other and contribute to peace and stability in the world, sweating together.

Peace in South Sudan by our peacekeepers will mark a success in the PKO in South Sudan and also a success in the Extensive Strategic Partnership. I sincerely hope that our cooperation in South Sudan will enable Japan and Vietnam to continue to work together toward peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific Region and beyond.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to conclude my remarks by paying respect to the Vietnam's noble will and courage to take new responsibilities for the peace and stability in the world and praying for Vietnam's further prosperity.

Thank you.