



*Ha noi, 14 June 2013*

To: Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights

Vietnam older people is approximately 10% of the population, the trend is increasing in the future, particularly aging stage become aging population in Vietnam which is faster than other countries in the region and all over the world (Vietnam is only 18 to 20 years, the other is over 20 years). The Party and State of Vietnam highly appreciated positions, the role of the elderly in society, has researched, developed and issued a series of policies and regulations relating to the elderly as the National Assembly XII passed the Elderly Law, the Government has issued a number of decrees related to the elderly such as the National Action Programme on Ageing period 2012-2020. State has been having special attention to the elderly, lonely, helpless, older people in the remote region, difficult economic zones in mountainous, border, ethnic. Thus, the basic material and spiritual life of the elderly have been improved clearly.

Vietnam Association of The Elderly is specific social organizations, have gathered to unite and mobilize the elderly, protect the legitimate rights and interests of the elderly, as the core of the whole people care movement, take care, promoting the role of the elderly have done well:

**1. Doing care activities well, contributing to improving the quality of life for the elderly following major contents:**

Improving the quality of the operation gratitude, health care, awareness and fun and entertainment activities, better meet the dietary needs of the elderly, particularly interested in the elderly that is lonely, helpless, elderly people in the remote, difficult economic zones in mountainous, border, ethnic elderly...

Participate in the formulation and implementation of National Action Program for older people period 2012 - 2020; build a network of elderly care who are disadvantaged.

Call for the various funds, especially Foundation "Care and promoting the role of the elderly" levels of the Association. Currently, nearly 100% of communes, wards and townships have fund for Care and promoting the role of the elderly.

Join with state agencies and actively monitor the implementation of policies to help elderly get fully entitlements, timely policies as prescribed by law such as: the longevity, social pension, health insurance card ...

The Associations of the Elderly at commune level are planning to participate in monitoring the implementation of the Elderly Law and the state policies for the elderly, contributing to 100% of eligible elderly are entitled to social pension and health insurance card health; active collaboration with Ministry of Health to facilitate older people to be participant in primary health care, periodic health check-up.

**2. Effectively organize patriotic emulation movement**, promoting the role of elderly in accordance with local conditions, country and characteristics of the elderly. Continue to participate in economical development, building cultural life, preserve and promote the cultural identity, traditional educational unity, patriotism, promote study; training the younger generation; participate in building the Party, government, political security, social safety, security and protection of borders and islands, prevention of bureaucracy, corruption and other social evils.

**3. Strengthening external relations to people:**

Expand international cooperation; initiative and actively participate in the international movement of elderly, as well as activities for rights and interests of elderly in the world. Proposals and recommendations of policies and methodology of conduction of Government's commitment to The Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the Political Declaration; mobilizing the help of international organizations.

**4. Building systems of Association**

90% of elderly population is member of Association. Diversification of forms of Association and membership development, participant in building forms of the basis of care and promoting the role of the elderly (the centers, clubs ...) at the central level, provincial, district, and commune level including social protection centers of the State, of the Association, of social institutions, of religious organizations and the private sector. Improving the quality of recent centers is priority.

Currently, the Vietnam Association of the Elderly is trying its best to implement three key tasks and the two major programs:

**\* Three central task breakthrough:**

**First**, considering members is center; considering branches, clubs (as basic organizations) to organize activities; taking context "Old Age-Light Mirror " is main objective to archive.

**Second**, stabilize and improve the quality of caring activities, take care activities of promoting the role the elderly, has a suitable choice, help the elderly people live happy, and healthy, find themselves useful for families and society.

**Third**, explore and develop the internal resources elderly people, Elderly people Association, state resources, social resources and international, to create combined strength, to motivate and develop strength of the Association in new phase.

**\* Two major programs:**

- Program “*Bright Eyes for Elderly People*” with the purposes of examining, checking eye disease and conducting eye surgery for Elderly people with the supports from organization and individuals from domestic and abroad.
- Program “*Elderly people participate in protecting environment and building new rural*”

**5. Limited:**

Economic conditions in Vietnam is much difficult, so support services for the elderly have not been much, especially in remote areas. The establishment of the Care centre for the elderly has not been met with the requirements. Therefore, Vietnam wishes to receive the support of the international organizations to achieve better results for the care and promoting the role of the elderly.

Achievement of Vietnam Association of the Elderly over past few years to protect the right and benefit for elderly people, develop role of elderly people in society. Elderly people association proudly reports to Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights of the United Nations.

***Where received:***

- To regards;
- Saved archives.

**ON BEHALF OF STANDING COMMITTEE  
VICE CHAIRMAN**

**(Signed)**

**Ngo Trong Vinh**

