

SPEECH of Mr Nguyen Van Quoc – Deputy Director MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY FOR URBAN RAILWAY – MAUR

Ladies and gentlemen.

It is honor for me to be here to day, an important meeting between partners of Vietnam & Spain.

Ladies and gentlemen's

After nearly 35 years of innovation and development, the economy of all the country in general and Ho Chi Minh City in particular, has a great achievement and development. Ho Chi Minh City is already a very large and dynamic city, growing faster and becoming a regional hub for business and tourism. Together with development in many aspects of our country, needs of transport, traveling in HCMC are increased strongly that resulted great pressure for infrastructure and speed of development of the city.

To implement of the Decision no. 101/QĐ-TTg dated November 22nd 2007 approved by the Prime Minister regarding HCMC urban transport development plan to the year of 2020 and the vision after the year of 2025, HCMC, through Management Authority for Urban Railways (MAUR), has been developing planning and investment for construction of 6 metro routes and 3 tram routes with total length of approximately 107 km, aiming to increase number of people using public transport system, that its primary is urban railway system to reduce traffic-jam, and to contribute to HCMC to be as a city modernization and civilization city and to be well-known in area. The Prime Minister, in Official Note no. 1662/TTg-KTN dated October 3rd 2008, approved the project calling for investment in HCMC urban railway system up to approx. 7.5 billion USD. These highlight the significant importance of the planning and construction of the urban railway system in assuring the city public transportation and social-economic development. This project is a rational policy of the Government to meet the increasing transportation demand, to reduce traffic-jam, and to contribute to the city modernization and civilization development.

At the moment, MAUR achieved some results as follows:

- **Metro line no.1: Ben Thanh - Suoi Tien** (financed by the Government of Japan) is implementing for bidding process to select construction contractor. It is expected to start construction in 2011 and finish in 2015
- **Metro line no. 2: Ben Thanh - Tham Luong** (co-financed by ADB, KFW & EIB) is implementing to prepare for negotiation and signing Loan Agreement. It is expected to start construction in 2012 and finish in 2016
- **Metro line no.4: Cau Ben Cat - Nguyen Van Linh**: Ardanuy consultant is carrying out evaluation Feasibility Study elaborated by SFECO for construction of the metro line no.4 through technical assistance by the Kingdom of Spain. It is expected to be completed in June 2010.
- **Metro line no.5: Can Giuoc Bus station - Sai Gon bridge** (technical assistance financed by the Kingdom of Spain): IDOM consultant is carrying out Feasibility Study and will be

completed in July 2010. Currently, the Government of Spain accepted an ODA fund to invest for phase 1 of the metro line no.5. It is expected to negotiate and signing Loan Agreement in 2011 and start construction for phase 1 of metro line 5 in 2012 and finish in 2016.

- **Metro line no.6: Phu Lam- Ba Queo** (technical assistance financed by the Kingdom of Spain) IDOM consultant is carrying out Feasibility Study and will be completed in July 2010.

- **Metro line no.3, Tramway no.1 and Monorail no. 2 and no.3:** research and Feasibility Study are being carried out by local consultants.

Ladies and gentlemen.

Metro lines have been an essential infrastructure for HCMC, allowing them to grow faster and better, integrating the whole city, favouring social integration and making life easier for our citizens. Metro systems also are a clean solution to protect our urban environment, making life better for our current and future generations. At the same time, building and, especially, managing the metro system was a challenge for our local authorities.

Today meeting is important for the long term cooperation and relationship between enterprises of Vietnam and Spain, as well as the two countries in the near future. We hope that, after this meeting, more and more Spanish enterprises will come to HCMC to invest and share together with us your experience and challenges faced in development the metro system of the city.

To finish with, I would like to thank to the Spanish Economic and Commercial Office in HCMC and the Spanish enterprises that shared experience at this meeting. Now a new cooperation stage starts and I am sure that it will be very successful. I strongly believe that Spanish organizations and enterprises will be potential trade partners and foreign investors to VN in the near future.

May I wish Mr. Commercial Counselor and all of you good health./.