

Ha Noi, July 23, 2015

DECISION

Approving the Scheme on ASEAN Statistical Integration for the period 2016-2020

PRIME MINISTER

Pursuant to the Law on organization of the Government dated December 25, 2001;

Pursuant to the Statistics Law dated June 26, 2003 and the Decree No. 40/2004/ND-CP dated February 13, 2004 of the Government detailing and guiding the implementation of a number of articles of the Statistics Law;

At the proposal of the Minister of Planning and Investment,

DECIDES:

Article 1: To approve the Scheme on ASEAN statistical integration for the period 2016-2020 with the following contents:

I. POINTS OF VIEW

1. Taking the initiative, activeness and responsibility in the ASEAN statistical integration, ensuring the independence, self-reliance, equality, cooperation and mutual benefits; ensuring conformity with Vietnam's viewpoint on comprehensive integration in ASEAN Community.
2. Multilateralizing and diversifying the forms of cooperation with ASEAN Member States in the statistics; selectively acquiring experiences of the countries with developed statistics; taking full advantage of opportunities and resources for the integration and development.
3. Improving the capacity of Vietnam Statistical System in order to ensure to provide statistical data completely, accurately, timely and meet the requirements of international comparison; enhancing the ability in accessing and timely disseminating ASEAN statistical data in order to serve the domestic demand for information.

II. OBJECTIVES

1. General objective

To 2020, Vietnam Statistics shall integrate comprehensively, have sufficient capacity to basically meet requirements and have harmony and compatibility with the ASEAN Community Statistical System (hereafter referred to as ASEAN Statistics), in order to bring Vietnam into the group of countries with developed statistics in the ASEAN region.

2. Specific objectives

- a) To 2016, the mechanism for provision and sharing of information among domestic agencies, organizations shall be formulated; of which Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) is the national focal agency in providing data for ASEAN Statistics;
- b) To 2017, Vietnam Statistics shall belong to the group of four leading countries of ASEAN in international merchandise trade statistics;
- c) To 2020, Vietnam shall meet over 90% of data requirements of ASEAN Statistics; strive for becoming one of five top countries of the ASEAN in statistics; most statistical activities of ASEAN shall be communicated; all ASEAN statistical data shall be disseminated in ASEAN countries.

III. CONTENTS

1. Strengthening the institutions and statistical capacities in order to contribute to improving the position of ASEAN Statistics.
 - a) Institutionalizing regulations in the joint declarations and treaties of the ASEAN Community on statistics.
 - b) Establishing the consistent network of statistical information in order to meet the requirements of ASEAN Statistics;
 - c) Forming the mechanism for consultation with information users, sharing of information between producers and users of statistical information.
 - d) Enhancing the capacity of Vietnam Statistical System in order to provide statistical information completely, accurately, timely and ensure the international comparability;
 - đ) Participating in strengthening, completing the ASEAN Statistical System and improving the capacity for the Statistics Division of the ASEAN Secretariat.
2. Meeting the data requirements of ASEAN Statistics
 - a) Applying the international methodology in collecting, calculating the data in the fields of statistics, of which priority is given to the following fields: The international merchandise trade, the international trade in services, the foreign direct investment; the sustainable development indicators and the indicators to monitor the integration progress of the ASEAN Community;

- b) Monitoring and assessing the quality of statistical data by the following criteria: Accessibility, timeliness and closeness of the statistical indicators in the ASEAN statistical indicators.
3. Disseminating and communicating the ASEAN statistical data
 - a) Fully performing the regulations in ASEAN's policy on sharing, confidentiality and dissemination of statistical information.
 - b) Disseminating statistical information in accordance with the State statistical information release calendar and the data release calendar of ASEAN Statistics.
 - c) Diversifying forms of popularizing the strategies, plans, standards and statistical data of the ASEAN Community.
 4. Strengthening the bilateral, multilateral and regional cooperation; actively participate in international statistical organizations; developing the cooperation with development partners in the framework of promoting the global agenda; implementing the cooperation program "ASEAN-help-ASEAN".

IV. SOLUTIONS

1. Completing the legal framework
 - a) Updating the plan of implementing Vietnam's Statistics Development Strategy 2011–2020, vision to 2030 in accordance with the Statistics Law (revised) and associated with ASEAN's statistics development strategy 2016-2020;
 - b) Promulgating legal documents for implementing ASEAN's policy on sharing, confidentiality and dissemination of statistical information and legal documents as the basis for ASEAN statistical integration.
2. Improving the quality of profession and enhance the application of information technology
 - a) Building, promulgating and updating the statistical indicator system to meet the data requirements of ASEAN Statistics in the period 2016-2020;
 - b) Continuing to collect, compile, disseminate and harmonize the statistical data in accordance with the international standards, of which it is needed to focus on the priority fields of ASEAN Statistics including: The international merchandise trade statistics, the international trade statistics in services and the statistics in foreign direct investment;
 - c) Updating and applying the statistical methodologies recommended by the United Nations Statistics Division, statistics offices of international organizations and ASEAN Statistics;
 - d) Improving the quality of data collected from statistical reports, surveys, administrative records and administrative registration for statistical purpose;
 - đ) Strengthening the professional inspection, checking, monitoring of the quality of statistical reports and statistical surveys;

- e) Promoting the sharing and exchange of statistical information between Vietnam and ASEAN Member States;
 - g) Enhancing the application of information and communication technology in statistical activities; building the centralized national statistical data warehouse at Ministry of Planning and Investment (General Statistics Office) and database, data warehouse of ministries, line ministries, localities.
3. Completing the statistics organization
- a) Completing the centralized statistics system towards specialization of statistical activities, of which Ministry of Planning and Investment (General Statistics Office) is the national focal agency in ASEAN statistics;
 - b) Enhancing the capacity for the national focal agency in ASEAN statistics at Ministry of Planning and Investment (General Statistics Office);
 - c) Continuing to complete the sectoral statistics organization system in accordance with the Decree No. 03/2010/ND-CP dated January 13, 2010 of the Government stipulating the duties, powers and organization of statistics of ministries, ministerial-level agencies, government-attached agencies;
 - d) Arranging statistical officials at the Departments, sectors for collecting, aggregating statistical information in order to meet the management requirements of ministries, line ministries and localities.
4. Developing human resources
- a) Strengthening the training, further education, updating in terms of statistics profession, foreign languages, computing and research capability for officials working in statistics in the State Statistics System; formulating a team of experts with professional competence and foreign language proficiency for actively participating in statistical activities of the region.
 - b) Actively setting up and implementing the programs of training, further education in profession within the framework of bilateral, multilateral, regional, inter-regional and international agreements.
5. Popularizing, educating statistical laws and knowledge
- a) Promoting the implementation of the policy on disseminating the state statistical information promulgated according to the Decision No. 34/2013/QĐ-TTg dated June 04, 2013 of the Prime Minister and other relevant documents;
 - b) Popularizing, educating statistical laws, knowledge and activities of ASEAN Statistics; continuing to complete the website of General Statistics Office and ministries, line ministries towards enhancing the availability, accessibility and diversity of information;

frequently holding activities of popularizing, propagandizing the Statistics Law (revised) after adopted by the National Assembly;

6. Building the mechanism for provision and sharing of information

- a) Building the mechanism for provision and sharing of information between Ministry of Planning and Investment (General Statistics Office) and ministries, line ministries in providing data for ASEAN Statistics;
- b) Establishing the focal point for coordination at ministries, line ministries in exchange, sharing and provision of data for Ministry of Planning and Investment (General Statistics Office), which is the national focal agency, to provide for ASEAN Statistics.

Article 2. Finance for implementation

1. Finance for the implementation of the Scheme is borne by the State budget in accordance with regulations of the State Budget Law;
2. Actively mobilizing and effectively using external financial resources and technical support.

Article 3. Organization of implementation

1. Ministry of Planning and Investment

- a) Taking the leading role and coordinating with ministries, line ministries in directing the organization of implementing the Scheme; guiding, checking, monitoring, summarizing the situation of implementing the Scheme yearly, holding the preliminary review of realizing the Scheme in 2018, summing up the implementation of the Scheme in 2020 and reporting to the Prime Minister.
- b) Taking the leading role in collection, aggregation of statistical information to providing for ASEAN Statistics;

2. Ministry of Finance

Presiding over, coordinating with Ministry of Planning and Investment in arrangement of funding for ministries, line ministries to implement the Scheme in the annual budget estimate.

3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Coordinating with Ministry of Planning and Investment in directing Vietnam's oversea representative offices to learn about, promote the ASEAN cooperation and integration in statistics.

4. Ministries, line ministries and localities

- a) Developing specific plans to implement this Scheme in the field of management.

- b) Coordinating in the implementation of relevant tasks under approved programs, projects of the Scheme;
- c) Presiding over the collection, aggregation of specialized statistical information under the responsibility of ministries, line ministries, sending to Ministry of Planning and Investment (General Statistics Office) for appraisal and providing for ASEAN Statistics;
- d) Yearly, sending the results of implementation of the Scheme on ASEAN statistical integration to Ministry of Planning and Investment (General Statistics Office) for aggregating and reporting to the Prime Minister.

Article 4. This Decision shall come into effect as of the date of signing.

Article 5. Ministers, Heads of ministerial-level agencies, Heads of government-attached agencies; Heads of relevant agencies; Chairman of People's Committees of central-affiliated cities or provinces shall take responsibility for implementing this Decision./.

Receiver:

- Secretariat of the Communist Party of Vietnam;
- Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Ministers;
- Ministries, ministerial-level agencies, and government-attached agencies;
- People's Councils, People's Committees of central-affiliated cities and provinces;
- Central Office of the Communist Party of Vietnam, organizations of the Party;
- The Office of the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam;
- The President's Office;
- Ethnic Council and committees of the National Assembly;
- National Assembly Office;
- Supreme People's Court;
- Supreme People's Procuracy of Vietnam;
- National Financial Supervisory Commission;
- State Audit Office of Vietnam;
- Vietnam Bank for Social Policies;
- Vietnam Development Bank;
- Central Committee of Vietnam Fatherland Front;
- Central agency of unions;
- General Statistics Office (Ministry of Planning and Investment);
- Records.

PRIME MINISTER

Nguyen Tan Dung