

**MINUTES OF THE
VIET NAM-UNITED STATES
MARITIME BILATERAL MEETING**

*August 12, 2024
Ha Noi, Viet Nam*

On August 12, 2024, the Viet Nam Maritime Administration had the honor of hosting the 7th Consultation Meeting on the Implementation of the Viet Nam-US Maritime Transport Agreement. On the Vietnamese side were representatives from the Ministry of Transport, the Viet Nam Maritime Administration, the Viet Nam Register, units under the Viet Nam Maritime Administration, the Viet Nam Maritime University, Viet Nam Ship-owners Association and shipping enterprise. The United States' delegation was led by Ann Phillips, Administrator of the United States Maritime Administration, and representatives from the United States Department of State, the United States Coast Guard, and the United States Embassy in Viet Nam.

Mr. Le Do Muoi expressed his gratitude to the United States delegation for arranging their working schedule in Viet Nam as agreed in the previous meeting. Administrator Le Do Muoi mentioned about the trip of Viet Nam Maritime Administration to the United States in early August. The Viet Nam Maritime Administration was delighted to have the opportunity to accompany the Vietnamese Minister of Transport on a visit to the United States. The highlight of the trip was the bilateral meeting between the two countries, during which both discussed maritime cooperation as one of the key issues in transport cooperation. Therefore, the maritime bilateral meeting in Ha Noi, Viet Nam focused on key maritime issues, including maritime strategy policy updates, port infrastructure development, opportunities for the United States support and investment in Viet Nam's maritime sector, decarbonization, Green Shipping, Green Corridors and the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

At the outset of the meeting, the two sides engaged in a discussion on national maritime policies. The Viet Nam Maritime Administration took the opportunity to present an updated version of the Master Plan for the Development of the Viet Nam Seaport System for the 2021-2030 period, with a vision to 2050. In addition, the Action Plan on Green Energy Transition, Carbon and Methane Emission Reduction in the transport sector was approved. The Prime Minister has also approved the Criteria for Green Ports, which will gradually be applied at major seaports in Viet Nam. In addition, policies have been developed to enhance seaport infrastructure and increase the receiving capacity of Vietnamese seaports. Furthermore, the 2023 Maritime Infrastructure Maintenance Plan has been approved by the Ministry of Transport.

The United States side had prepared a brief report that provided an update on the Marine Highway Program. The project offers an alternative to land-based transport and promotes the use of waterways and sea routes for freight transportation. This approach is intended to reduce congestion on land, lower emissions, and generate other public benefits. The U.S. Maritime Administrator also shared information about the Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP). Funds for the PIDP are awarded to projects that improve the safety, efficiency, or reliability of the movement of goods into, out of, around, or within a port. The United States Maritime Administration is responsible for implementing the National Maritime Strategy, with a particular focus on the following areas: maritime, shipbuilding, energy efficiency, marine environmental protection, and so on. Additionally, the United States Maritime Administration oversees the United States Merchant Marine Academy and discussed the Centers of Excellence to support domestic maritime workforce training across the United States.

Having gained an understanding of the United States maritime industry and the role of the US Maritime Administration, the Viet Nam Maritime Administration put forward the proposals for collaboration with the United States' side which included: green shipping corridor, investment in seaport infrastructure, education and training of human resources, support for search and rescue activities. The above contents were discussed enthusiastically by the Vietnamese side including the Viet Nam Maritime Administration, the Ship-owners Association, the Sai Gon New Port Corporation, and Cai Mep International Terminal and the United States' side including representatives of the United States Maritime Administration, the United States Department of State, and the United States Coast Guard. After the discussion session, both sides agreed on the following:

The United States' side agreed to support Viet Nam in coordinating research to establish a green shipping corridor connecting Viet Nam's international gateway seaports to major seaports of the United States. This will facilitate the very large bilateral import and export activities between the two countries, which currently stand at nearly 100 billion USD per year.

The Viet Nam Maritime Administration and the United States Maritime Administration, in collaboration with relevant United States agencies, will continue to enhance communication and collaboration on strategies, planning, and policy mechanisms to facilitate investment in developing seaport infrastructure, thereby promoting the growth of maritime transport and maritime services.

With its strengths in managing maritime training centers, the United States Maritime Administration agreed to provide collaboration and cooperation for the training of human resources in the Vietnamese maritime industry.

To facilitate search and rescue activities, the Viet Nam Maritime Administration, the United States Coast Guard under the United States Department of Homeland Security will collaborate closely in

considering the transfer of two used U.S. patrol vessels to serve search and rescue activities in Viet Nam.

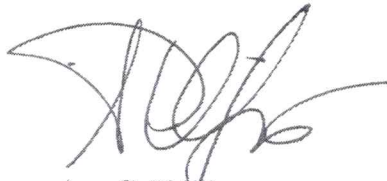
The United States Maritime Administration, United States Coast Guard and United States Department of State acknowledged the proposals put forth by the Viet Nam Maritime Administration and will respond to the Vietnamese side after consulting with relevant United States agencies. The United States Maritime Administration delegation expressed its intention to maintain cooperation and support for Viet Nam in developing its maritime industry and further strengthening the partnership between the two countries in the maritime field.

Both countries agreed to endeavor to meet again in 2025 in Washington DC.

Done in Ha Noi, Viet Nam on August 12, 2024. *dv*



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