



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

INSTRUMENT OF ACCESSION

WHEREAS, the Agreement for the Facilitation of Search of Ships in Distress and Rescue of Survivors of Ship Accidents was signed at Kuala Lumpur on 15th May 1975 by the Governments of the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore and the Kingdom of Thailand being members of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) ;

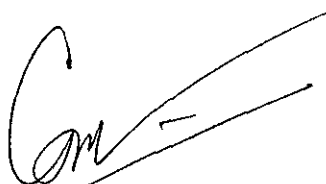
WHEREAS, Article 8 of the said Agreement stipulates that the said Agreement shall be open for accession by any new Member of ASEAN by the deposit of an Instrument of Accession with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia;

NOW THEREFORE, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam being a State Member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) having considered the aforesaid Agreement hereby accedes to the Agreement for the Facilitation of Search of Ships in Distress and Rescue of Survivors of Ship Accidents which was signed at Kuala Lumpur on 15th May 1975, and undertakes faithfully to fulfill and carry out the stipulations therein contained.

Upon accession to this Agreement, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam understands that, for the purpose of this Agreement, the term "territories" shall include mainland, islands, territorial waters and the above air space, as defined in the laws of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and in accordance with international law including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, has signed and sealed this Instrument of Accession to the Agreement.

Done at Hanoi on the 20th day of February, One thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven. *77*



NGUYEN MANH CAM
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Socialist Republic of Vietnam,