PROTOCOL FOR THE ACCESSION OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON ENHANCING ASEAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION

WHEREAS the Framework Agreement on Enhancing ASEAN Economic Cooperation ("the Agreement") was signed by the Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore and the Kingdom of Thailand on 28 January 1992 at the Fourth Summit Meeting held in Singapore, and amended by the Protocol to Amend the Framework Agreement on Enhancing ASEAN Economic Cooperation ("the Protocol") on 15 December 1995 at the Fifth Summit Meeting held in Bangkok;

WHEREAS Article 2 of the Protocol provides that new Members of ASEAN shall accede to the Agreement on terms and conditions consistent with it and which have been agreed between them and the existing Members of ASEAN;

AND WHEREAS the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has become the seventh Member of ASEAN on 28 July 1995, and has agreed to subscribe or accede, as the case may be, to all Declarations, Treaties and Agreements in ASEAN;

HAVING REGARD to the results of the negotiations directed towards the accession of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the Agreement;

RECOGNISING that the Agreement adheres to the principles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade;

NOTING the commitments made by Vietnam in the signed letters by H.E. Nguyen Manh Cam, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Socialist Republic of Vietnam on 28 July 1995 and subsequently by H.E. Le Van Triet, Minister of Trade, Socialist Republic of Vietnam on 7 September 1995;

NOW THEREFORE, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam hereby accedes to the Agreement and upon the entry into force of this Protocol on 1 January 1996 undertakes to immediately observe and carry out its obligations under the Agreement as amended.

This Protocol shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of ASEAN, who shall promptly furnish a certified copy thereof to each Member Country.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has signed the Protocol for the Accession of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the Framework Agreement on Enhancing ASEAN Economic Cooperation.

DONE at Bangkok, this 15th day of December 1995 in a single copy in the English Language.

For the Socialist Republic of Vietnam:

VO VAN KIET Prime Minister