

UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY
COUNCIL



GENERAL

S/2756

29 August 1952

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 7 AUGUST 1952 FROM THE MINISTER
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE STATE OF VIETNAM
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS,
TRANSMITTING A DECLARATION AND A MEMORANDUM
FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM CONCERNING
VIETNAM'S APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO
MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS

I have the honour to refer to the application submitted to you on 17 December 1951 for the admission of Vietnam to the United Nations and to your letter No. SCA/GA/2/02 of 20 December 1951, by which you informed me that copies of that application had been communicated to the members of the Security Council and of the General Assembly, in accordance with the rules of procedure of those organs.

In confirming my Government's wish to submit its official application for membership in the United Nations, I would draw your attention to the following enclosures:

1. A declaration whereby, in accordance with rule 58 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, my Government declares that it accepts the obligations contained in the Charter;
2. The memorandum referred to in the aforementioned application for admission of 17 December 1951.

I should be extremely obliged if you would bring these two documents to the notice of the competent services, in order that Vietnam's application for admission to membership in the United Nations may be considered as soon as possible.

I have the honour to be etc.,

(signed) Nicolas TRUONG-VINH-TONG
Minister of Foreign Affairs

52-42723

/MEMORANDUM
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M E M O R A N D U M

By signature of the Agreement of 8 March 1949 and the conclusion of the special conventions with France concerning its implementation, Vietnam, which had existed as an independent nation for many centuries, simultaneously recovered both its unity and its independence.

This independence has become a living reality; the Vietnam Government now exercising in all matters, including national defence, the powers of sovereignty which are the attributes of a modern State.

Whilst it has voluntarily joined the French Union as a State associated with France, Vietnam nonetheless retains full responsibility for the conduct of its domestic affairs and the performance of its international undertakings. It is recognized by more than thirty Powers and at the present time maintains diplomatic relations with several of them. It took part with other nations in the San Francisco Conference, the conference for the signing of the peace treaty with Japan, thus affirming its re-entry into international life.

As a young State but an old nation, Vietnam has an organization which, by tradition, is essentially democratic: the Vietnam commune, the basic unit in the country's whole political and social structure, is the most striking example of local autonomy and popular participation in the management of common interests.

It is only by reason of circumstances beyond its control, to wit the state of disturbance still prevailing in certain parts of its territory, that the Vietnam Government has not yet been able to set up Representative Assemblies, as it would have wished.

The Government is, however, resolved, as was solemnly proclaimed by His Majesty BAO-DAI, Chief of State, to hold elections as soon as possible, which will be safeguarded by all the necessary guarantees of freedom and honesty.

The people of Vietnam are deeply attached to freedom and to peace, and to international co-operation as a means of protecting peace and attaining the full development of national entities.

/Accordingly,

Accordingly, Vietnam has followed with the keenest sympathy and greatest admiration the efforts of the United Nations to promote mutual understanding and ensure the defence of world peace.

In spite of its own preoccupations, Vietnam has taken part, in a spirit of international solidarity, in such highly humanitarian United Nations work as the relief programmes for Palestine refugees and for Korean war victims.

In so far as they were not restricted to United Nations Members only, it has taken an active part in numerous international and regional conferences and is at present a member of most of the specialized agencies and international organs:

Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East

World Health Organization

International Labour Organisation

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

International Telecommunication Union

Universal Postal Union

International Office of Epizootics, and others.

In addition, Vietnam has acceded to international conventions concluded under United Nations auspices, including the Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials and other technical agreements or conventions.

In applying for admission to membership of the United Nations, Vietnam solemnly proclaims its desire to co-operate closely with other nations under the Charter and is convinced that, with the means at its disposal and with the friendship and support of the democratic Powers, it will be able to carry out its obligations satisfactorily.

Saigon, 7 August 1952

(signed) Nicolas TRUONG-VINH-TONG

Minister of Foreign Affairs

D E C L A R A T I O N

In the name of the State of Vietnam, the undersigned Minister of Foreign Affairs, duly authorized by the Vietnamese Government, hereby declares that the State of Vietnam accepts the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations and undertakes to carry them out by all the means at its disposal, as from the date when Vietnam becomes a Member of the United Nations.

Saigon, 7 August 1952

(signed) Nicolas TRUONG-VINH-TONG
Minister of Foreign Affairs

