

## **SPEECH OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING WORKING GROUP**

*Prepared by  
Brian O'Reilly  
Head of Education & Training Working Group*

Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentleman,

Industry 4.0 and the effects of emerging technologies will provide both opportunities and threats to employment in Vietnam. Preparing human resources to be effective in this new environment needs to be addressed in order for Vietnam to continue to be successful both socially and economically. There will be greater opportunities for highly skilled people on the one hand but simultaneously many low skilled jobs will disappear. It is therefore imperative that the Vietnamese workforce of the future be provided with the necessary knowledge and skills to succeed in this new environment.

The purpose of this presentation is to look at both opportunities and issues with regards to education in Vietnam taking Industry 4.0 into consideration and not forgetting that achieving full potential with regards to Industry 3.0 is still vitally important. As mentioned in previous position papers there is a need for a high quality education system that focuses on future needs. It is important that the Vietnamese government and departments including MoET and MoLISA provide an environment for quality education, at all levels to flourish.

This presentation will focus on the following areas:

- Decree 86, and
- Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

## **1. Decree 86**

The promulgation of Decree 86 is a great move forward and it will help to develop the foreign investment in education. Decree 86 provides specific regulations on foreign cooperation and investment in education and vocational training and will replace Decree 73. Foreign investment in education and training is vital to bring the required knowledge and skills to Vietnam and this investment will help prepare human resources to be effective for Industry 4.0. These foreign institutions will both compliment and collaborate with Vietnamese institutions that are already adapting to the challenges of the needs of the new economy.

The implementation of the new decree demonstrates the desire of the Government to improve education and training that will prepare human resources to be effective for Industry 4.0. The Education and training group looks forward to continuing to assist in this area, and would like to take this opportunity to thank MoET for their on-going cooperation.

## **2. Technical and Vocational Education and Training**

Vocational skills training and boosting employment is at the heart of the Vietnamese Government development goals. The Government also wants to tailor its vocational training more to the needs of industry and advanced technologies and to focus more on the skills needed for the effective implementation of Industry 4.0. Therefore, it is promoting the expansion of vocational education and training with improvements in quality and a focus on needs-based training.

The new law on Vocational Education and Training is an important step in improving TVET in Vietnam. Much work has already been carried out, in conjunction with local and overseas agencies, and continued collaboration through active working groups coordinated by MoLISA would ensure that the impact of this work is more effective. However, there are some elements of the draft decree replacing Decree 48 that we would like to raise for consideration for change.

- It is proposed that the government should try to involve not only large enterprises but also foreign and local SMEs in the TVET reform, the latter which account for the majority of firms.
- The promotion of mutual learning of local good practice in the partnerships between enterprises and TVET institutions should be encouraged.
- Any issues with regards to the transfer from MoET to MoLISA should be addressed to ensure a smooth and effective transition.
- The Vietnamese government has recognised the need to increase the involvement of the private sector in TVET. Progress, however, has been somewhat slow. One possible strategy

to involve industry, as identified by organisations including but not limited to ADB, GDVT, GIZ, ILO and JICA, is through the initiation of active collaboration measures by the TVET institutions.

It is important that we continue to work on these areas and find solutions to help improve the TVET system. We look forward to continued progress in this matter and would like to take this opportunity to thank MoLISA in advance for their cooperation.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the ability of the Vietnamese education systems to deliver quality education at all levels is imperative for the Vietnamese economy to embrace Industry 4.0. This will require strong and effective leadership to find effective solutions.

The Education and Training Working Group through the VBF will continue, in cooperation with both MoET and MoLISA, with its commitment to improve education and training in Vietnam. We look forward to witnessing development and progress in the above areas and again would like to thank the MPI and the VBF for inviting us to contribute to this important forum.