CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE **COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM**
*

No. 57-NQ/TW *Hanoi, December 22, 2024*

RESOLUTION

OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU

ON BREAKTHROUGHS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION, AND NATIONAL DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

The development of science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation is now the decisive factor in the progress of nations. It represents the key prerequisite and the greatest opportunity for our country to achieve prosperity and strength in this new era - the era of national advancement.

In recent years, our Party and State have introduced numerous policies to promote the application and development of science and technology, encourage innovation, and advance digital transformation. We have actively engaged in the Fourth Industrial Revolution, yielding significant achievements. However, the pace and scale of breakthroughs in science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation remain slow. Our national scientific, technological, and innovation capabilities still lag considerably behind those of developed countries. Awareness among many sectors, levels of government, officials, civil servants, and the public regarding digital transformation remains insufficient and superficial. Research, application, and innovation in science and technology have yet to achieve decisive breakthroughs or establish mastery over strategic and core technologies. The legal framework, mechanisms, and policies are still inadequate. The legal framework, mechanisms, and policies are still inadequate. The availability of high-quality human resources is insufficient. Infrastructure, particularly digital infrastructure, remains incomplete, and there are considerable challenges in ensuring information security, cybersecurity, and data protection.

Our country now faces an urgent need for bold, strategic, and revolutionary decisions to generate new momentum and breakthroughs in the development of science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation. This is essential to propel the nation forward in this new era - an era of prosperity and strength - ensuring the successful realization of the national goals: by 2030, Vietnam aims to become a developing country with modern industry and upper-middle income; by 2045, it aspires to become a high-income developed nation. Given this context, the Political Bureau requires the effective implementation of the following directives:

I- GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. The development of science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation is the foremost critical breakthrough and the primary driving force for the rapid advancement of modern productive forces, the completion of production relations, the transformation of national governance methods, economic and social development, the prevention of stagnation risks, and the nation's breakthrough growth towards prosperity in the new era.

2. Strengthening the Party's comprehensive leadership and mobilizing the collective strength of the entire political system, businesses, entrepreneurs, and the people in advancing science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation. This is a profound and comprehensive revolution across all sectors, requiring determined, consistent, synchronized, and long-term implementation through breakthrough, revolutionary solutions. People and businesses are at the center, as key stakeholders, resources, and driving forces; scientists are pivotal contributors; and the State plays a leading role in facilitating and promoting the most favorable conditions for the development of science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation.

3. Institutions, human resources, infrastructure, data, and strategic technologies are the core focus areas, with institutions serving as the prerequisite, requiring completion and advancement ahead of other aspects. Legislative reforms must balance regulatory oversight with innovation encouragement, eliminating the mindset of "prohibit what cannot be managed." Priority should be given to ensuring high-quality human resources for science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation, with special mechanisms and policies for talent development. Infrastructure development, particularly digital and technological infrastructure, should adhere to the principles of "modernity, synchronization, security, safety, efficiency, and waste prevention". Maximizing the potential of data is crucial - transforming data into a key production resource, accelerating the development of big data, data industries, and the digital economy.

4. Rapid yet sustainable development, with a step-by-step approach to technological self-sufficiency, especially in strategic technologies. National resources should be prioritized for science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation. Vietnam must maximize its intellectual potential while quickly absorbing, mastering, and applying advanced global scientific and technological achievements. The country should accelerate applied research, prioritize fundamental research, and move toward technological self-reliance and competitive advantage in key areas where Vietnam has needs, potential, and advantages.

5. Safeguarding national sovereignty in cyberspace, ensuring cybersecurity, data security, and information safety for organizations and individuals - this is a consistent, inseparable requirement throughout the development of science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation.

II- OBJECTIVES

1. By 2030

- Vietnam's scientific, technological, and innovation potential and expertise will reach an advanced level in key areas, ranking among the leading upper-middle-income countries. The technological capability and innovation capacity of enterprises will be above the global average, with certain fields achieving international standards. Vietnam will be among the top three countries in Southeast Asia and the top 50 globally in digital competitiveness and e-Government development index. It will also be among the top three in Southeast Asia for AI research and development, as well as a key regional hub for certain digital technology industries where Vietnam has a competitive advantage. At least five digital technology enterprises will reach the level of advanced economies.

- Economic contributions: The Total Factor Productivity (TFP) contribution to economic growth will exceed 55%, and the proportion of high-tech exports will be at least 50% of total export value. The digital economy will contribute at least 30% of GDP. The adoption rate of online public services by citizens and businesses will exceed 80%, and cashless transactions will account for 80% of total transactions. Over 40% of enterprises will engage in innovation activities. Science, technology, and innovation will play a crucial role in shaping Vietnamese cultural, social, and human values, contributing to maintaining a Human Development Index (HDI) above 0.7.

- Investment in R&D and digital transformation: R&D expenditure will reach 2% of GDP, with more than 60% funded by the private sector. At least 3% of annual state budget expenditure will be allocated to science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation, increasing over time in line with development needs. The science, technology, and innovation system will be restructured to ensure efficiency, integrating research, application, and training. The research workforce will reach 12 researchers per 10,000 people, with 40–50 science and technology organizations ranked at regional and global levels. The annual growth rate of international scientific publications will be 10%, while patent applications and grants will increase by 16–18% annually, with a commercialization rate of 8–10%.

- Digital infrastructure & emerging technologies: Vietnam will establish state-of-the-art, high-capacity, ultra-broadband digital infrastructure, comparable to advanced economies. The country will gradually master strategic and digital technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data, cloud computing, blockchain, semiconductors, quantum technology, nanotechnology, 5G & 6G mobile communications, and satellite communications, along with emerging technologies. Nationwide 5G coverage will be completed. Complete the development of smart cities for centrally affiliated cities and selected provinces and cities that meet the necessary conditions. At least three leading global technology enterprises will establish headquarters, R&D centers, and manufacturing operations in Vietnam.

- State administration from the central to local levels operates in a digital environment, ensuring seamless connectivity and smooth functioning among agencies within the political system. National and sectoral databases will be fully developed, integrated, and shared, facilitating efficient use of digital resources and data, including the establishment of a national data exchange platform. Vietnam will achieve advanced levels in digital

government, digital economy, digital society, digital citizenship, and digital cultural industries. Vietnam ranks among the leading countries in cybersecurity, data security, and data protection.

2. Vision for 2045

Science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation will be firmly developed, contributing to making Vietnam a high-income developed country. The digital economy will account for at least 50% of GDP. Vietnam will establish itself as a regional and global digital technology hub. The country will rank among the top 30 globally in innovation and digital transformation. The proportion of digital technology enterprises will be equivalent to that of developed countries. At least 10 world-class digital technology enterprises will emerge. Vietnam will attract at least five leading global technology organizations and enterprises to establish headquarters, R&D centers, and production facilities in the country.

III- TASKS AND SOLUTIONS

1. Enhance awareness, break through in mindset transformation, establish strong political determination, and decisively lead and direct efforts to create new momentum and enthusiasm across society for the development of science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation

- Party committees, organizations, officials, and Party members must fully recognize and deeply internalize the Party and State’s viewpoints, policies, and strategies on digital transformation, science, technology, and innovation. Clear responsibilities must be assigned, and implementation must be proactively carried out. Leaders must take direct responsibility for digital transformation efforts, while officials and Party members must lead by example. The tasks of digital transformation, scientific, technological, and innovation development shall be specifically defined in the annual work programs and plans of agencies, organizations, units, and localities. The performance results shall serve as criteria for evaluating task performance, annual emulation, and commendation. The appropriate number of science and technology experts should be included in leadership at all levels. Promote the spirit of innovation, bold thinking, decisive action, and accountability among officials and Party members in the development of science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation.

- There should be effective communication and education programs to raise awareness, strengthen commitment, and promote the development of science, technology, and innovation, as well as the implementation of digital transformation across the political system, the public, and businesses, fostering trust and a new sense of momentum in society. Extensively implement the "digital learning" movement, popularizing and enhancing scientific, technological, and digital knowledge among officials, public employees, and the public. Promote movements for entrepreneurship, innovation, and improvements in work efficiency and labor productivity. Foster a spirit of self-reliance, confidence, independence, resilience, and national pride, leveraging Vietnamese intellect

to successfully achieve the goals and tasks of national science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation development. A diverse range of recognition and commendation mechanisms should be developed to honor outstanding scientists, inventors, enterprises, organizations, and individuals who contribute to scientific, technological, and digital transformation advancements. Value every invention, innovation, technical improvement, and initiative that enhances work efficiency and productivity, no matter how small.

2. Urgently and decisively improve the institutional framework; eliminate all outdated mindsets, perceptions, and barriers that hinder development; turn the institutional framework into a competitive advantage in developing science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation

Continue to fully institutionalize and effectively implement the resolutions, directives, and conclusions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, the Politburo, and the Secretariat on the development of education and training; science and technology, innovation, and national digital transformation. Focus on the following key areas:

- Urgently revise, supplement, and comprehensively synthesize the legal framework on science, technology, investment, public investment, public procurement, state budget, public assets, intellectual property, taxation, etc. This will help remove bottlenecks and barriers, unlock resources, and promote the development of science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation, as well as human resource development. Reform management methods to align with different types of scientific and technological research. Overhaul financial management mechanisms for scientific, technological, and digital transformation initiatives, simplifying administrative procedures to the maximum extent possible. Grant greater autonomy in the use of research funding and technological development resources.

- Adopt an open and innovative approach that allows pilot programs to address emerging real-world challenges. Accept risks, venture capital investment, and the inherent time lag associated with scientific research, technological development, and innovation. Introduce pilot mechanisms for enterprises to test new technologies under government supervision. Implement policies that provide liability exemptions for enterprises, organizations, and individuals in cases where economic losses occur due to objective factors during new technology trials or experimental business models. Establish venture capital funds to support startups, technology incubation, and digital transformation.

- Strengthening and unifying the effectiveness of state management in science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation. Develop research institutes and universities into strong research entities, integrating research, application, and education. Invest in and upgrade the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences, and key national scientific research and innovation centers. Merge or dissolve ineffective scientific and technological organizations. Establish mechanisms and policies to support and develop effective public scientific and technological research institutions. Grant these institutions autonomy and accountability

in organizational management, personnel, finance, and expertise. Allow the use of state budget funds to hire experts and utilize tangible and intellectual assets to collaborate with scientific organizations and enterprises. Introduce mechanisms to permit and encourage research institutions and scientists to establish and manage enterprises based on their research outcomes.

- Attract and efficiently utilize all investment resources for the development of science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation. Prioritize the state budget for research and development through a fund-based mechanism, utilizing science and technology development funds. Restructure public science and technology expenditures to ensure focus, priority, and effectiveness without dispersion. Encourage public procurement of products and goods derived from domestic scientific research. Implement special mechanisms for researching, accessing, and acquiring technological secrets, learning from, and replicating advanced foreign technologies.

3. Strengthening investment and improving infrastructure for science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation

- Issue a National Technology and Strategic Industry Development Program and establish a Strategic Industry Development Investment Fund, prioritizing key areas such as defense, space, energy, environment, biotechnology, artificial intelligence, advanced materials, semiconductors, quantum technology, robotics, automation, etc. Implement pilot policy mechanisms to accelerate the research, development, application, and transfer of strategic technologies. Allocate at least 15% of the state budget for scientific development to support strategic technology research. Introduce public-private partnership (PPP) mechanisms for joint research and development of strategic technologies.

- Formulate strategies for the research and application of science and technology in maritime, underground, and outer space exploration and development. Prioritize energy infrastructure development, especially new and clean energy sources, ensuring energy security to support scientific and technological advancements and strategic industries. Implement strict management and efficient utilization of national mineral resources, particularly rare earth elements, to foster science, technology, and innovation.

- Develop a system of research and testing centers, as well as national key laboratories focusing on strategic technologies. Introduce mechanisms and policies to support and encourage organizations, individuals, and enterprises to invest in building laboratories and research and development (R&D) centers.

- Accelerate the application and development of digital technology. Introduce policies to encourage investment in, purchasing, and leasing digital products and services. Implement special policies to train, develop, and attract organizations, individuals, and enterprises - both domestic and international - involved in digital transformation, digital product development, and cybersecurity industries. Establish and promote the use of national and regional digital platforms, ensuring interoperability and seamless integration

across industries and sectors in the digital environment. Foster a digital economy ecosystem across various fields.

- Implement public-private partnership (PPP) mechanisms to develop modern digital infrastructure, with state resources playing a primary role. Expand telecommunications and internet infrastructure to meet redundancy, connectivity, security, and sustainability requirements. Develop satellite-based data transmission systems, high-speed broadband fiber-optic networks covering the entire country, and next-generation mobile communication networks (5G, 6G, and beyond). Advance digital physical infrastructure and digital utility infrastructure. Integrate sensor technology and digital applications into essential infrastructure. Develop the Internet of Things (IoT) industry and establish several mobile IoT industrial clusters.

- Establish mechanisms and policies to support domestic enterprises in investing in and building data centers and cloud computing facilities. Attract foreign enterprises to establish data centers and cloud computing facilities in Vietnam. Develop a storage and computing infrastructure that meets international and green standards. Expedite the completion and effective operation of the National Data Center and invest in regional data centers. Develop and optimize national, ministerial, and local data systems to ensure interoperability, integration, and sharing. Establish mechanisms and policies to recognize data as a valuable production resource. Define data ownership, commercialization, and value distribution mechanisms. Develop a data economy, data markets, and data exchange platforms. Build Vietnam's sovereign large-scale databases. Establish a strong national data industry. Significantly expand artificial intelligence applications leveraging big data across critical industries and sectors.

4. Developing and utilizing high-quality human resources and talents to meet the demands of science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation

- Increase investment, innovation, and quality improvement in education and training to ensure a highly skilled workforce capable of driving national science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation. Implement attractive policies on credit, scholarships, and tuition to attract outstanding students to fields such as mathematics, physics, biology, chemistry, engineering, and key technologies, particularly at the postgraduate level. Develop and implement specialized talent training programs in various fields. Introduce special mechanisms to attract overseas Vietnamese and highly qualified foreign experts to work and reside in Vietnam. Establish exceptional policies regarding nationality, property ownership, income, and working conditions to attract, retain, and utilize top scientists, experts, and chief engineers - both domestic and international - capable of leading and executing national strategic projects in science, technology, innovation, digital transformation, artificial intelligence, and workforce training. Develop, connect, and expand expert and scientific networks in Vietnam and internationally.

- Establish advanced specialized schools and training centers for artificial intelligence. Implement special public-private partnership (PPP) mechanisms for training the digital

workforce. Develop online education and training platforms, digital university models, and enhance digital competency across society.

- Expand the faculty and scientific community with the expertise required to teach fundamental sciences, semiconductor chip technology, microelectronics, and key engineering and technology fields. Strengthen partnerships with internationally renowned universities. Radically reform training programs to align with global standards, modernize teaching methods, and apply advanced technologies, especially artificial intelligence.

5. Accelerating digital transformation, applying science, technology, and innovation in government operations to enhance national governance efficiency, state management effectiveness across sectors, and ensure national defense and security

- Develop a roadmap and strategy to transition all activities of agencies within the political system to the digital environment, ensuring interoperability, consistency, and state confidentiality. Establish a national shared digital platform and develop intelligent monitoring and operational systems to enhance public administration. Comprehensively reform administrative procedures and public service delivery, eliminating geographical restrictions and improving the quality of online public services and digital services for citizens and businesses. Move towards fully online, personalized, and data-driven public service delivery. Enhance monitoring, evaluation, and accountability of state agencies and officials in serving the people. Implement special policies to attract, recruit, and retain personnel specializing in science, technology, and digital transformation within agencies of the political system.

- Develop secure digital platforms and strengthen the application of digital technology, fostering the formation of digital citizens. Develop Vietnamese social networks and build a secure and healthy digital society. Promote digital culture while preserving national identity by establishing a code of conduct for online spaces and mitigating the negative impacts of digital technology on society. Develop a digital platform for monitoring and collecting data on natural resources and the environment.

- Ensure cybersecurity and national sovereignty in the digital space. Guarantee the security and protection of legally held data for organizations, individuals, and enterprises while safeguarding national data sovereignty. Modernize weaponry, military technology, and security equipment. Gradually integrate digital technology into command and operational systems for armed forces, ensuring technological self-reliance in defense and security operations. Effectively combat digital transformation-related crimes and prevent online fraud. Strengthen national defense by developing and leveraging public engagement strategies in cyberspace to protect the nation.

6. Strongly promoting science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation in enterprises

- Implement preferential policies to encourage businesses, especially small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), to invest in digital transformation, research, technological application, and innovation to improve business efficiency and corporate governance. Strengthen knowledge transfer, train scientific and technological human resources, and foster innovation through enterprises with foreign direct investment (FDI). Support domestic technology enterprises in expanding investments abroad.

- Establish robust policies to encourage entrepreneurship in science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation. Enhance startup support policies to attract both domestic and international enterprises to establish their ventures in Vietnam.

- Introduce mechanisms and policies to support the formation and development of large-scale strategic domestic digital technology enterprises to build digital infrastructure, lead national digital transformation, and achieve international competitiveness. Establish a framework for placing government orders and assigning key digital transformation tasks to digital technology enterprises. Implement preferential policies on land, credit, and taxation for research, experimentation, application, development, and production of digital technology products and services. Develop several digital technology industrial zones. Encourage enterprises to reinvest in infrastructure, research, and development (R&D).

- Promote the consumption of digital products and services, ensuring that the digital economy accounts for at least 70% of the total digital economy across various sectors. Enhance smart manufacturing in industries such as agriculture, commerce, finance, education, healthcare, transportation, and logistics.

7. Enhancing international cooperation in science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation

Focus on promoting scientific research and technological development cooperation with countries that have advanced capabilities in science, technology, and digital transformation. Prioritize collaboration in fields such as artificial intelligence, biotechnology, quantum technology, semiconductors, nuclear energy, and other strategic technologies. Implement policies for acquiring and transferring advanced technologies that align with Vietnam's development conditions. Proactively and actively participate in shaping international rules and standards for new technologies, ensuring safety and mutual benefits. Enhance capacity-building efforts and technology transfer under international agreements and treaties in which Vietnam is a member.

IV- IMPLEMENTATION

1. Establish the Central Steering Committee for Science, Technology, Innovation, and Digital Transformation Development, chaired by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam. Form the National Advisory Council for Science, Technology, Innovation, and Digital Transformation, with participation from both domestic and international experts.

2. The Party Delegation to the National Assembly shall lead and direct the review and completion of legislation on science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation. Enhance supervision to ensure effective implementation as stipulated by regulations.

3. Coordinate with the Party Delegation to the National Assembly to fully institutionalize the policies and guidelines outlined in this Resolution and allocate adequate resources for implementation, with fundamental completion targeted for 2025.

4. The Vietnam Fatherland Front and socio-political organizations shall lead and direct the formulation of programs and plans to guide and mobilize the public in implementing the Resolution. Promote the role of supervision and social criticism, and participate in the development of laws, mechanisms, and policies for advancing science, technology, innovation, and digital transformation.

5. The Central Propaganda and Education Commission shall take the lead in coordinating with relevant agencies to guide the thorough implementation of the Resolution. Strengthen communication efforts to promote awareness of its content.

6. The Office of the Central Committee of the Communist Party shall coordinate with the Central Economic Commission to monitor, inspect, and evaluate the implementation results of the Resolution. Report on progress every six months to the Central Steering Committee and the Politburo for further direction.

This Resolution shall be disseminated to all Party cells.

ON BEHALF OF THE POLITBURO
GENERAL SECRETARY

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