

Part II. OTHER DOCUMENTS**THE PRIME MINISTER****Decision No. 943/QĐ-TTg of July 20, 2012, approving the master plan on socio-economic development of the Southeastern region through 2020****THE PRIME MINISTER**

Pursuant to the December 25, 2001 Law on Organization of the Government;

Pursuant to the Government's Decree No. 92/2006/ND-CP of September 7, 2006, on elaboration, approval and management of socio-economic development master plans, and Decree No. 04/2008/ND-CP of January 11, 2008, amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Government's Decree No. 92/2006/ND-CP;

At the proposal of the Ministry of Planning and Investment,

DECIDES:

Article 1. To approve the master plan on socio-economic development of the Southeastern region through 2020 (below referred to as the master plan), with the following principal contents:

I. POSITION AND ROLE

- The Southeastern region (embracing Ho

Chi Minh City and the provinces of Ba Ria - Vung Tau, Dong Nai, Binh Duong, Binh Phuoc and Tay Ninh) is a dynamic development economic region having a high and sustainable economic growth rate and taking the lead in the process of national industrialization and modernization and national economic development; is a region serving as a bridge to the Mekong River delta and Central Highlands; and takes the lead in the proactive integration, trade exchange expansion and effective economic cooperation with other countries in Southeast Asia and the world.

- The Southeastern region takes the lead in developing a number of important sectors, contributing to raising the quality, effectiveness and international competitiveness and creating a driving force for the whole country's socio-economic development.

- The Southeastern region, with Ho Chi Minh City as the kernel, is a financial, trade, tourism and international exchange center of Southeast Asia.

- The Southeastern region is a center for training human resources, especially high-quality human resources, and also a leading national center for science and technology transfer and application.

II. DEVELOPMENT VIEWPOINTS

1. This master plan complies with the national socio-economic development strategy and sectoral master plans, aiming to build and develop the Southeastern region into a

development-driving region with a socio-economic development growth rate higher than the national average, and a major economic, financial and trade center of the country and Southeast Asia.

2. To promote to the utmost the potential and advantages of the localities in the region, especially in industrial production and services. The Southeastern region must take the lead in the process of national industrialization and modernization with Ho Chi Minh City and Dong Nai, Ba Ria - Vung Tau and Binh Duong provinces as key localities that drive and spread development to other localities in the region and across the whole country.

3. To restructure the region's economy by raising its effectiveness and competitiveness, focusing investment in the sectors that have potential, advantages, and high labor productivity and knowledge content in association with greater linkage among all economic sectors and localities.

4. To focus on training and developing high-quality human resources to meet international integration requirements of the region and the whole country. To raise training quality, diversify training forms and increase training scale with a rational structure of jobs and occupations.

5. To combine economic development with ensuring social justice, effectively addressing burning social issues, improving people's material and spiritual lives and narrowing the gap in living standards among the regional

localities, especially for the poor, ethnic minority people and people living in areas bordering on Cambodia.

6. To ensure sustainable and harmonious development in terms of economic, social and environmental improvement objectives; to step by step effectively control free migration to the regional provinces together with forest protection and development; to associate industrial development with urban environment, water sources and air protection.

7. To associate socio-economic development with strengthening defense and security potential and ensuring political stability and social order and safety.

III. DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

1. Economic development:

- The Southeastern region's GDP by 2020 will increase 2.7 times over the 2010's figure; its average economic growth rate will reach 9.5-10%/year during 2011-2020, specifically around 10%/year during 2011-2015 and around 9.5%/year during 2016-2020; the proportion of industries, construction and services will account for 97-98% of the region's total GDP by 2020, of which services will make up over 44%, higher than the country's average.

- To strive that the region's per-capita GDP will reach USD 4,600 by 2015 and USD 6,400 by 2020; per-capita export value will reach USD 4,200 by 2015 and USD 7,800 by 2020. To maintain the rate of contributions to the state budget at 50-55% throughout the 2011-2020

period.

- The rate of technology renewal will be 20-25%/year on average; to increase the rate of **trained** labor to over 90% by 2020.

- To form high-quality production and social service centers up to international and regional levels.

2. **Social** development:

- **By 2020**, to stabilize the population in the region at around 18 million; the rate of **urbanization** will be 75%; to create 290,000-300,000 jobs every year; to keep the rate of **unemployment** at 4% and the rate of urban **unemployment** at below 5%.

- To strive that there will be 500 and 550 students per 10,000 people by 2015 and 2020, respectively; to improve people's health, increase the average life expectancy to 78 years and **reduce** the rate of malnutrition among **under-5 children** to below 7% by 2020.

3. **Environmental** protection:

- To ensure harmony between economic growth, assurance of social progress and justice, **environmental** protection, sustainable use of **natural resources** and biodiversity protection. To **combine** prevention and limitation of **environmental pollution, degradation and incidents** caused by people's activities and **natural impacts** with **environmental pollution remediation**, firstly in seriously polluted areas, and restoration of degraded ecosystems.

- To strive for a forest coverage of over 35% by 2015 and over 45% by 2020.

- By 2015, all newly built production establishments will apply clean technologies or be furnished with pollution-mitigating equipment for waste treatment; 60% of production and business establishments will conform with environmental standards; 70% of urban centers and 100% of industrial parks and export-processing zones will have centralized wastewater treatment systems; 95% of solid waste will be collected; and over 90% of hazardous waste and 100% of medical waste will be treated.

- By 2020, to sustain the achievements recorded in the previous period; all production and business establishments will satisfy environmental standards; all urban centers will have centralized wastewater treatment systems; and all solid and hazardous wastes will be collected and treated.

4. Security, defense, social order and safety:

- To better assure political security and social order at the grassroots level and prevent and fight social evils; to launch the movement "All people protect the Fatherland's security", striving to build civilized and polite localities in the region with a sound social and cultural life.

- To further disseminate, educate and mobilize people to strictly abide by state laws so as to curb traffic accidents.

IV. DEVELOPMENT OF MAJOR SECTORS

1. Industries:

To strongly develop hi-tech industries, industries turning out products with high added value and support industries. To strive for an annual average growth rate of 9.5-10% during 2011-2015 and 9-9.5% during 2016-2020; the proportion of industry and construction in GDP will reach 53-54% by 2020.

To give priority to quickly developing hi-tech industries and clean industries which conserve fuel and energy and create high added value. To develop electronics information technology into a spearhead industry in both hardware and software, giving priority to software development. To turn the Southeastern region into a center strong in electronic component production, software, information technology and telecommunications in Southeast Asia. To promote such support industries as component manufacture, auxiliary materials, repair and maintenance. To accelerate the construction of infrastructure facilities in and complete the functional zones of Ho Chi Minh City Hi-Tech Park. To build a technical service zone that helps improve technologies for southern industrial establishments.

To further develop such key industries as oil and gas exploitation, electronics and software production; mechanical engineering, production of electricity, fertilizers and chemicals from oil and gas; construction materials, processing of agricultural, forest and aquatic products, food industry; production of consumer goods, textiles and garments, leather footwear and plastics.

To redistribute industries in the region for better exploiting natural resources and

geographical advantages of Binh Phuoc and Tay Ninh provinces. To develop industrial parks under the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1107/QĐ-TTg of August 21, 2006, approving the master plan on development of industrial parks in Vietnam through 2015 and orientations to 2020. To promote the role and effectiveness of industrial complexes in the region.

To form the region's industrial-urban belt and limit further development of industrial parks in the downtown area of Ho Chi Minh City. To create favorable conditions of outside-fence land and infrastructure for the development of large-scale industrial-service and urban complexes after the model of hi-tech urban centers in Long Thanh, newly established Phu My city and Binh Duong industrial-service-urban complex.

2. Services:

To rapidly develop high-quality services to ensure high growth and comprehensive and sustainable development for the whole region. To strive for the service sector's annual average growth rate of 11-11.5% during 2011-2015 and 10.5-11% during 2016-2020; to increase the proportion of services in the region's GDP to 44% by 2020.

To build the Southeastern region into a service center of Southeast Asia. To focus on comprehensive development of such high-quality services as finance, banking, insurance; trade and distribution; international transportation and warehousing; information technology and communications; consultancy,

research and application; tourism; health care (especially hi-tech services); and education and training. To develop real estate, capital and securities markets. To form modern, complete and rational trade infrastructure facilities for developing distribution services, including marketplaces, supermarkets, trade centers, warehouses and storing yards.

To build Ho Chi Minh City into a major service center of national and international levels; Vung Tau city into a tourist, service and oil and gas exploitation center of national and international levels; Bien Hoa and Thu Dau Mot urban areas into large service centers for industrial development (training, consultancy, support, etc.); towns like Tay Ninh and Dong Xoai into provincial service centers linking with the Central Highlands provinces and Cambodia. To develop border-gate economy in Tay Ninh and Binh Phuoc provinces.

To develop the Southeastern region into a key national tourist region with special and competitive tourist products in the Southeast Asian region and the world. To diversify tourist products like weekend tourism, MICE tourism, cultural-historical tourism, mountain resort tourism (Nui Dinh - Ba Ria - Vung Tau), sea resort tourism (Vung Tau, Long Hai); eco-tourism (Nam Cat Tien, Con Dao); tourism for disease treatment (Binh Chau - Phuoc Buu). To develop hospitals and tourist service facilities; recreation and entertainment works; to embellish cultural-historical relics and develop traditional festivals and cultural activities for tourism. To build and develop tourist

information, security and safety systems. To study establishment of a regional tourism association and step up tourism development linkage in the greater Mekong sub-region. By 2015, to receive around 15 million tourist arrivals, including 4 million international ones. These figures will be 18 million and 5 million by 2020. The total revenue from tourists will reach USD 3 billion by 2015 and around USD 5 billion by 2020.

3. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries:

- Agriculture: To promote production of high-quality agricultural commodities for processing and consumption in urban areas and for export.

To improve the quality of specialized cultivation areas and expand animal rearing with consolidated rearing zones where food hygiene and safety and environmental protection are assured. To form agricultural production centers applying high technologies, clean technologies and sciences and techniques to all production stages, focusing on the stages of creating varieties, importing new high-yield varieties, studying new varieties' adaptation, producing varieties, developing water-saving irrigation technologies, post-harvest preservation and processing technologies. To build brands for key and typical agricultural products.

To strongly develop production of agricultural commodities like vegetables, flowers, bonsai; perennial industrial trees (rubber tree, cashew and pepper); fruit trees;

annual industrial-tree products; and husbandry products. To establish traditional specialty fruit-tree zones for domestic consumption and export.

Husbandry products: To make use of market advantages and the processing industry to develop centralized farm-based husbandry applying sciences and high technologies to turn out high-quality foods for urban centers in the region and for export. By 2020, to develop a cow herd of 1.5-1.6 million, a pig herd of 3.3-3.4 million and a poultry flock of 23-23.5 million.

- Forestry:

+ To develop forests together with perennial industrial trees with a view to contributing to eco-balance and sustainable development; to zone off existing forests for protection, enrich forests and develop planted forests as raw materials for paper and household timber products.

+ To establish stable forest zones, consolidate and protect watershed protection forests, reservoir, dam and hydropower plant protection forests, and environmental protection forests for industrial parks, big cities and coastal protection forests. To intensify biodiversity conservation; to attach importance to protecting rare and precious fauna and floral gene sources.

- Fisheries:

+ To develop aquaculture and aquatic product processing (especially processing for export), maintain and upgrade the offshore fishing fleet to ensure effectiveness, environmental protection and regeneration of

aquatic resources. To develop the rearing of ornamental fishes for tourism and export.

+ To develop modern aquatic breeding centers to provide sufficient quality and disease-free breeds; to form logistic service centers for fisheries development in the region and for supporting fisheries development in the Mekong River delta region.

4. Comprehensive, balanced and preceding development of socio-economic infrastructure

+ Transport:

- To give priority to developing the region's transport system to be rapid, modern and sustainable as a prerequisite for socio-economic development, security and defense consolidation, industrialization and modernization of the Southeastern region and other regions in the whole country.

- To build the expressways of Ho Chi Minh City - Long Thanh - Dau Giay, Bien Hoa - Vung Tau, Ben Luc - Long Thanh and Ho Chi Minh City - Moc Bai, and belt roads 3 and 4 of Ho Chi Minh City. To expand and upgrade national highways 1, 51 and 22B, Ho Chi Minh road, etc. To complete Cai Mep - Thi Vai and Dong Nai inter-port roads.

- To complete the relocation of ports on Sai Gon river and build ports in the Vung Tau - Dong Nai - Ho Chi Minh City port cluster, especially in the Cai Mep - Thi Vai area. To develop infrastructure, logistic services and link seaports in the Cai Mep - Thi Vai area under approved detailed seaport plans.

- To give priority to upgrading and modernizing the north-south railways in the region to grade-1 standards. To build urban railways, key railways and inter-regional railways in the Ho Chi Minh City region.

- To upgrade existing airports and complete phase I of Long Thanh international airport.

- To complete the construction of the transshipment warehouse in Dong Nai.

- To develop multimodal transportation and improve the quality of transportation services, firstly air and maritime transportation, with high quality and reasonable freights, to meet increasingly diversified demands of the society; to control and reduce traffic accidents and minimize environmental impacts during transportation.

+ Electricity supply, post and telecommunications:

- To complete Phu Lam - Nha Be - Phu My - Song My - Tan Dinh - Bong bridge - Phu Lam 500-kV loop circuit. To build a 500-kV electric line linking with Nuclear Power Plant No. 1, Vinh Tan Electricity Center and power plants in the Mekong River delta region. To further build and upgrade transformer stations and electricity transmission and distribution lines for production and people's daily life.

- To build modern and reliable telecommunications infrastructure, especially in Ho Chi Minh City and central urban areas as well as provincial centers. To increase capacity to meet subscriber demands and expand the coverage to all communes in the region. To expand post

and telecommunications networks and service points in rural and island areas; to step by step develop cable television networks in rural areas.

+ Water supply and drainage and irrigation:

To give priority to daily-life water and urban water supply and supply water for water-lacking areas. To strive for the target that 100% of urban population will have access to tap water by 2020; to minimize losses caused by flood, storm, drought and salt penetration for midland and coastal areas; to drain water for urban centers; to end inundation in urban areas of Ho Chi Minh City; to prevent water source pollution, especially in the lower sections of Dong Nai and Sai Gon rivers.

5. Science and technology:

- To develop scientific and technological potential in the region, increase investment in leading research institutes, science and technology centers, key laboratories, and technology application and transfer institutions. To promote investment in Ho Chi Minh City Hi-Tech Park and build some more hi-tech parks in localities that satisfy given conditions.

- To adopt mechanisms and policies to rapidly develop scientific and technological human resources and attract talented overseas Vietnamese experts to conduct scientific and technological activities in the region.

- To step up socialization of scientific and technological activities and develop the science and technology market and support enterprises in technology renovation. To encourage and promote creativity, improve the quality and

increase the quantity of inventions, patents and technical innovations to meet socio-economic development requirements.

6. Social issues:

- Human resource training, employment and social protection assurance:

+ To step up training to provide laborers with stable quantity and quality for the Southeastern and other regions. To encourage and diversify forms of linkage and cooperation between employers and training institutions. To focus on training sufficient quality human resources for high grey-content sectors and bringing about high added value to meet the international integration requirements for the region and the whole country.

+ To attach importance to creation of sustainable jobs, restructure labor, improve employment quality and increase laborers' income. To develop the labor market and properly regulate labor supply-demand; to properly forecast and summarize labor demands by sector, skill and locality to appropriately guide job training development. To increase the rate of use of work time in rural areas and reduce the rate of unemployment in urban areas.

+ To completely, comprehensively and effectively implement poverty reduction programs and projects; to enable poor households to have land, credit and job training incentives; to support and enable poor households to develop production and increase income to get rid of poverty in a sustainable manner.

+ To properly implement social policies, take care of people with meritorious services to the country, pay attention to job training and creation for children of policy beneficiaries; to promote charitable and humanitarian activities to support the poor and people in difficult circumstances.

- Education and training:

+ To create fundamental changes in quality, efficiency and scale, focus on training human resources to meet socio-economic development needs of the region and the whole country, especially human resources for the spearhead industries.

+ To build Ho Chi Minh City National University into a high-quality training center which have international prestige. To give priority to investment in key universities in the region to quickly approach to Southeast Asian training level in a number of disciplines in which these universities have strengths. To further socialize tertiary education, expand domestic and foreign cooperation and linkage in parallel with ensuring and increasingly improving training quality.

+ To develop the vocational training network under planning, giving priority to investing in and developing a number of vocational colleges and secondary schools up to regional and international standards to meet the demand for high-quality workforce for the region's socio-economic development.

- Healthcare:

To build and develop the region's health

center into a hi-tech health center of South Vietnam and the whole country, a center for medical research and training of qualified health workers up to regional standards.

To further develop Ho Chi Minh City specialized health center. To build and upgrade provincial central general hospitals to grade-I hospital standards. To build provincial-level specialized hospitals to meet specific requirements and conditions.

To expand and enhance the capacity of preventive medicine networks and step by step develop preventive medicine systems at the provincial and municipal levels. To reorganize, and consolidate commune health networks so that all wards and hamlets have health workers and all commune health stations have medical doctors and attain national standards.

To mobilize all social resources for health care in parallel with further inspecting and examining service establishments. To encourage and facilitate fast development of non-public hospitals, thus developing new service models to meet the increasingly diversified demands of people.

- Culture, physical training and sports:

+ To completely develop cultural facilities at provincial, district and commune levels. To strive for that all hamlets, villages and street quarters in the whole region will have cultural houses and sports complexes satisfying the standards set by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism; 80% of national and provincial-level relics will be renovated and embellished.

To pay attention to developing cultural and sports works near industrial parks.

To strive that by 2020, 30-35% of the region's population will do regular physical exercises; to form a contingent of high-achievement athletes in football, volleyball and tennis.

To build in each province a cultural-sports center up to prescribed standards; to further build, upgrade and expand cultural-sports centers and establishments in provinces, districts, communes, wards, schools and agencies in the region. To provide more physical foundations for sports establishments in cities and towns to be capable of hosting regional and international competitions.

7. Environmental protection:

To restore and protect natural forest ecosystems and existing greenery. To stabilize industrial-tree zones in the provinces. To zone off for protection and development green areas along Dong Nai and Sai Gon rivers. To ensure a distance of between 200 and 300 meters from industrial parks, factories and enterprises to the riversides in order to control wastewater and easily zone off and handle environmental incidents when they occur. To organize water quality observation networks in appropriate steps in the whole region.

To arrange industrial parks in a way that ensures environmental protection and increase examination of the satisfaction of environmental standards by production and business establishments, and impose strict

sanctions.

To build standard wastewater drainage systems in urban centers and industrial parks; to build standard wastewater treatment zones for garbage landfills and treatment complexes in the upstream areas of Dong Nai and Sai Gon rivers. To rapidly implement and effectively operate wastewater and garbage treatment projects using modern technologies.

8. Security and defense:

- To enhance the defense potential, build the all-people defense posture, and step up building provincial-level defense zones. To build strong armed forces, a regular and modern standing army and develop militia and self-defense forces suitable to each defense zone. To attach importance to building the coast guard and increase the defensive capacity to safeguard the national sovereignty and interests at sea and in the islands in combination with socio-economic development at sea and in island and coastal areas.

- To build well-trained forces that are professionally skilled and politically firm in parallel with increasing physical foundations and equipment. To consolidate the people's security posture and enhance commune-level forces in order not to let unexpected circumstances occur. To combine forces for effectively implementing national programs on crime prevention and combat and elimination of social evils. To regularly educate people in properly implementing the Party's and State's guidelines and policies.

V. URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

1. Development and distribution of the urban system:

- To link and develop urban areas in the region to be civilized and modern and have their own characteristics on the basis of sustainable development; attractive to investors and convenient for production and people's life. To form a multi-center structure as a driving force for developing the peripheral areas and reducing pressure for Ho Chi Minh City's downtown area.

- To develop Vung Tau, Bien Hoa and Thu Dau Mot into grade-I urban centers and development poles in the region's urban system.

- To develop the satellite urban centers of Ho Chi Minh City like Nhon Trach, Long Thanh, Tam Phuoc, Hiep Phuoc, Cu Chi, Trang Bom, An Lac, Nha Be, Can Gio, and Di An - Thuan An. To develop urbanized corridors from Ho Chi Minh City and linked with national highways 1A, 51, 22 and 13.

2. Development of rural residential areas:

- To develop rural areas and distribute population spots in strict association with the master plan on development of urban areas to ensure synchrony in developing the peripheral areas of urban areas and urban corridors; to take measures to plan and completely build consolidated rural population areas into urban areas.

- To form rural service centers; to build rural

population lines and complexes with adequate **standard** infrastructure according to the national set of new countryside criteria; to renovate and build craft villages toward sustainable development; to plan and build coastal fishing and aquaculture villages.

3. Development of sub-zones: To bring into play the potential and advantages of the provinces and cities in the region through defining their functions in the process of inter-regional and provincial work assignment and cooperation.

- To build Ho Chi Minh City into a motive-force center of the region; a center of inter-regional and international cooperation; an economic, trade, service, education-training and science-technology center of the region and the whole country. To restructure the municipal economy in the direction of service-industry-agriculture, giving priority to developing high-quality services creating great added value and modern hi-tech industries.

- Three provinces of Dong Nai, Binh Duong and Ba Ria - Vung Tau constitute a dynamic development area of the region. To attach importance to raising industrial competitiveness and synchronously developing services to serve key and spearhead industries; to quickly increase technological content and technical labor in the economic sectors while supporting development of Tay Ninh and Binh Phuoc provinces.

- To develop Tay Ninh and Binh Phuoc provinces one step ahead the process of shifting industries from other localities and concurrently

exploit the advantages of their border-gate economic zones and expand economic and trade activities with Cambodia.

- To build the coastal zone into an "open economic zone" with such key industries as oil and gas exploitation; ship building and repair; sea and island tourism; fishing, aquaculture and aquatic product processing. To closely combine marine economic development with sea protection and security and defense tasks.

- To develop Vung Tau city into a seaward center and gateway to the region and Cambodia and Thailand; to form a large oil, gas and chemical industrial park; and a famous international tourist zone of South Vietnam.

- To build Con Dao into a high-quality economic-tourist-service zone in association with conserving and embellishing Vietnam's special revolutionary relic zone, and develop and promote the value of Con Dao national park.

VI. LIST OF PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS PRIORITIZED FOR INVESTMENT STUDY

(See the attached Appendix)

VI. MAJOR SOLUTIONS FOR THE MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

1. Major breakthrough tasks:

- To rapidly restructure the economy toward modernity, increase contributions and role of the service sector, increase the value of key products and quickly develop upfront products

to meet market demands and become more competitive in various fields.

- To further upgrade and improve economic and social infrastructure systems to be balanced and synchronous and develop a step ahead. To complete expressways, expand and upgrade national highways linking different regions and neighboring countries; to upgrade and build a number of seaports and airports. To complete and upgrade industrial parks, export-processing zones and hi-tech parks through forming urban-industrial parks, park-industrial parks and specialized industrial parks.

- To develop human resources, especially high-quality ones, to meet international integration requirements. To step up research and application of scientific and technological advances, especially high and new technologies in various socio-economic sectors.

- To enhance economic cooperation and build a unified economic space with a view to promoting comparative edges in the whole Southeastern region, creating effective coordination and support and promoting the advantages of all localities.

2. Solutions for the master plan implementation:

a/ Effectively raising investment capital sources

- To further improve the investment environment for attracting more domestic and foreign resources. To reduce state budget investment in combination with raising the effectiveness of public investment, diversifying

and increasing other capital sources and attaching importance to effectively tapping land resources. To attract to the utmost the ODA source for investment in large-sized key technical infrastructure works.

- To adjust the investment structure through attracting modern technologies and techniques, contributing to raising economic effectiveness and competitiveness. To adopt policies to concentrate investment capital in high-quality services, hi-tech industries and high-value exports.

- To synchronously develop the capital and securities markets to serve different economic sectors. To accelerate the reorganization and equitization of state businesses. To effectively manage the real estate market for increasing state budget revenues.

b/ To step up coordination and linkage among the localities inside and outside the Southeastern region in implementing development policies, raising and allocating resources and capital for development investment, and building infrastructure; to train and attract laborers and create jobs; to protect the environment and respond to climate change, maintain security and defense as well as protect forests and water sources in the region. To adopt specific mechanisms to gradually narrow the gap in each period and each sector between the two provinces of Tay Ninh and Binh Phuoc and the three provinces of Dong Nai, Ba Ria - Vung Tau and Binh Duong and Ho Chi Minh City.

c/ To train human resources, especially high-quality ones, with a rational occupation and degree structure, to meet the development needs of the region, South Vietnam and the whole country. To expand training scale in different forms, paying attention to training a contingent of skilled workers. To coordinate with other regions in the country and cooperate with other countries in human resource training. To attach importance to developing human resources in the spearhead sectors like electronics, information technology, telecommunications, finance, logistics and tourism. To build a contingent of talented experts in information technology biotechnology, nanotechnology and new-material technology.

d/ Administrative reform solutions

To improve existing mechanisms and further raise the effectiveness of administrative reform for greater publicity and transparency; to raise the quality of cadres and civil servants so as to create a more favorable environment for investment.

To formulate and fully and promptly issue mechanisms and policies to bring into play democracy and creativity; to ensure that administrations at all levels properly operate, meeting development requirements.

To raise the effectiveness of management and administration by administrations of all levels; to clearly define the competence and responsibilities of agencies while intensifying the prevention of and fight against red tape, corruption and waste in state agencies.

e/ Solutions on cooperation promotion and market development

- To promote cooperation among the localities in the region and with localities in the Mekong River delta, Central Vietnam and Central Highlands in investment promotion, technology transfer, labor supply, building of raw-material zones and expansion of product outlets; to commonly use industrial, solid waste treatment and water supply infrastructure facilities in the region; to coordinate in tourism promotion and advertising; to exploit, use and protect in a sustainable manner water resources, and protect the environment.

- To enhance cross-border trade development cooperation with Cambodia, develop border-gate economic zones, build transport and electricity supply networks between localities of Vietnam and Cambodia. To increase cooperation with other countries in the greater Mekong sub-region (GMS).

Article 2. Organization and supervision of the master plan implementation

1. This master plan serves as a basis for the formulation, submission and implementation of sectoral master plans of the region and socio-economic development master plans of the localities in the region.

2. The Ministry of Planning and Investment shall assume the prime responsibility for, and coordinate with ministries and sectors and localities in the region in:

- Publicizing this master plan and organizing

trade promotion and advertising activities with a view to attracting domestic and foreign investors and all economic sectors to participate in the master plan implementation.

- Monitoring, urging, supervising and examining the implementation of this master plan and the master plans of ministries, sectors and localities in the region; supervising the implementation of key investment programs and projects of regional scale and nature.

- Studying and proposing mechanisms and policies for coordination among localities in the region and with other regions. The Ministry of Planning and Investment shall assume the prime responsibility for, and coordinate with related ministries and sectors in attracting investment in the region's key projects.

3. Related ministries and sectors shall:

- Formulate, adjust and submit for approval master plans on sectors and key products in the region in line with the development objectives, tasks and orientations approved under Article 1 of this Decision.

- Study, formulate and submit to competent state agencies for promulgation a number of specific mechanisms and policies within their management scope for attaining the objectives and tasks set forth in this master plan.

- Coordinate with the Ministry of Planning and Investment in organizing and supervising the implementation of this master plan, supervising the implementation of key investment programs and projects of regional scale and nature in the priority order under their

management with a view to stepping up socio-economic development in the region.

Following are specific tasks of a number of ministries and sectors:

a/ The Ministry of Transport shall:

- Direct the construction and completion of important transport infrastructure projects in the region, ensuring their schedule and quality.

- Coordinate with the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Planning and Investment in studying and proposing capital-raising mechanisms to ensure implementation schedules of large-scale transport development projects in the region.

- Study, propose and implement solutions to redressing traffic congestion in Ho Chi Minh City.

b/ The Ministry of Industry and Trade shall:

- Direct the building and completion of industrial and trade infrastructure in the region under approved planning according to schedule.

- Further study, propose and supplement mechanisms and policies to promote development of key industrial products, support industries and hi-tech industries.

- Enhance trade promotion, especially for exports of different economic sectors in the region.

c/ The Ministry of Construction shall:

- Formulate and adjust master plans for, and examine and supervise the building of hazardous waste treatment zones, cemeteries and regional-level water supply systems;

coordinate with localities in building water drainage and wastewater treatment systems, step by step ending the inundation in urban centers.

- Evaluate and propose solutions for effectively managing the process of urban development in the region.

d/ The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development shall:

- Complete the formulation and organize the implementation of the irrigation master plan and master plans on development of different sectors and key agricultural, forestry and fishery products in the region.

- Formulate master plans proposing mechanisms and policies to support localities in the region in building hi-tech agricultural zones.

- Coordinate with other ministries, sectors and localities in further implementing solutions to step by step basically end the inundation in Ho Chi Minh City.

e/ The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment shall:

- Implement solutions for raising the effectiveness of environmental protection activities, especially with regard to the environment of urban centers and industrial parks in the region. Support the improvement of the quality of appraisal of environmental impact assessment reports by environment state management agencies in the localities.

- Study and propose mechanisms and policies to encourage businesses to produce

environmentally friendly products.

- Direct and coordinate with the localities in protecting and rationally using natural resources in the region.

e/ The Ministry of Education and Training shall:

- Study and propose mechanisms and policies to promote association between training institutions and businesses employing trained human resources in the region.

- Build Ho Chi Minh City national university into an internationally prestigious high-quality training center; to create conditions for a number of key universities in the region to modernize their physical foundations and develop their lecturing staffs and training programs to be on par with those of advanced regional countries.

4. The People's Committees of the provinces and cities in the region shall:

- Review, adjust, supplement and submit to competent authorities for approval their local master plans on socio-economic development through 2020 in line with the objectives and tasks approved under this Decision.

- Coordinate with ministries and sectors in organizing investment promotion and advertising activities to attract domestic and foreign investors as well as different economic sectors to participate in the master plan implementation.

- Supervise and examine the implementation of development investment projects in their localities according to their assigned functions

and report supervision and examination results to the Prime Minister.

Article 3. This Decision takes effect on the date of its signing.

Article 4. The chairpersons of the People's Committees of provinces and cities in the region, ministers, heads of ministerial-level agencies and heads of government-attached agencies shall implement this Decision.

Prime Minister
NGUYEN TAN DUNG

Appendix

List of programs and projects prioritized for investment in the southeastern region through 2020

(To the Prime Minister's Decision No. 943/QĐ-TTg of July 20, 2012)

1. Transport:

- Roads: Belt roads 3 and 4, Ho Chi Minh City; expressways of Ho Chi Minh City - Long Thanh - Dau Giay, Bien Hoa - Vung Tau, Ben Luc - Nhon Trach - Long Thanh, and Dau Giay - Phan Thiet; national highways 1A, 1K, 13, 14, 14C, 20, 22, 22B, 50, 51, 55 and 56.

- Railways: Urban railways, key railways and inter-regional railways in the Ho Chi Minh City region.

- Inland waterways: To renovate and upgrade Sai Gon - Kien Luong, Sai Gon - Ca Mau, Sai Gon - Moc Hoa, Sai Gon - Ben Keo, Sai Gon - Dau Tieng, Sai Gon - Hieu Liem and Sai Gon - Ha Tien waterways; and a waterway linking Thi Vai river to the Mekong River delta.

- Seaports: Vung Tau port zone, Ho Chi Minh City port zone and Dong Nai port zone; passenger wharves in Ho Chi Minh City and Vung Tau.

- Airports: To upgrade Tan Son Nhat international airport and build Long Thanh international airport.

2. Trade, warehouse and storing yard infrastructure:

Eastern general transshipment warehouse.

3. Electricity supply:

- To complete the Phu Lam - Nha Be - Phu My - Song May - Tan Dinh - Cau Bong - Phu Lam 500-kV loop circuit.

- To build 500-kV transformer stations and 500-kV electric lines for connection to the power plants in the Mekong River delta, Vinh Tan electricity center and the nuclear power plant.

4. Irrigation:

- Projects under the master plan on anti-inundation irrigation in Ho Chi Minh City.

- Phuoc Hoa irrigation project (phase 2).

- Ray river irrigation system.

5. Waste treatment:

- A hazardous industrial solid waste

treatment complex in Ho Chi Minh City.

- A garbage treatment complex for Ho Chi Minh City and Long An province.

6. Tourism:

Con Dao revolutionary relic tourist zone.

7. Education:

- To build Ho Chi Minh City national university, Ho Chi Minh City teachers training university, Ho Chi Minh City economics university and Ho Chi Minh City medicine and pharmacy university according to the criteria of key universities.

- To build Viet Duc university into a high-quality university.

8. Health care:

- Ho Chi Minh City specialized health center.

- General hospitals in the provinces.

Notes: The locations, sizes, land areas and total investment amounts for the above works and projects will be calculated, selected and specified in the stage of formulation and approval of investment projects, depending on the demand for and capacity of balancing and raising investment capital in each period.-