

Pursuant to the June 14, 2005 Law on Conclusion, Accession to and Implementation of Treaties;

At the proposal of the head of the National Committee for Search and Rescue,

DECIDES:

Article 1. To approve the Plan on Implementation of the Joint Statement and Framework Program between Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand on partnership on oil spill incident preparedness and response in the Gulf of Thailand in the 2009-2015 period (below referred to as the Plan) with the following principal contents:

I. OBJECTIVES, REQUIREMENTS

1. Objectives: To fulfill Vietnam's obligations on partnership with Cambodia and Thailand on timely and effective preparedness and response to oil spill incidents in the Gulf of Thailand in accordance with the Joint Statement and Framework Program between Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand on partnership on oil spill incident preparedness and response in the Gulf of Thailand (below referred to as the Joint Statement and Framework Program).

2. Requirements: To develop and strengthen integrated marine resource and environment management systems, human resource training, research and development, environmental surveillance, and risk identification and assessment in order to prevent, be prepared and respond in time to oil spill incidents in Vietnam's sea areas, as well as coordinate with Cambodia, Thailand and concerned organizations and individuals in responding to and handling oil spill

THE PRIME MINISTER

Decision No. 1278/QĐ-TTg of August 14, 2009, approving the Plan on Implementation of the Joint Statement and Framework Program between Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand on partnership on oil spill incident preparedness and response in the Gulf of Thailand

THE PRIME MINISTER

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

incidents in the Gulf of Thailand in order to minimize the damage caused by spilt oil.

II. TASKS

1. To perfect the legal framework on risk monitoring and assessment and marine oil spill incident response and handling.
2. To build, consolidate, and raise the capacity of, the oil spill incident surveillance, discovery, response and handling system.
3. To conduct training and retraining, exercises and drills, and propaganda to raise community awareness about environmental protection and marine oil spill incident response and handling.
4. To research and develop oil spill incident response and handling services.
5. To enter into international cooperation on oil spill incident prevention, response and handling.

III. CONTENTS OF THE PLAN

Schemes and projects, responsible and coordinating agencies; and implementation period of the Plan for the 2009-2015 period on five groups of tasks are provided in the Annex "List of schemes and plans to implement the Joint Statement and Framework Program" to this Decision.

Article 2. Responsibilities of concerned agencies and organization of implementation

1. The National Committee for Search and Rescue shall direct and implement activities of responding to oil spill incidents in Vietnam, having the duties:

a/ To perform the tasks defined in the Plan

related to its functions, tasks and powers in the implementation of the Joint Statement and Framework Program.

b/ To mobilize forces and means of ministries, branches and localities in collaborating with international forces involved in responding to oil spill incidents in Vietnam's southern sea and the Gulf of Thailand according to regulations.

c/ To direct regional oil spill response centers in Vietnam and collaborate with national oil spill response centers of Cambodia and Thailand to coordinate forces and means involved in responding to oil spill incidents in the Gulf of Thailand in accordance with the agreements and provisions of the Joint Statement and Framework Program.

2. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment shall act as the national contact point for the implementation of the Joint Statement and Framework Program, having the duties:

a/ To assume the prime responsibility for, and coordinate with concerned ministries and branches in, promulgating, or submitting to competent authorities for promulgation, documents on risk monitoring and assessment and marine oil spill incident response and handling in accordance with the Joint Statement and Framework Program.

b/ To assume the prime responsibility for, and coordinate with concerned ministries, branches and localities in, organizing oil spill incident response and handling to meet the requirements of the Joint Statement and Framework Program; to coordinate with the National Committee for Search and Rescue in reaching agreement on a mechanism for coordination between the Ministry and the National Committee for Search and Rescue in implementing the Joint Statement

and Framework Program.

c/ To coordinate with the national contact points of Cambodia and Thailand in implementing the Joint Statement and Framework Program.

d/ To sum up and report to the Prime Minister on the implementation of the Joint Statement and Framework Program before January 25, every year, and propose necessary solutions to organizing the effective implementation of the Joint Statement and Framework Program; to conduct a preliminary review of the implementation of the Plan in the 2009-2010 period and a final review of the 2009-2015 period and report to the Prime Minister.

e/ The Vietnam General Department of Sea and Islands, an agency attached to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, shall give advice to and assist the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in implementing the Joint Statement and Framework Program.

3. Concerned ministries and branches and the People's Committees of Ca Mau, Kien Giang and Ba Ria-Vung Tau provinces shall, within the scope of their management, perform the tasks in the Plan related to their respective functions, tasks and powers; and notify results of performance of their assigned tasks to the national contact point for sum-up and report to the Prime Minister according to regulations.

4. The Ministry of Planning and Investment and the Ministry of Finance shall balance and arrange funds from the state budget and other sources in annual plans in the 2009-2010 period and 2011-2015 period; and study the additional allocation of funds for the performance of tasks in the Plan for which no fund has been allocated yet according to regulations, in order to ensure

the effective implementation of the Plan.

5. In the course of implementing the Plan, the National Committee for Search and Rescue, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and concerned ministries and branches shall closely coordinate with one another in organizing the effective implementation of the Plan and promptly report any arising problems to the Prime Minister for decision.

Article 3. Implementation funds

Based on the tasks assigned under this Decision, the National Committee for Search and Rescue, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, other ministries and branches shall elaborate and approve tasks, programs, schemes and projects for formulating tentative budgets for the implementation of the Plan in accordance with regulations on management of investment and construction and the Law on the State Budget.

Article 4. Implementation provisions

1. This Decision takes effect on the date of its signing for promulgation.

2. The head of the National Committee for Search and Rescue, and the Ministers of: Natural Resources and Environment, Transport, National Defense, Foreign Affairs, Justice, Science and Technology, Information and Communications, and concerned ministries and branches, the People's Committees of Ba Ria- Vung Tau, Ca Mau and Kien Giang and the Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation shall implement this Decision.

For the Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister
HOANG TRUNG HAI

Annex

LIST OF SCHEMES AND PROJECTS TO IMPLEMENT THE JOINT STATEMENT AND FRAMEWORK PROGRAM

(To the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1278/QĐ-TTg of August 14, 2009)

No.	Name of scheme, project	Responsible agencies	Coordinating agencies	Implementation duration	Notes
I	Perfecting the legal framework on risk monitoring and assessment and marine oil spill incident response and handling				
1	Scrutinizing, supplementing and amending existing legal documents and promulgating new ones on risk monitoring and assessment and marine oil spill incident response and handling.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Justice, concerned ministries, branches and localities	2009-2011	- To be implemented within the overall duty of protecting marine resources and environment. - Vietnam General Department of Sea and Islands gives advice and assists the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in organizing the implementation.
2	Studying and developing a process of marine oil spill incident response planning at all levels (national, regional and local, and in establishments in which oil spill incidents are likely to occur)	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	National Committee for Search and Rescue, Ministry of Transport, concerned ministries and branches	2009-2010	Vietnam General Department of Sea and Islands gives advice and assists the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in organizing the implementation.

3	Studying and developing a process of using dispersants on Vietnam's sea.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Ministry of Science and Technology	2009-2011	- Serving as a basis for use in Vietnam's seas in the Gulf of Thailand - Vietnam General Department of Sea and Islands gives advice and assists the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in organizing the implementation.
4	Studying and developing a process of dealing with marine environmental incidents caused by spilt oil.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	National Committee for Search and Rescue, concerned ministries and branches and Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation	2009-2011	Vietnam General Department of Sea and Islands gives advice and assists the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in organizing the implementation.
5	Studying and developing a process of compiling dossiers claiming compensations for oil spill incident response and handling and damage caused by spilt oil.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Supreme People's Court, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2009-2011	Vietnam General Department of Sea and Islands gives advice and assists the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in organizing the implementation.
II	Building, strengthening, and enhancing the capacity of, the oil spill incident surveillance, response and handling system				

6	Consolidating the direction and management systems and ensuring information and communication for coordinating marine oil spill incident response.	National Committee for Search and Rescue	Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Transport, and People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities	2009-2010	
7	Studying and issuing a manual on dealing with marine oil incidents.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation and concerned agencies	2009-2010	Vietnam General Department of Sea and Islands gives advice and assists the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in organizing the implementation.
8	Building and consolidating the system of oil spill incident surveillance, discovery, handling and compensation claim.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	National Committee for Search and Rescue, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities, and Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation	2009-2011	To prioritize the study and completion of the marine oil spill risk monitoring and assessment system for Vietnam's southern and southwestern sea areas.
9	Studying and establishing a database center to serve the direction and management of oil spill incident response and handling.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	National Committee for Search and Rescue, Ministry of Transport and People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities	2009-2010	To generally serve marine oil spill incident response and handling (in Vietnam and international coordination)

10	Completely building 3 oil spill response centers in Ba Ria- Vung Tau, Ho Chi Minh City and Ca Mau, under the southern oil spill response center.	Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation	National Committee for Search and Rescue Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, People's Committees of Ho Chi Minh City, Ba Ria-Vung Tau and Ca Mau provinces	2009-2012	
11	Making oil spill incident response plans for Vietnam's southern and southwestern seas.	National Committee for Search and Rescue	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation, People's Committees of Ca Mau and Kien Giang provinces	2009-2011	To be made within the master plan on oil spill incident response in the South
12	Building a system to support the making of decisions on oil spill incident response in the Gulf of Thailand.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	National Committee for Search and Rescue, Ministry of Transport, Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation, People's Committees of Ca Mau and Kien Giang	2009-2010	Vietnam General Department of Sea and Islands gives advice and assists the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in organizing the implementation.

13	Developing an oil slick simulation program in Vietnam's southern and southwestern seas.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Vietnam Science and Technology Institute, Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation	2009-2010	Within the oil slick simulation program based on Vietnam's sea areas
14	Completely building a system of oil spill sensitivity maps for the southern and southwestern seas to serve the oil spill incident response and handling in the Gulf of Thailand.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	National Committee for Search and Rescue, People's Committees of Ca Mau and Kien Giang provinces	2009-2011	To be built within the system of oil spill sensitivity maps of Vietnam as a basis for making oil spill incident plans
III	Training, drills and exercises and propaganda to raise community awareness				
15	Training and exercises on coordinated response to marine oil spill incidents in accordance with the Framework Program.	National Committee for Search and Rescue	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation, People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities	Regularly, annually	In line with Prime Minister's Decision No. 80/2008/QĐ-TTg of June 13, 2008, approving the scheme on sea-related international cooperation through 2020
16	Training in handling of marine oil spill incidents in accordance with the Framework Program.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	National Committee for Search and Rescue, Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation, People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities	Regularly, annually	Vietnam General Department of Sea and Islands gives advice and assists the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in organizing the implementation.

17	Propaganda to raise community awareness about environmental protection and marine oil spill incident response and handling.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Ministry of Information and Communications, National Committee for Search and Rescue, People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities	Regularly, annually	Vietnam General Department of Sea and Islands gives advice and assists the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in organizing the implementation.
IV	Research and development of oil spill response and handling services				
18	Studying and proposing solutions to developing marine oil spill incident response and handling services.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Transport, People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities	2009-2011	Vietnam General Department of Sea and Islands gives advice and assists the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in organizing the implementation.
V	International cooperation on oil spill incident prevention, response and handling				
19	International cooperation with Cambodia, Thailand and concerned international organizations and individuals in the marine oil spill incident preparedness, response and handling.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Transport, National Committee for Search and Rescue	Regularly, annually	Under the Prime Minister's Decision No. 80/2008/QĐ-TTg of June 13, 2008, approving the Scheme on marine international cooperation up to 2020.
20	Studying and proposing Vietnam's accession to treaties on marine oil spill incident response and handling.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Justice, National Committee for Search and Rescue	2009-2010	Vietnam General Department of Sea and Islands gives advice and assists the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in organizing the implementation.