

On Oct. 23, 1995, HCMC University of Economics (HUE) commemorated the 50th anniversary of the UNO. In the commemoration, there was the presence of Nguyễn Xuân Thuần, representative of UNDP, representatives of UNICEF, UNHCR; of AIT, Franco-Vietnamese, the Netherlands-Vietnam, Vietnam-Fulbright co-operation programs; VIA, VVOB, APEFE lecturers teaching in HUE; Lê Quang Chánh, Chairman of the Association of Organizations for Peace and Friendship in HCMC; representatives of Ministry of Education and Training; HCMC People's Committee; HCMC Service of Foreign Affairs; other universities; the leadership, lecturers and students of HUE. In this occasion, Prof. Dr. Nguyễn Thành Xương, Vice-dean of HUE gave a speech which is as follows.

Fifty years before, the UNO was formed on the base of agreement of independent nations after the World War II. The formation of the UNO was an important result of military, political and diplomatic co-operation of the anti-fascist Allies. During the World War II, these nations have conferred on international security, and the need for an international organization guarding the world peace and security. On April 25, 1945, representatives from 50 nations came to the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco where the charter of the United Nations including 111 articles was drawn up. The charter came into effect on Oct. 25, 1945, when the requisite ratification by the 5 permanent members of the Security Council (China, France, Soviet Union, United Kingdom and United States) and a majority of other signatories had been completed. From

# THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION IN HCMC UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS

by Prof. Dr. NGUYỄN THÀNH XƯƠNG

then on, Oct. 24, 1945 was considered as the United Nations founding day.

The main targets of the UNO, as stated in its charter, were to maintain and intensify international peace and security; to build and promote international friendship based on the respect for equality and self-determination of all nations; to promote the cooperation between nations on economic, social, cultural, humanitarian and many other fields. The UNO became the center coordinating efforts of many nations to facilitate the development and stability of international community.

Since its establishment, the UNO has kept on developing. After its 50 years of operation, its membership has increased from 51 to 185 nations of various political regimes and levels of development from all over the world. This fact proved the increasingly important role and influence of the UNO on the life of international community. In its 50 years of operation, the UNO's success in decolonization, disarmament, peace-keeping missions has changed the face of the world in the second half of the XX century. Being a forum for all nations, the UNO represents the strongest desire of all peoples for a world free from war, poverty, oppression and agony. The UNO is the world's biggest and unique multilateral organization taking part in every political, economic and social activity in the world. At present, before great and profound changes in the world's political and economic situation, the UNO is facing a lot of challenges, and having new opportunities to perform its role in solving international conflicts, providing humanitarian aid (especially to developing countries), promoting international cooperation in developing economy, protecting the environment and solving other urgent problems of the world for





the common development and progress for the human race.

Vietnam became a UNO member on Sep. 20, 1977 after its territory had been unified. From that day, Vietnam has taken its part in the struggle for the world peace and security, for independence, democracy, cooperation and social progress of all peoples. In return for this, many active plans of the UNO have been carried out in Vietnam. Up to now, there were nine UN organizations having their offices in Hà Nội (FAO, UNDCP, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIDO, WFP, WHO, UNHCR). In addition, the IMF and WB, two financial organizations of the UNO, are doing business in Vietnam. Through its agencies, the UNO has given around US\$700 million worth un-refunded aid in order to help Vietnam carry out scientific, medical, educational, economic, environmental...programs. In 1995, the UNO has planned to give Vietnam over US\$200 million worth of aid. The UNO agencies and Vietnam Government have agreed that the UN aid would be used to obtain sustainable development in Vietnam. The UN aid will concentrate on three fields: administrative and economic reformation, protecting natural resources and the environment, and changing the social structure.

We believe that, Vietnam will take an active part as a UN member in the struggle for common interests of the human race and will use UN aid effectively to develop its economy and raise the quality of life of its people.

The HCMC University of Economics is one of the largest economic schools in Vietnam and responsible for supplying an army of managers which is much needed for the economic renovation and development. After 20 years of development, the HUE has supplied thousands of

managers and administrators to the economy, has given training courses on economic management to thousands of government officials, that is, it has contributed remarkably to the process of economic renovation and development, especially in the transition from the centrally planned economy to the market mechanism. In its operation, the HUE has cooperated with and received financial support from many international organizations and the UN agencies as well. In October, 1991, in the framework of VIE/88/543 project fi-

ning officials from Southern provinces, make studies and suggest solutions to the problem of population which is one of burdens on Vietnam society and economy. Under the contract to the ESCAP of the UNO, the HUE is carrying out research into problems of migration, urbanization and women's role in Vietnam society.

In the UNO's spirit of mutual help and cooperation for development, many governments have assisted the HUE in training managers. The French government, through Paris Commerce and Industrial

eral project to train masters of business management (since 1993 - 1994 school year). More recently, in September 1995, the Fulbright-Vietnam program for giving 10 - month, 4 - month and 10-week training courses in economic management has been started. This program is financed by the Fulbright Scholarship Fund.

The HUE, as a member of the Association of French-speaking countries, is provided by this association with scholarship for teachers of French, with equipment and documents for establishing a faculty of French admitting 50 students every year.

Every year, the HUE accepts many foreign teachers from Asian, American or Belgian NGOs coming here to give lectures or organize workshops.

The above-mentioned programs in cooperation with foreign organizations are very important to the HUE, especially in the period when it is trying its best to innovate its curricula and teaching methods and make them appropriate to the process of economic renovation. These programs have helped the HUE improve the basic knowledge level of its lecturers, introduce new knowledge to its curricula, improve its teaching and studying facilities and perform better its service for the national development in this era.

On the occasion of the United Nations Day this year, speaking for the HUE leadership, I want to express our gratitude to the UN agencies, governments of various countries, scientists, lecturers, professors, managers from various international organizations who have given aid, cooperated, and worked with us in all programs of our university.

In this commemoration, please permit me to express our best wishes for the UNO's success in its noble mission■



nanced by the UNDP, the HUE cooperated with the Office of Council of Ministers to give training courses in market economy and the role of the Government to over 100 officials and experts from various central and local governmental bodies specialized in economic management. The HUE has often cooperated with the IMF and WB to give short-term training courses, organized workshops and seminars in economic knowledge to officials from various localities. With financial support of the UNFPA and cooperation of the National Committee of Population and Family Planning, the HUE has founded the Center of Population and Labor in order to train family plan-

Chamber, has financed the training program for producing masters of economic management. Up to now, three classes have graduated. The 4 - year program training masters of development economics financed by the Dutch Government through ISS Institute has been carried out since 1994.

The HUE is one of four Vietnamese universities taking part in the 5 - year project for training master of development economics financed by the Swiss Government through Switzerland-AIT-Vietnam program. The Canadian Agency for International Development (ACDI), through the University of Québec is cooperating with the HUE in a 5 - year bilat-