

**LAW  
ON YOUTHS**

*Pursuant to the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam;  
The National Assembly hereby promulgates the Law on Youths.*

**Chapter I**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 1. Youths**

The word “youths” refers to Vietnamese citizens aged 16 to 30.

**Article 2. Scope of governing**

This Law prescribes the rights, obligations, and responsibilities of youths; policies of the State regarding youths; responsibilities of agencies, youth organizations, other organizations, educational institutions, families, and individuals for youths; and state management of youths.

**Article 3. Subjects of application**

This Law applies to youths, agencies, organizations, educational institutions, families, and individuals.

**Article 4. Roles, rights, and obligations of youths**

1. Youths form a massive voluntary and innovative social force leading the renovation, construction, and defense of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. They play an important role in national industrialization and modernization, international integration, and development of socialism.

2. Youths have civil rights and obligations as prescribed in the Constitution and legislation.

**Article 5. Principles in the exercise of youths’ rights and obligations, and policies of the State regarding youths**

1. Youths’ rights and obligations shall be recognized, respected, protected, and enforced as prescribed in the Constitution and legislation.

2. Youths’ rights and obligations shall be exercised regardless of ethnicity, sex, social class, creed, religion, educational attainment, and occupation.

3. The State, organizations, educational institutions, families, and individuals are responsible for enabling youths to exercise their rights and obligations as prescribed in the Constitution and legislation.

4. Policies of the State regarding youths must ensure their development; enable them to exercise their rights, obligations, and responsibilities, and to fulfill their potential; and be developed or mainstreamed into sectoral and subnational policies.

5. The development and implementation of youth policies must engage youths and ensure that their voices are heard and respected.

6. Vietnamese youths overseas shall be supported and enabled to join fatherland-oriented activities and to preserve and promote the national cultural identity.

7. Agencies, organizations, and individuals who fail to fulfill their responsibilities as prescribed by this Law or fail to do so properly shall be dealt with in a timely and strict manner.

#### **Article 6. Resources for the implementation of youth policies issued by the State**

1. The State shall ensure resources are provided for the development and implementation of youth policies in accordance with the provisions of law.

2. The financial resources used to ensure the implementation of youth policies include the state budget; and financial support, donations, aids, and other lawful contributions from local and international organizations, businesses, and individuals.

#### **Article 7. National Committee on Youths of Viet Nam**

1. The National Committee on Youths of Viet Nam is an intersectoral body whose function is to provide advice to the Prime Minister on youth-related work.

2. The tasks and powers of the National Committee on Youths of Viet Nam shall be prescribed by the Prime Minister.

#### **Article 8. International cooperation in youth-related work**

1. International cooperation in youth-related work must adhere to the principles of equality and mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and stay aligned with local laws, international treaties to which the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam is a signatory, and international practices.

2. International cooperation in youth-related work includes:

- a) Joining international organizations; entering into and implementing international treaties and agreements on youths; joining international cooperation programs and projects on youths;
- b) Exchanging information and experiences regarding youth-related management, policies, and laws;
- c) Facilitating exchanges between the youths of Viet Nam and other countries.

### **Article 9. Youth Month**

1. March each year is chosen as the Youth Month. The Youth Month is celebrated to promote the voluntary and innovative spirit among youths through their being engaged in activities in benefit of the community and society, and to mobilize investment from organizations and individuals in youth development.

2. The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, in coordination with relevant agencies, organizations, and individuals, leads the organization of Youth Month activities.

3. The central and local governments at all administrative levels are responsible for providing supportive mechanisms, policies, and resources for the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Unions at their respective levels to organize Youth Month activities. Heads of agencies and organizations are responsible for enabling and supporting youths' participation in Youth Month activities.

### **Article 10. Youth dialogue**

1. The Prime Minister and Chairpeople of People's Committees at all administrative levels are responsible for having at least one dialogue with youths in a year on youth-related matters. Heads of agencies, organizations, and the people's armed forces are responsible for dialoguing with youths at the request of youth organizations as prescribed in this Law.

2. Those responsible for youth dialogue as prescribed in paragraph 1 of this Article shall lead the dialogue planning, agenda preparation, and public announcement, which is made available on online portals, on websites, or at their headquarters, at least 30 days in advance of the dialogue. They shall resolve recommendations provided by youths through the dialogue themselves or refer them to competent authorities for resolution.

3. Within 10 days after the dialogue, its conclusions must be posted on online portals, on websites, or at the headquarters of those responsible, and sent to relevant agencies, organizations, and entities. A time limit of 15 days shall apply should the nature of the dialogue be complex and multisectoral.

4. The Government shall provide detailed instructions about the implementation of this Article.

**Article 11. Application of international treaties on the rights of the child to youths from their 16th to their 18th birthday**

The State shall apply the international treaties on the rights of the child to which the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam is a signatory to youths from their 16th to their 18th birthday as locally relevant.

**Chapter II**

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF YOUTHS**

**Article 12. Responsibilities to the country**

1. Upholding the tradition of national construction and defense; volunteerism, innovation, and leadership in the renovation, construction, and defense of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

2. Being willing to defend the country, defend its independence, and maintain its sovereignty, national security, and territorial integrity; undertaking difficult, arduous, and urgent work at the request of the country.

3. Combating schemes and activities causing detrimental harms to national interests.

**Article 13. Responsibilities for the State and the society**

1. Setting examples in adhering to policies and laws and fulfilling civil obligations.

2. Participating in the maintenance of social order and safety as well as national defense and security.

3. Proactively proposing ideas and initiatives in the process of policy-making and legislation; participating in state and society management.

4. Actively participating in communicating about and advocating for people's adherence to the Constitution and legislation.

5. Developing production and business models that generate jobs; participating in environmental protection and other activities in the interest of the community and society.

6. Actively participating in childcare, education, and child protection activities.

**Article 14. Responsibilities for families**

1. Caring for their families' happiness; preserving and promoting the fine traditions of Vietnamese families.

2. Paying respect and filial piety to their grandparents and parents, and

respecting other family members; providing care and education to children in the families.

3. Actively combating domestic violence and eradicating outdated customs and practices regarding family and marriage.

### **Article 15. Responsibilities for themselves**

1. Nurturing their morality, personality, cultured lifestyle, and civilized conduct; having a sense of civil responsibility and law observance; combating negative phenomena, social vices, and other acts against the law and social ethics.

2. Actively learning and improving their levels of qualification, knowledge, and skills; learning, studying, and applying science and technology in practice.

3. Proactively exploring the labor market; selecting the right career and employment; raising their sense of responsibility, discipline, and professionalism at work; developing technical innovations and upgrades to improve productivity.

4. Training, and protecting, caring for, and improving their health, to promote physical and mental development; equipping themselves with knowledge, life skills, reproductive and sexual health care, and morbidity prevention skills; not abusing alcohol and beer; restraining themselves from the use of tobacco; not using drugs, addictive substances, and other illegal stimulants; combating the harms from cyberspace.

5. Actively participating in healthy cultural and sports activities and campaigns; protecting, preserving, and promoting the country's cultural identity; adopting the quintessence of human culture.

## **Chapter III**

### **POLICIES OF THE STATE REGARDING YOUTHS**

#### **Article 16. Policies on learning and scientific research**

1. Ensuring equality in access to education and enabling youths to join scientific research.

2. Promulgating and ensuring the implementation of education programs on morals, ideals, traditions, cultured lifestyle, life skills, and sense of law observance for youths.

3. Having policies in place on loans, scholarships, and tuition exemption and reduction for youths in accordance with the provisions of law.

4. Encouraging and supporting youths to learn and improve their professional skills and knowledge, as well as their creativity, research, and application of science and technology.

5. Providing incentives and support to organizations and individuals that

invest in youths' scientific research and innovation, or engage in the training of life skills and other necessary skills for youths.

### **Article 17. Policies on labor and employment**

1. Providing advice, career orientation, and labor market information to youths; educating youths in vocational skills and professional ethics; ensuring that youths do not fall victim to forced labor and labor exploitation.

2. Enabling youths to be employed; generating jobs locally for youths in rural, mountainous, or island areas relevant to their local contexts and the specific stages of development of the country.

3. Facilitating youths to access concessional loans provided by the National Employment Fund and other lawful lenders so that they can become self-employed and develop their own businesses.

### **Article 18. Policies on entrepreneurship**

1. Providing education and training on entrepreneurship knowledge and skills for youths.

2. Providing market information; providing support in terms of legal assistance, science and technology, investment promotion, and development of human resources; providing access to concessional loans from credit institutions in accordance with the provisions of law.

3. Encouraging and creating an enabling environment for youths to start up innovative businesses that apply science and technology.

4. Providing incentives and support to organizations and individuals engaged in the supply of youth entrepreneurship support services; encouraging the establishment of youth entrepreneurship funds in accordance with the provisions of law.

### **Article 19. Policies on health protection, care, and improvement**

1. Providing health advice and support to youths; combating domestic violence, school violence, and sexual abuse; combating narcotics and HIV/AIDS; preventing sexually transmitted diseases and other socially acquired diseases, as well as risks to the physical and mental well-being of youths.

2. Ensuring that youths are provided with information and access to friendly reproductive and sexual health protection and care services, and with pre-marriage health advice and checkups.

3. Encouraging organizations and individuals to invest in and provide health-care services for youths.

### **Article 20. Policies on culture and sports**

1. Encouraging and supporting youths' participation in cultural and sports

activities and innovation.

2. Enabling youths to become actively involved in the preservation and promotion of the country's cultural values and adoption of the quintessence of human culture.

3. Communicating with, guiding, and educating youths about online safety to raise their awareness and protect them in cyberspace.

4. Encouraging organizations and individuals to invest in the development of cultural and sports institutions for youths.

### **Article 21. Policies on national defense**

1. Ensuring that youths are educated on national defense and security, patriotism, revolutionary heroism, and a sense of responsibility for national construction and defense.

2. Ensuring youths' enlistment in military service, enlistment in public security and civil defense forces, and enlistment in reserve armed forces, and the development of people-driven national defense and security in accordance with the provisions of law.

3. Youths who have completed their military or public security services are entitled to vocational training support and other incentives in accordance with the provisions of law.

### **Article 22. Policies for youth vanguards**

1. Youth vanguards are engaged in socio-economic development, job generation, and youth education and training tasks, as well as other ad hoc, urgent, difficult, and arduous tasks in the process of national defense and construction.

2. The State promulgates policies to engage youth vanguards in:

a) Socio-economic development projects assigned by the State;

b) Disaster and disease recovery; environmental protection; maintenance of social order and safety, national defense and security;

c) Production of goods, provision of services, transfer of technical advances that promote production, and vocational training linked with job generation for youths;

d) Ad hoc, urgent, difficult, and arduous tasks in accordance with the provisions of law.

3. The State ensures that funding, facilities, and equipment are provided to youth vanguards' organizations implementing tasks assigned by the State.

4. Youth vanguards are entitled to designated benefits and policies during and after their task execution.

5. The Government shall provide detailed instructions about the implementation of this Article.

### **Article 23. Policies for youth volunteers**

1. “Youth volunteers” refers to youths who volunteer to participate in activities in the interest of the community and society in line with the provisions of law.

2. The State promulgates policies governing youth volunteers to:

a) Establish communication channels so that youths can find and participate in volunteering activities;

b) Develop programs and projects in which youth volunteers are sent to work in particularly socio-economically challenged areas, border areas, and islands;

c) Encourage organizations and individuals to support youths’ participation in volunteering activities in the interest of the community and society.

3. The Government shall provide detailed instructions about the implementation of this Article.

### **Article 24. Policies for talented youths**

1. The State has policies in place to identify, train, attract, use, and reward talented youths.

2. Heads of agencies and organizations are responsible for implementing policies for talented youths in line with their functions, tasks, and powers.

### **Article 25. Policies for ethnic minority youths**

1. Prioritizing ethnic minority youths in terms of learning, labor, employment, entrepreneurship, health care, and sports.

2. Supporting ethnic minority youths to preserve and promote their cultural identities, develop a civilized way of life, and work towards the eradication of outdated customs and practices.

3. Prioritizing the selection of ethnic minority youths who are civil servants and officers working at state agencies, organizations, and entities, for training and inclusion into the leadership pool.

4. Encouraging businesses and organizations to prioritize ethnic minority youths in their recruitment.

### **Article 26. Policies for youths from their 16th to their 18th birthday**

1. Ensuring that universalization of education is achieved in accordance with the provisions of law.
2. Prioritizing and enabling their participation in ability- and age-appropriate culture, sports, and recreational activities for well-rounded development.
3. Providing them with vocational training and career advice on how to select an age-appropriate employment.
4. Equipping them with knowledge and skills to protect themselves from risks to physical and mental well-being; ensuring that support and interventions are provided so that youths from their 16 to their 18th birthday can lead a safe and healthy life.
5. Ensuring that penal, administrative, and civil policies are enforced in accordance with the provisions of law.
6. Promptly prioritizing addressing cases that cause physical and mental harms to youths from their 16th to their 18th birthday.
7. Encouraging organizations and individuals to identify and train talented youths from their 16th to their 18th birthday.
8. Prescribing mechanisms, policies, and measures to implement policies for youths from their 16th to their 18th birthday.

## **Chapter IV**

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **Article 27. Youth organizations**

1. Youth organizations include the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, Viet Nam Youth Federation, Vietnamese Student Association, and other youths' organizations founded, set up, and operated in accordance with the provisions of law.
2. The roles of youth organizations are uniting and representing youths through caring for and protecting their legal and legitimate rights and interests; and promoting the role of youths in the process of national construction and defense.
3. Youth organizations are responsible for exploring youths' wants and needs and proposing them to competent authorities; coordinating with state youth management authorities and other relevant agencies in communication, education, and implementation of youth-related policies and laws; and joining movements in

the interest of the community, society, and the cause of national construction and defense.

**Article 28. Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union**

1. The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union is a socio-political organization of Vietnamese youths, playing a key role in youth movements and among youth organizations, providing guidance on the activities of adolescents and children, and taking charge of the Ho Chi Minh Young Pioneer Organization.

2. The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union is responsible for providing oversight and social criticism of youth-related policies and laws in accordance with the provisions of law; and consolidating youths' comments and recommendations and bringing them to the attention of competent authorities.

3. The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union is responsible for participating in the development, communication, and implementation of youth-related policies and laws in coordination with relevant state authorities.

4. The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union conducts youths' external activities.

**Article 29. Viet Nam Youth Federation and Vietnamese Student Association**

1. The Viet Nam Youth Federation is an inclusive social organization of Vietnamese youths that aims to unite Vietnamese youths from all social classes for the cause of national construction and defense.

2. The Vietnamese Student Association is a social organization of Vietnamese students that aims to unite Vietnamese students in the cause of studying, training, and contributing to the country.

3. The Viet Nam Youth Federation and Vietnamese Student Association are responsible for coordinating with the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union to provide oversight and social criticism of youth-related policies and laws in accordance with the provisions of law.

**Article 30. Policies of the State for youth organizations**

1. Enabling youth organizations to participate in the development and implementation of youth-related policies and laws.

2. Ensuring that youth organizations are enabled to implement the tasks assigned to them by the State.

3. Supporting and enabling youth organizations to mobilize youths' participation in socio-economic development and other programs and projects.

4. Enabling the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union to provide oversight and social criticism of the development and implementation of youth-related policies and laws.

## **Chapter V**

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VIET NAM FATHERLAND FRONT, SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS, ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND FAMILIES**

#### **Article 31. Responsibilities of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front**

1. Developing plans and programs that consolidate its actions to unite and unleash the power of youths.
2. Coordinating with the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and other member organizations under the Viet Nam Fatherland Front to provide oversight and social criticism of policies and laws regarding youths and youth-related work.
3. Mobilizing its members to care for and protect the legal rights and interests of youths.

#### **Article 32. Responsibilities of social organizations**

1. Mobilizing their members to enable youths to study, work, and participate in cultural and sports activities so that they can grow physically and intellectually; fostering their moral values, traditions, and sense of citizenship; and taking the lead regarding innovative ways of working and national defense.
2. Coordinating with state youth management authorities to develop and implement youth-related policies and laws.
3. Coordinating with youth organizations to care for and protect the legal and legitimate rights and interests of youths.
4. Providing their resources in accordance with the provisions of law in support of youth development.

#### **Article 33. Responsibilities of economic organizations**

1. Ensuring youth employees are provided with safe working environments and conditions; and with adequate knowledge and information on occupational safety, hygiene, and sanitation.
2. Caring for the life of youth employees; providing support so that youth employees can study and participate in cultural and sports activities; caring for and protecting the health of youth employees.
3. Enabling the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and Viet Nam Youth Federation to be funded and operated.
4. Encouraging and supporting youth entrepreneurs; providing youths with vocational training, professional training, and life skills training; investing in the construction of cultural and sports facilities for youths.

#### **Article 34. Responsibilities of educational institutions**

1. Educating youths on traditions, morality, and healthy lifestyles.

2. Developing a safe, friendly, and healthy educational environment; taking measures to prevent and control school violence and sexual abuse against youths.

3. Promoting the creativity of youths in learning and research; improving their self-directed learning ability and skills in applying what they have learned into practice; providing career advice and orientation to youths.

4. Providing psychological counseling on social issues and school psychology; educating youths in life skills and knowledge on health care and protection, reproductive and sexual health, and prevention of school-acquired diseases and social vices.

5. Enabling youths to participate in cultural, sports, recreational and other co-curricular activities.

6. Enabling the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and Vietnamese Student Association to be funded and operated.

### **Article 35. Responsibilities of families**

1. Respecting and listening to youths' voices; caring for, educating, motivating, and enabling youths to exercise their rights, obligations, and responsibilities in accordance with the provisions of law.

2. Respecting youths' rights regarding marriage and family; providing sex education, gender quality education, and other necessary knowledge on marriage and family.

3. Caring for and educating youths so that they can develop physically, intellectually, morally, and personality-wise, lead a healthy and cultured lifestyle, and become filial children of families and useful citizens of society.

4. Developing life skills in youths; raising their awareness and educating them in discipline at work; respecting and enabling youths' choice of career and job seeking.

5. Providing orientation to youths, enabling their access to safe sources of information, and protecting them in cyberspace.

## **Chapter VI**

### **STATE MANAGEMENT OF YOUTHS**

#### **Article 36. What state management of youths includes**

1. Promulgating legal normative documents on youths or submitting them to competent state authorities for promulgation, and facilitating the implementation of such documents; prescribing measures to be taken to implement youth-related policies.

2. Developing and implementing youth development strategies, policies, programs, and plans.

3. Conducting statistical work, communication, and reporting on the state of youths and the implementation of youth-related policies and laws.

4. Developing a cadre of state officers who exercise management of youths.

5. Conducting communication, dissemination, and education on youth-related policies and laws.

6. Auditing, inspecting, and handling violations, complaints, denunciations, and recommendations; conducting mid-term and final reviews; hosting competitions and recognizing and rewarding achievements in the implementation of youth-related policies and laws.

7. Facilitating international cooperation on youth-related work.

8. Promulgating policies to support and incentivize organizations and individuals to participate in the implementation of youth-related policies and laws.

### **Article 37. Responsibilities of the Government**

The Government ensures consistent state management of youths and is responsible for:

1. Ensuring effective and efficient implementation of what state management of youths includes;

2. Ensuring that coordination mechanisms and measures between line ministries, ministerial-level agencies, central and local governmental bodies, and relevant entities are in place for the development and implementation of youth-related policies and laws;

3. Ensuring that the development and implementation of youth development goals, objectives, and targets are included in mid-term and long-term socio-economic development strategies and programs, and annual national and sectoral ones;

4. Reporting the progress of implementing youth-related policies and laws as requested by the National Assembly.

### **Article 38. Responsibilities of the Ministry of Home Affairs**

The Ministry of Home Affairs is held accountable before the Government for state management of youths, and is responsible for:

1. Promulgating youth-related policies and laws, as well as youth development strategies, programs, and plans within the scope of its power or submitting them to competent state authorities for promulgation;

2. Proposing the integration of youth development policies, targets, goals, and objectives into the development of socio-economic development and sectoral strategies, programs, and plans; providing guidance to sectoral ministries on the integration of statistical indicators on Vietnamese youths into their sets of indicators;

3. Providing guidance to line ministries, ministerial-level agencies, and provincial People's Committees on the implementation of state management of youths; organizing training, and knowledge and skill building, for the cadre of state officers who exercise management of youths;

4. Leading the management, utilization, and release of youth-related data and youth development indicators in coordination with relevant agencies;

5. Leading the development and implementation of youth-related policies and laws in coordination with line ministries, ministerial-level agencies, governmental bodies, and the central executive committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union;

6. Auditing, inspecting, and handling complaints, denunciations, and recommendations; conducting mid-term and final reviews; hosting competitions and recognizing and rewarding achievements; handling violations within the scope of its power or referring them to competent authorities for handling violations against the implementation of youth-related policies and laws;

7. Reporting to the Government on an annual basis the progress of implementing youth-related policies and laws and its tasks of exercising state management of youths;

8. Leading the management of international cooperation on youth-related work in coordination with relevant agencies in accordance with the provisions of law.

### **Article 39. Responsibilities of line ministries and ministerial-level agencies**

Line ministries and ministerial-level agencies within the scope of their respective tasks and powers work with the Ministry of Home Affairs to exercise state management of youths, and are responsible for:

1. Promulgating policies and mechanisms that enable youths to participate in sectoral development programs;

2. Integrating youth development policies, targets, goals, and objectives into the development of socio-economic development and sectoral policies, strategies, and plans; integrating statistical indicators on Vietnamese youths into ministerial/sectoral sets of indicators;

3. Providing guidance to provincial People's Committees on the implementation of youth-related policies and laws within the scope of state management power over sectors;

4. Submitting reports on the implementation of youth-related policies and laws by sector to the Ministry of Home Affairs for consolidation and reporting to the Government.

**Article 40. Responsibilities of provincial People's Councils and People's Committees**

1. Provincial People's Councils within the scope of their tasks and powers are responsible for:

a) Promulgating local youth development resolutions to implement the State's youth-related policies and laws;

b) Making decisions on youth development targets, goals, and objectives in local socio-economic development resolutions on an annual and phase-by-phase basis;

c) Making decisions on budgetary allocation for the implementation of youth-related policies and laws, and youth development strategies, programs, and plans locally;

d) Overseeing the implementation of youth-related policies and laws locally;

e) Making decisions on the size of the cadre of state officers working for agencies assigned to exercise state management of youths.

2. Provincial People's Committees within the scope of their tasks and powers are responsible for:

a) Facilitating the implementation of youth-related policies and laws, and youth development strategies, programs, and plans locally;

b) Integrating youth development targets, goals, and objectives into the development of local socio-economic development programs and plans on an annual and phase-by-phase basis;

c) Developing the cadre of state officers who exercise management of youths;

d) Ensuring youths' legal rights and interests when investing in the development of educational institutions, health-care facilities, health-counseling services, and cultural and sports facilities;

e) Managing, harnessing, and releasing local statistics on youths and youth development indicators;

f) Conducting statistical work, communication, and the making of reports on the implementation of youth-related policies and laws, which are then submitted

to the Ministry of Home Affairs for consolidation and reporting to the Government;

g) Auditing, inspecting, and handling violations, complaints, denunciations, and recommendations regarding youths;

h) Providing directions and guidance to People's Committees at lower levels on the implementation of state management of youths.

## **Chapter VII ENFORCEMENT**

### **Article 41. Effectiveness**

1. This Law takes effect as of 1 January 2021.

2. Youth Law No. 53/2005/QH11 shall be nullified once this Law takes effect.

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*This Law was passed by the 14th tenure National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam during the 9th meeting session on 16 June 2020.*

**CHAIRWOMAN OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan**