

# OPENING REMARKS

*by Mr. Tran Ngoc Liem*  
**Deputy Government Inspector General**

At the OPENING CEREMONY OF BUSINESS INTEGRITY MEETING (BI)  
Hanoi, 3 December 2019

Dear Mr. Vu Tien Loc, Chairman of Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI),

Honorable Ms. Mathilde Mesnard, Deputy Director of OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs,

Dear Ms. Diana Torres, Project Director, Transparency and Accountability Department of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Asia and the Pacific,

Distinguished guests, delegates, colleagues representing the anti-corruption agencies members of the Initiative, international organizations, businesses, business associations in the region and Vietnam,

Ladies and gentlemen.

It is my honor to give some words at the opening of the Business Integrity Meeting on behalf of the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam - the first event, commencing for a series of important events in the framework of the 10th Regional Conference of Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific.

First of all, I would like to extend my warmest greetings to all delegates, distinguished guests and colleagues! Wish you all have fruitful and effective time of conference in Vietnam.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Infrastructure construction and development have always been considered the backbone of economic growth and a driving force for social development, creating an important foundation for the state to provide basic public services to people. The demand for investment in infrastructure in many countries in the Asia-Pacific region through large-scale projects has increased sharply in recent years, which also leads to the serious risk of grant corruption in infrastructure investment projects. This is a big challenge that many countries in the Asia-Pacific region in particular and the world in general are facing.

The first meeting within the framework of our Business Initiative meeting today is expected to be a valuable opportunity for stakeholders to share their opinions on the situation of corruption in infrastructure projects on enterprises' perspectives; causes, compliance efforts, difficulties, challenges and good practical lessons, from which to find comprehensive and appropriate solutions to enhance Integrity in infrastructure projects in Asia-Pacific region in particular and in business activities in general. The meeting is also an opportunity to contribute to strengthening and deepening cooperation relations between member countries and territories of the Initiative.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

The Government Inspectorate of Vietnam is honored to be the host country agency, in collaboration with ADB, OECD, UNDP and partners, to organize the 10th Regional Conference of the Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific, including this first BI Meeting. For us, this is both an honor and a great responsibility to contribute to the success of the Initiative. The Government Inspectorate of Viet Nam would like to express the sincere thanks to ADB, OECD, UNDP and partners: OECD Korean Center for Policies, the Government of the United Kingdom and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan for their close cooperation with us in developing the program, inviting speakers and other preparations for Conferences and Meetings.

We hope that the delegates, as representatives of co-organizing agencies, will make statements, sharing frankly and right on the theme of the meeting. I hope that with the active participation of delegates, colleagues and especially enterprises and business associations, we can come to an agreement on solutions and recommendations to effectively prevent and fight against corruption in infrastructure projects in the Asia-Pacific region.

In that spirit, I respectfully announce the opening of the Business Integrity Meeting today.

I wish all of you good health and happiness and have a good and memorable trip in Vietnam.

I wish our meeting a great success

Thank you.