

**Warm greeting and earnestly entrusting words to delegates of the
International scientific conference: “Victims of Agent Orange/dioxin in
Vietnam – The Expectations”**

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On behalf of the Association of Agent Orange Victims and the people of Vietnam, I would like to present warmest greetings to Vietnamese and international delegates.

Dear friends,

The war in Vietnam finished over 30 years but its wounds have never been healed yet, particularly the effects of the toxic chemical/dioxin sprayed by the U.S. Army.

Recently, Vietnamese and foreign scientists have implemented studies in this issue. They have seen that effects of the Agent Orange/Dioxin heavily multi-face influenced on economic-social life, people’s health, and environment. Therefore, the requirements for resolving this issue are comprehensive, huge, urgent and can not be delayed.

The Vietnamese State, social organizations, community have implemented some positive policies and acts to assist Agent Orange victims, cleaning environment.

However, problems, which need to be resolved, are still huge and complicated.

We think that it is necessary to continue the scientific studies in medicine, psyc, society, environment etc used as the base for forming the strategy to heal the effects of the chemical warfare, damages of Agent Orange/Dioxin in every fields, particularly to the people’s health and impact on heredity etc

Simultaneously, it is needed to have resources, lofted hearts to assist at once victims and their children who bearing sequels stronger than their parents and grand parents, living miserably in diseases and to assist victim who can partly rehabilitate, reducing difficulties for these poor victim families. They are depending on us.

I highly appreciate the Research Centre for Gender, Family and Environment in Development for organizing this conference.

Hoping that delegates, scientists, social workers, donors ... together share information, evaluate the already done works; and more important is to recommend guidelines, solutions to agitate a people's movement domestically and internationally to assist Vietnamese Agent Orange victims more practically and actively. Let us try more for the genuine end of the Vietnam War and by such to learn a lesson for people in the world to protect peace and lives of the people.

On behalf of the people of Vietnam, I express my sincere thanks to international friends especially friends from France, England, Sweden, the United States who have been assisting Vietnamese agent orange victims and supporting the struggle for justice for Vietnamese agent orange victims.

Wishing the conference with a great success.

Thank you for your attention.