



**Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry
The Center for WTO and Economic integration**

**REPORT
REVIEW VIETNAM LEGAL FRAMEWORK AGAINST EUROPEAN UNION –
VIETNAM FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (EVFTA) COMMITMENTS
ON CUSTOMS AND TRADE FACILITATION**

PREAMBLE

The Vietnam – EU Free Trade Agreement’s negotiation rounds were officially concluded in the early December 2015. It is among two biggest free trade pacts of Vietnam. Having large scope of commitments, covering a great deal of trade and non-trade issues both in the border and beyond border, the EVFTA is predicted to have a great impact on Vietnamese legal framework and economy in the near future.

EVFTA commitments on custom and trade facilitation are considered to have direct impacts on the effectiveness of EVFTA’s implementation on trade in goods. In fact, Vietnam did have commitments on customs and trade facilitation under the Trade Facilitation Agreement of WTO (**TFA**) with similar or even more extensive commitments. However, meanwhile the TFA provides Vietnam with flexible right to choose the schedule to comply, EVFTA sets compulsory commitments under fixed schedule. With regard to the implementation, the operation of EVFTA commitments are going to have immediate and direct effects on the trade in goods between Vietnam and the EU at the time the EVFTA has effect. Hence, it is necessary to review the Vietnam legal framework against EVFTA commitments on customs and trade facilitation in order to define the differences between them, and then, figure out the needed amendments and revision of Vietnam legal framework.

The Report on “Review Vietnam legal framework against EVFTA commitments on customs and trade facilitation” done by the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) provides analysis of the level of compatibility in the aspects of business community (esp. export/ import entities); then, proposes the solution for complying with the EVFTA in the way that mostly benefits enterprises and export/ import entities.

This is one of the five reviews of Vietnam legal framework against EVFTA commitments on five (05) important areas (including customs and trade facilitation, investment, government procurement, intellectual property, and transparency) prepared by the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry under the framework of the project: “Vietnamese legal framework ready for EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA) implementation” sponsored by the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and North Ireland in Vietnam

We hope that this Review would be considered as a useful resource for the Government in reviewing Vietnamese legislations to implement EVFTA, and for reference of the competent authorities of the National Assembly in the process of EVFTA formal approval.

The Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry would like to express our great appreciation to the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and North Ireland in Vietnam for its sponsorship of this meaningful project./

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