

## Promoting business cooperation between Vietnam and Australia

The first Vietnam-Australia Trade Promotion Program has become a direct bridge for the business communities of both countries, opening up many opportunities for substantive cooperation in the context of the rapidly developing bilateral relationship within the framework of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

On the morning of January 29th, at the Ho Chi Minh City Center for Enterprise Support and Development (CSED), the first Vietnam-Australia Trade Promotion Program took place with the participation of over 100 businesses from Vietnam and Australia.

The event was organized by the Ho Chi Minh City Supporting Industries Association (HASI) in collaboration with the Saigon Business Association, the Ho Chi Minh City Young Entrepreneurs Association - Saigon Chapter (YBA Saigon), and the Australian-Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce in South Australia (AVCC).



Mr. Vo Son Dien – Chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City Supporting Industries Association (HASI) – delivered a speech at the conference.

The program was attended by representatives from many associations and business organizations from both countries, including Mr. Vo Son Dien, Chairman of HASI; Mr. Vo Thanh Tuan, Vice Chairman of HASI; Mr. Phan Hung Dung, Advisor to the Saigon Business Association; Ms. Nguyen Thi Bich Hanh, Vice Chairman of the Saigon Business Association; Mr. Truong Thai Huy and Mr. Pham Tuan Hai, Vice Chairmen of YBA Saigon; and Mr. Pham Van Xo, Chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City Import-Export Association.

From Australia, Mr. David Dean, Chairman of the Australia-Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (AVCC), and Ms. Betty Dang, Vice Chairman of AVCC, along with a delegation of Australian businesses, were present.

The program brought together businesses operating in many promising fields for cooperation, such as information technology, artificial intelligence, automation, education and training, import-export and trade, agricultural products and food, real estate, investment consulting, tourism, design, and interior design. These are sectors considered highly complementary between the two economies, aligning with current trends in supply chain restructuring and digital transformation.



Mr. David Dean – President of the Australian-Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce.

Speaking at the event, Mr. Vo Son Dien stated that economic and trade relations between Vietnam and Australia have continuously expanded in recent years, leading to an increasing need for direct connections between the business communities of the two countries. In the context of digital transformation, green growth, and deep integration, translating strategic commitments into concrete cooperation projects is an urgent requirement. Mr. Dien expressed his hope that the program will contribute to the formation of substantive and long-term cooperative relationships.

Sharing from the Australian side, Mr. David Dean said he has been involved with the Vietnamese market for many years since his first visit in 1996. According to Mr. Dean, Vietnam is currently one of Asia's

fastest-growing economies, possessing many advantages that attract the attention of Australian businesses, especially those from South Australia. This is an important foundation for promoting bilateral cooperation in the future.



The signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between HASI, Saigon Business Association, YBA Saigon, and AVCC.

Mr. David Dean also stated that AVCC, established in 1994, is a non-profit organization with the mission of promoting trade and investment between Australia and Vietnam. Through its network of members in both countries, AVCC supports businesses in accessing markets, finding partners, and building sustainable cooperative relationships. Its staff, knowledgeable about the Vietnamese market, helps Australian businesses better understand the business environment, legal framework, and local culture.

A key highlight of the program was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between HASI, the Saigon Business Association, YBA Saigon, and AVCC. This agreement lays the foundation for enhanced coordination between business organizations in both countries, aiming to build a mechanism to support members in trade promotion, investment networking, and market expansion.

Within the framework of the event, a vibrant B2B business networking session took place with the participation of over 100 businesses, focusing on sectors such as import-export, information technology, real estate, and tourism. Businesses from both sides directly exchanged information, explored needs, and discussed specific cooperation possibilities. Many businesses initially established potential partners for bilateral market development plans.

The program not only opened up practical business cooperation opportunities but also contributed to strengthening trust between the Vietnamese and Australian business communities, making a positive contribution to the sustainable development of bilateral economic relations in the new phase.

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