RESOLUTION
ON SUSTAINABLE AND CLIMATE-RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT OF THE MEKONG DELTA

GOVERNMENT

Pursuant to the Law on Government Organization dated June 19, 2015;

Pursuant to the Resolution No. 24-NQ/TW dated June 03, 2013 of the 11th Central Committee of the Communist Party on active response to climate change, improvement of natural resource management and environmental protection;

Pursuant to the Conclusion No. 28-KL/TW dated August 14, 2012 of the Political Bureau on orientation, tasks and solutions to socio-economic development and assurance of security and defence of the Mekong Delta region until 2020;

According to results of the Conference on Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Development of the Mekong Delta on September 26 - 27, 2017; discussion and voting results of the Cabinet’s members at the Government’s regular meeting - September 2017,

RESOLVES:

The Mekong Delta is a large area, accounting for 12 percent of Vietnam’s natural land area and 19 percent of the country’s population, and presents a dense network of rivers, canals and ditches; has an advantage in agricultural development, food processing industry, tourism, renewable energy; is the largest agricultural hub in Vietnam, accounting for 50 percent of the rice crop, 65 percent of aquaculture, 70 percent of fruit, 95 percent of exported rice and 60 percent of exported fish; and is conveniently located, thereby offering convenient trade with ASEAN countries and Greater Mekong Sub-region.

In the past few years, the Communist Party and State has introduced many policies and taken many solutions to develop the Mekong Delta’s potentials and advantages to foster its socio-economic development. This region has shown remarkable growth with great and significant achievements especially in agricultural and rural sectors. Infrastructure has been gradually developed in an uniform manner in order to better serve socio-economic activities and improve people’s living standard. The region has also affirmed its position as the national leading producers and exporters of rice, seafood and fruit, thereby contributing to food security assurance and bringing foreign exchange earnings to in service of national development.

In the context of globalization and international integration, the Mekong Delta has a great opportunity for development but also faces a great challenge because it is vulnerable to natural changes. Climate change and sea level rise are occurring much faster than expected, causing extreme weather events and affecting people’s livelihood and life. The extraction of water from upstream of the delta, especially the construction of hydroelectric power plants cause a change in flow, reduction in sediments and fisheries resources, deeper salinization, which exerts negative impacts on the region’s socio-economic development. The intra-regional economic development in high intensity has lead to harmful consequences such as environmental pollution, serious ecological imbalance, land subsidence, groundwater level decline, coastal encroachment and reduction in area of natural forests, especially
mangrove forests, cajuput forests and protection forests due to cutting or repurposing or severe degradation. Besides, the over-extraction of silt and construction of houses and infrastructure along river, canals and ditches increase the risk of erosion.

In the meanwhile, the state management of some fields between local and central government has shown overlapping issues and lacks close cooperation. The mechanisms for coordination in the development of the Mekong Delta are yet to demonstrate their effectiveness. The implementation of the Decision No. 593/QD-TTg dated April 06, 2016 of the Prime Minister on promulgation of the Regulation on pilot coordination for regional socio-economic development in the Mekong Delta during 2016-2020 period has remained slow; the master plan for socio-economic development of the Mekong Delta and master plan for local development and industry development are yet to be implemented in an uniform manner and prove their feasibility, lack regional connectivity and close cooperation with Ho Chi Minh city, Southern Key Economic Zone and Greater Mekong Sub-region. The mobilization and use of resources for investment and development has remained weak. The educational level and the rate of application of advanced science and technology of the region are lower than national average; the quality of education and health remains lower than expected. High-quality human resources tend to move to other areas.

The fact requires a new vision, strategic orientation, comprehensive, thrifty and uniform solutions, the maximization of resources and participation of economic sectors to develop the Mekong Delta in a sustainable manner.

1. Vision and objectives

a) Vision towards 2100

The Mekong Delta will sustainably, safely and prosperously develop on the basis of high-quality agriculture in combination with services, ecological tourism, and industry, especially processing industry, thereby increasing the value and competitiveness of agricultural products. The infrastructure system will be planned and developed in a uniform and modern manner towards proactivity, intelligence and resilience to climate change to ensure safety upon occurrence of natural disasters. Natural resources will be used in a proper manner. Biodiversity, cultural traditions and history will be preserved and enhanced. People’s material and spiritual life will be improved.

b) Objectives by 2050

- The Mekong Delta will become a moderately good developed region with advanced social organization. At that time, the per capital income of the delta will be higher than the national average and people’s livelihood will be ensured. The proportion of ecological agriculture and high-quality agriculture will reach 80 percent and forest canopy cover will reach over 9 percent (compared to 4.3 percent now). The important natural ecosystems will be preserved and developed.

- Socio-economic infrastructure network will be established in a uniform and modern manner. Modern urban systems will be built and distributed reasonably in sub-regions. Road and waterway systems will be developed in a uniform manner to ensure regional and inter-regional connection and will be built in harmony with the irrigation and dyke systems. The irrigation infrastructure will be developed in line with the climate-resilient agricultural switching model in ecological sub-regions. Measures must also be taken to help the people and the economy to effectively prepare for and recover from natural disasters. The information and communications infrastructure, electricity supply and water drainage and supply network will be built in a uniform manner. Cultural, education-training, science-technology, health and physical training-sports establishments will attain a high level compared to the whole country. The economy will develop dynamically and effectively with an appropriate and dynamic structure.

2. Viewpoints
a) Facilitate sustainable and prosperous development by adapting, promoting strength and potential, turning challenges into opportunities to serve development, thereby ensuring prosperity for local people as well as preserving traditional and special cultural values of the Mekong Delta and paying attention to land, water protection, and especially local people.

b) Shift the way of thinking in agricultural development from mainly rice cultivation to agricultural economics, from quantity to quality and from chemical-based agricultural production to organic and hi-tech practice associated with value chain and trademark development, pay attention to development of processing and supporting industries in association with agricultural economics. The agricultural products not only play an important role in food security assurance but also bring nutritional value to serve disease prevention and treatment, thereby creating famous trademarks.

c) Respect natural laws and avoid violent interference with nature; select development models adaptive to natural conditions and friendly to the environment and develop sustainably with the motto "living with floods, brackish water and saltwater"; make plans and take measures for response to natural disasters such as storms, floods, droughts and saltwater intrusion and to the most unfavorable situation due to climate change and development of Mekong River upstream development. Develop economy in association with social development, poverty reduction, job creation, social security assurance, environmental protection and new rural construction. Encourage participation of all relevant parties to ensure intra-regional organic connectivity and close connection between Southern key economic region and Greater Mekong Sub-region.

d) Sustainably develop the Mekong Delta for the common good of the country, the Greater Mekong Sub-region and international community and for the cause of the whole population. Encourage and mobilize all social classes, international partners and enterprises to participate in the development.

3. Policy and strategic orientation for development of the Mekong Delta

a) The Mekong Delta development model must be human-centered, serve people and narrow the gap between the rich and the poor; focus on quality rather than quantity, shift breadth to depth, have proactive and flexible approach in the context of accelerated and increasingly extreme climate change and the impact of extraction and use of water on a large scale and in high-intensity on the Mekong River upstream. Switch development model to improve economic efficiency and attach importance to preservation of the region's cultural, historical, biological and ecological values.

b) Determine that climate change and sea level rise are an indispensable trend, thereby requiring to live together and adapt it, and turn challenges into opportunities. Regard water resources as a core element and the basis for strategic planning, policy and master plan for regional development. Ensure region-wide management of water resources. Besides freshwater resources, it is required to regard brackish water and saltwater as natural resources for economic development. Strengthen management and effective, economical and sustainable use of water resources, land and other natural resources in the region. Attach importance to the development of the coastal zone, exclusive economic zone and geo-political position of the delta. Importance should be also attached to mitigation of damages caused by natural disasters and response to the most unfavorable situations.

c) Switch the development model according to the ecosystems to ensure suitability for natural conditions, biodiversity, culture, people and natural laws; combine modern technology with traditional knowledge and experience, ensure the stability and livelihood of the people. The people and enterprises should play a central role and the State should play a role in the direction. Promote innovation, creativity and start-up support, speed up the application of scientific and technological advances, especially the achievements of the fourth industrial revolution. The switching process requires a long term vision. Priority shall be given to climate change resilience and opportunities shall also be grasped for the development of low-carbon economy and green economy, and protection of natural ecosystems.
d) Access comprehensively and integrate socio-economic development of the entire Mekong Delta. Enhance development cooperation among areas in the region, between the region and Ho Chi Minh City, Southeast provinces and other regions nationwide, between Southwest and Southeast, between Vietnam and other countries, firstly the Greater Mekong Sub-region countries.

dd) Coordinate investment activities in a uniform, inter-regional, inter-sectoral and targeted manner and an appropriate road map must be available. Top priority should be given to urgent works and works that are meant to boost the entire region's economy and necessary works serving people's life. Attach importance to and mainly apply non-structural measures while structural measures are also well taken.

e) Improve cultural and social levels equivalent to the national average level. Combine economic development and social development, reduce poverty, create jobs, ensure social security and protect the environment. Develop potentials and strengthen defense and security potentials, maintain political stability, national sovereignty and social order and security.

g) Promote international integration and cooperation with the Greater Mekong Sub-region countries on a mutual beneficially basis through regional cooperation initiatives and promote bilateral cooperation in order to effectively and sustainably use water resources and relevant natural resources in the Mekong basin together.

4. Overall solutions

a) Spatial organization:

- Establish ecological sub-zones to orient the development of economy, agriculture and infrastructure (floodplain, freshwater ecosystem, brackish water and saltwater ecological area, etc.)

- Organize and develop urban system and rural residential quarters in conformity with characteristics of natural ecosystem and specific conditions of each region and ecological sub-zone. Review and complete the land use planning and redistribute population. Limit and control the construction of centralized rural residential quarters in the areas adjacent to rivers, canals and ditches at high risk of erosion. Provide space for flood drainage to ensure safety of people and property.

b) Formulate a master plan for sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong delta which shall be conformable to the regional conditions according to uniform integration of the master plan for development of certain industries, areas and key products. Address overlapping issues and settle inter-branch, inter-regional and inter-provincial conflicts in a uniform manner. Develop potentials and comparative advantages of the region and turn the challenges into opportunities in the context of globalization and global economic integration, especially cooperation with ASEAN countries and Greater Mekong sub-region.

Firstly, it is required to review existing master plans for local development and industry development in the Mekong Delta. The new master plan shall have the phrase “sống chung với lũ” (“living with floods”) replaced with “chủ động sống chung với lũ, ngập, nước lợ, nước mặn” (“living with floods, brackish water and saltwater”) according to the master plan for integrated management of natural resources by the river basin; effectively, economically and sustainably water resources, proactively provide fresh water for the people and brackish water and saltwater economic zone; properly extract brackish water and saltwater in coastal areas to serve socio-economic development. All projects and works shall have three following aspects carefully considered: economy, society and environment, and shall undergo objective and scientific review.

c) Establish an appropriate economic structure:
- Establish agricultural production structure according to three focuses: aquatic products - fruit trees - rice in association with ecological sub-zones. Aquatic products (fresh water, brackish water and saltwater) shall be regarded as key ones.

- Establish an appropriate agricultural economic structure and maintain the link in the supply chain and deep participation in the global value chain. Focus on processing industry and industry supporting agricultural economics.

- Develop green industry with low emission and no harm to the natural ecosystem. Develop renewable energy in association with forest and coastal protection.

- Develop services - tourism according to potentials and advantages in natural, ecological, cultural and human characteristics with high economic efficiency. Develop garden tourism, waterway tourism and ecotourism in association with natural reserves.

d) Continue to complete the mechanism for coordinating the development of the region and ecological sub-region so as to enhance effectiveness and essence towards focal point reduction. The focus shall be given to smart management of water resources and climate change resilience in conformity with practical conditions of Vietnam and the Mekong Delta.

Maintain the link between areas in the region and other areas according to the rule for harmony of interests of relevant parties and harmony between natural conditions on soil, water, ecosystems and culture and human. Focus on maintaining the link in infrastructure and product chains between ecological sub-zones in the region and between the region and the southern key economic region, Ho Chi Minh City and the Greater Mekong sub-region.

Address overlapping issues and issues concerning the lack of close cooperation in state management, lack of policies for development of comprehensive regional power which creates the link in the chain to increase the value and competitiveness of agricultural products of the delta.

dd) Introduce breakthrough policies in order to attract non-state sources of funding, especially from the private sector; enable the private sector to operate in suitable fields.

5. Some specific tasks

a) National Commission on Climate Change

- Propose some inter-sectoral and inter-regional policies and strategies, master plans, plans, programs, schemes, projects and tasks for sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong Delta.

- Cooperate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Water Resource Council and relevant authorities in consulting the Prime Minister about coordinating bilateral and multilateral cooperation with upstream countries, river basins and big plains in the world, countries, international organizations and development partners in sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong Delta.

b) The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

- Take charge and cooperate with ministries and relevant authorities in urgently reviewing data and completing the baseline survey of natural resources and environment of the Mekong Delta; establish and complete inter-sectoral database on the Mekong Delta to serve sustainable and climate-resilient development and connect it with the Mekong River Commission’s database before December 2020; upgrade and modernize the system for monitoring, supervising, warning and forecasting about natural
resources and environment; periodically update, complete and publish climate change and sea level rise scenarios for Vietnam by 2100.

- Take charge and cooperate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, ministries and relevant local authorities in effectively setting up strategic partnerships and agreements on climate change resilience, including the strategic partnership in climate change response with the Netherlands; propose the establishment of new frameworks for partnerships with countries and international partners in climate change and water resources in order to take full advantage of assistance and investment by international partners for sustainable development of the Mekong Delta.

- Take charge and cooperate with ministries and relevant authorities in proposing amendments to land policies to facilitate land assembly, thereby boosting large-scale agricultural production with highly competitive and effective products, especially hi-tech and organic agriculture.

- Take charge and cooperate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Mekong River Commission and relevant authorities in evaluating and proposing solutions to effectively implement the 1995 Mekong Agreement, enhance the roles of Vietnam in the Mekong River Commission to strengthen cooperation with other countries in the Mekong River Basin to ensure the harmony of interests among relevant parties in management, extraction and use of the water resources and submit a report to the Prime Minister before December 2018.

- Review, complete and prepare the planning for land use, use of water resources, environmental protection, extraction and sustainable use of bank natural resources of the Mekong Delta. Keep close control of sand extraction; the volume of sand extracted and place and time of extraction shall be determined according to the results of analysis of Mekong Delta’s sand in each year in order to ensure no increase in the risk of river bank and coastal erosion.

- Take charge and cooperate with the People’s Committees of provinces and central-affiliated cities of the Mekong Delta in designing communications program for sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong Delta.

c) The Ministry of Planning and Investment

- Take charge and cooperate with ministries and relevant authorities in preparing the master plan for sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong Delta until 2030 with a vision towards 2050 using the method of multi-sectoral integration according to the master plan for development of certain industries, areas and key products and submit it to the Prime Minister for approval before Quarter III, 2020.

- Review and assess the pilot mechanism for regional coordination according to the Decision No. 593/QD-TTg dated April 06, 2016 and submit the solutions to completion of the mechanism for coordination and development of the Mekong Delta to the Prime Minister, including the establishment of the regional coordination council in order to develop comprehensive regional power, establish a close link in the chain, thereby increasing the value and competitiveness of goods, agricultural products and aquatic products of the region.

- Take charge and cooperate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Finance and relevant authorities in formulating a policy on encouragement of development of the Mekong Delta at regional and inter-sectoral levels until 2030 and beyond to promote connection between production and consumption and between agricultural production and enterprises, submit a report on such policy to the Prime Minister before December, 2018.

- Formulate mechanisms for mobilization of sources and encouragement of investment by enterprises and people in infrastructure development in combination with tourism development such as mechanisms
for capital borrowing, bond issuance and public private partnership (PPP) investment in accordance with regulations of law. Prioritize the provision of funding sources for the works that are inter-regional, inter-provincial, multi-purpose, connect traffic and irrigation systems and facilitate smart use of water and limit adverse impacts due to climate change and water-related disasters.

- Focus on solving problems, speed up the disbursement progress, ensure effective use of medium-term public investment during 2016-2020 period, especially for projects on salinity control, flood control and solutions for erosion of key areas, inter-provincial and inter-provincial traffic works funded by loans from World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency, development partners and other financial institutions; effectively use existing investment to build a system of drains used for flood control, salinity prevention, solutions for seriously eroded areas that directly affect people's houses, and land and mangrove forest protection.

d) The Ministry of Finance

- Take charge and cooperate with relevant authorities in requesting the Prime Minister to consider establishing the Mekong Delta sustainable development fund, ensuring water resource security and responding to climate change in order to maximize resources, especially non-state sources of funding.

- Cooperate with the Ministry of Planning and Investment and relevant authorities in promptly providing resources to speed up the progress and increase the effectiveness of programs and projects in the Mekong Delta that have been approved by the Government and Prime Minister; formulate mechanisms and policies for mobilization, management and effective use of resources for execution of programs and projects for sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong Delta.

dd) The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

- Take charge and cooperate with the Ministry of Planning and Investment, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and relevant authorities in formulating a master plan for Mekong Delta’s climate resilient sustainable agriculture in association with the plan for agricultural restructuring and new rural construction in order to develop agriculture and rural areas in the Mekong Delta towards sustainability, modernness and high effectiveness, fully develop potentials and advantages and respond to climate change, and submit the plan to the Prime Minister before December 2018 for approval.

- Review and adjust the strategy, orientation and planning for agricultural development of the Mekong Delta in conformity with ecological sub-zones with three key products including aquatic products - fruit trees - rice; reduce land areas for rice cultivation and freshwater plants with low commercial value. Encourage the development of agricultural production models in association with ecotourism.

- Review and complete the mechanisms and policies for promotion of science and technology application, especially high and biological technologies in agriculture in association with the plan for agricultural restructuring and new rural construction. Priority shall be given to research into selection, creation and development of potential plant varieties, livestock breeds and aquatic breeds of the Mekong Delta to serve market demand and climate change resilience; by 2015, strive to increase the quality of climate resilient seeds and breeds to be on a par with countries with modern agriculture with respect to three key products including aquatic products - fruit trees - rice.

- Review and formulate new and breakthrough mechanisms and polices for development of agricultural production with large-scale, modern and highly competitive and sustainable products; encourage and attract investment by enterprises and Mekong Delta’s agriculture and rural areas; develop cooperative economy, farm economy, agricultural value chain, link between production and consumption; promote agricultural mechanization and develop post harvest technologies to reduce the loss rate and increase the quality, value and effectiveness of agricultural, forestry and fisheries production.
- Turn fisheries into one of the region's spear-headed economic sectors that is large in scale, modern, highly competitive and sustainable. Keep close control of current natural forests, do not convert them into other purposes, except for security and defence purposes and special socio-economic development projects decided by the competent authority; prioritize investment in restoration and planting of mangrove forests and riverside and coastal protection forests.

- Review the planning for irrigation and natural disaster preparedness until 2030 with a vision to 2050 in conformity with new context to ensure mitigation of damages caused by natural disasters and response to the most unfavorable situations; set up a project on modernization of irrigation systems in service of switching and sustainable development of agriculture in ecological sub-zones towards diversification of resources and implementation methods. Attention shall be also paid to promotion of public private partnerships.

- Set up a project on coastal protection, sea dikes consolidation and upgrade and coastal erosion prevention; focus on handling serious river bank and coastal erosion. Formulate a river management planning associated with riverside land use planning. Space for flood drainage shall be provided and traffic works combined with the irrigation systems shall be constructed. Rearrange population along rivers, canals and ditches and construct new rural areas.

- Cooperate with the Ministry of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs in setting up a project on changing and creating jobs for agricultural and rural laborers towards specialization and professionalism, thereby assisting peasants in truly becoming agricultural workers, gradually reducing the number of agricultural laborers and make a transition to industries and services.

e) The Ministry of Industry and Trade

- Take charge and cooperate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and relevant authorities in formulating mechanisms and polices for prioritizing development of industry supporting agricultural economics and agricultural product processing industry, especially deep processing and fine processing; strengthen trade promotion, reorganize and expand domestic market and export key agricultural, forestry and aquatic products of the Mekong river delta.

- Review the formulation, assessment and approval of site planning; keep close control of the investment in and construction of coal thermal power stations in the Mekong Delta according to the national power development planning during 2011 - 2020 period while taking into account the year 2030 (Power planning VII) to ensure new and modern technologies and no environmental pollution.

- Prioritize development of green industry with low emission and no harm to the natural ecosystem. Minimize the addition of coal thermal power stations to the national power development planning in the provinces of the Mekong Delta; gradually transfer technology of the current coal thermal power stations towards modernness and environmental friendliness. Focus on exploiting the potentials for development of renewable energy, firstly wind and solar energy.

g) The Ministry of Construction

- Review, amend and implement the planning for regional construction planning, urban planning and rural planning in conformity with regional natural ecological characteristics, rearrangement of population and relocation of houses along rivers, canals and ditches to minimize the risk of erosion. Continue to execute the smart urban development program and safe water supply project in the Mekong Delta.

- Continue to implement current programs and formulate new mechanisms and projects according to specific conditions of the Mekong Delta, keep houses safe from floods, droughts, storms, thunderstorms, whirlwinds and sea level rise.
- Research into creation of new substitute materials serving leveling and construction (limit removal of riverbed sand for foundation bed heave). Plan and invest in stationary and modern wastewater and waste treatment stations; promote recycling, reuse and production of energy from waste.

h) The Ministry of Transport

- Plan and develop a uniform, modern, multi-purpose, climate change and sea level rise-resilient transport infrastructure, take advantage of the river system to exploit advantages in waterway transport, serving the demand for transport of goods.

- Mobilize resources to gradually invest in and complete transport infrastructure system according to the planning approved by the Prime Minister. Give top priority to the works that are able to be resistant to climate change and sea level rise.

i) The Ministry of Science and Technology

- Review and complete the mechanisms and policies for provision of assistance in science and technology application, especially high technologies in agricultural production.

- Take charge and cooperate with ministries and relevant local authorities in executing key programs and performing tasks relating to science and technology, give priority to provision of resources for science and technology in a targeted and effective manner to serve sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong Delta.

- Carry out research into environmental protection, natural disaster preparedness and reduction of vulnerability and negative impacts of climate change on the Mekong delta; promote international cooperation in research into, application and transfer of technology to serve sustainable development of the Mekong Delta.

k) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

- Take charge, coordinate and increase Vietnam’s participation in current frameworks for development cooperation with the Greater Mekong Sub-region countries and between the Greater Mekong Sub-region countries and external development partners, especially promote cooperation with countries in the basin in the extraction and equitable and sustainable use of the Mekong River's resources, including water resources, on the basis of harmony of interests and with an aim to achieve sustainable development of the entire Mekong River basin.

- Cooperate with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment in increasing the effectiveness of Vietnam’s participation in the Mekong River Commission; give encouragement to countries and international organizations that are development partners to promote provision of assistance in resources for the Commission’s activities; encourage upstream countries that are yet to participate in the Commission to become members of the Commission.

- Cooperate with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment in expanding and strengthening strategic partnerships in climate change resilience, including the strategic partnership in climate change response with the Netherland; propose the establishment of new frameworks for partnerships with countries, international organizations and partners in this field; take maximum advantage of external sources, including investment, science and technology to serve sustainable development of the Mekong Delta.

l) The Ministry of Justice shall take charge, cooperate with and guide ministries and relevant local authorities to review, complete and submit legislative documents to a competent authority for
promulgation or promulgate them within its competence to ensure sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong Delta.

m) The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism

- Organize the implementation of the master plan for tourism development in the Mekong Delta until 2020 with a vision to 2030; pay attention to development of ecotourism according to the specific characteristics of the region (gardens and rivers), inter-regional and international tourist routes; advertise tourism products of the Mekong Delta.

- Preserve, enhance and develop cultural identity, cultural works, and revolutionary historical relics; preserve and uphold natural and cultural heritages; formulate a plan for preservation and development of culture and information of ethnic minorities in the Mekong Delta.

n) The Ministry of Education and Training and the Ministry of Labor, War Invalids and Social Affairs:

- Promote provision of vocational training and human resource development, especially high quality human resources in association with the labor export market so that people may participate positively and proactively to play a central role in the transformation of production and livelihoods, meeting the needs of the region’s economic development; renovate training and turn peasants into skilled agricultural workers, thereby contributing significantly to labor restructuring.

- Strengthen the implementation of the plan for sending laborers to work abroad.

o) The Ministry of Information and Communications shall guide press and communications agencies to promote communications to raise awareness of the people of the Mekong Delta of opportunities got from model switching to serve sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong Delta.

p) The Committee of Ethnic Affairs shall take charge and cooperate with ministries and relevant authorities in reviewing and formulating preferential policies exclusive to socio-economic development of Kh'Mer ethnic minority; provide training for Kh'Mer officials of the Mekong Delta.

q) The Ministry of Health shall take charge and cooperate with the People’s Committees of provinces and cities of the Mekong Delta in reviewing the health facility network planning; pay attention to investment in the health system capable of serving the healthcare demand, improve hygiene conditions and control drinking and domestic water quality in the context of climate change.

r) The People's Committees of provinces and central-affiliated cities of the Mekong Delta:

- Take charge and cooperate with the Ministry of Information and Communications and relevant authorities in promoting propagation and raising local government and people’s awareness of challenges facing the Mekong Delta and each area in the region; stay adaptive to climate change and other impacts from the upstream, mobilize resources for protection, restoration and planting of forests, especially protection forest, and coastal and riverside mangrove forests.

- Proactively review, formulate and implement socio-economic and specialized development in conformity with specific conditions and natural laws, respond to climate change, adapt to salinity and droughts the same as floods, according to the overall planning integrated with sustainable development of the Mekong Delta and human-centered motto.

- Update forecasts, reconsider the feasibility, redefine economic structure towards development of local potential and advantages; combine production with consumption and ensure sustainable development.
- Develop an economic model in conformity with natural conditions, adapt to salinity and droughts the same as floods. Take initiative in seed production, intensive farming, processing, preservation and distribution of agricultural, forestry and aquatic products, and creation of closed value chain. Shift from the way of thinking in agricultural production and food security to production of diversified, large-scale and modern agricultural products, turn the Mekong Delta into a place not only for application of the world’s scientific and technological achievements and the fourth industrial revolutionary but also for creation of new climate resilient climate change models.

- Preserve and develop core values of the Mekong Delta to form a basis for the development of ecotourism and river tourism services by exploiting the strengths of each sub-region and adapt to saltwater and brackish water.

- Develop infrastructures and residential areas in the flooded areas on the basis of limited the use of sand for leveling and creation of reservoirs according to motto “living with floods”; preserve wetlands to retain water.

s) The People’s Committee of Ho Chi Minh city shall cooperate with provinces and central-affiliated cities of the Mekong Delta in boosting development and foster the link between the Mekong Delta and Southeastern region and Ho Chi Minh city.

6. Implementation

a) The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment shall take charge and cooperate with the National Committee on Climate Change and relevant authorities in periodically reviewing and assessing the implementation of the Resolution, organizing the conference on sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong Delta to inspect and urge the implementation of the solution proposed at the previous conference and discuss and propose new strategic orientations and solutions with results and deadlines at the request of the Prime Minister or the Government.

b) Ministries, ministerial agencies, Governmental agencies and People’s Committees of provinces and central-affiliated cities of the Mekong Delta:

- According to the tasks specified in this Resolution, formulate and promulgate the implementation plan before Quarter II, 2018; organize the implementation of solutions that make significant changes to serve sustainable development of the Mekong Delta; submit periodic reports on the implementation to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, which will submit it to the Prime Minister and Government.

- Take charge of reviewing, adjusting, amending or formulating the master plan for development of the industry under the state management before December, 2018, which will serve as a basis for the Ministry of Planning and Investment to formulate a master plan for sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong Delta until 2030 with a vision towards 2050.

- Cooperate with the Ministry of Planning and Investment in formulating a master plan for sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong Delta until 2030 with a vision towards 2050 using the method of multi-sectoral integration.

c) The Ministry of Planning and Investment shall take charge of reviewing the 05-year implementation of the Conclusion No. 28-KL/TW dated August 14, 2012 of the Political Bureau on orientation, tasks and solutions to socio-economic development and assurance of security and defence of the Mekong Delta region until 2020 enclosed with the Decision No. 2270/QD-TTg dated November 21, 2013, before December, 2018.
d) Request the Political Bureau to direct the review on 05-year implementation of the Conclusion No. 28-KL/TW dated August 14, 2012 of the Political Bureau on orientation, tasks and solutions to socio-economic development and assurance of security and defence of the Mekong Delta region until 2020; consider promulgating the Resolution on sustainable and climate-resilient development of the Mekong Delta.

dd) Request the National Assembly to consider, amend and provide budget for execution of the programs, schemes and projects, and performance of tasks specified in the Resolution.

e) Request the People's Council at all levels, Vietnamese Fatherland Front and unions at all levels to promote supervision and propagation during the implementation of this Resolution./.

ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT
PRIME MINISTER

Nguyen Xuan Phuc