Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Lubomír Zaorálek

Prague, January 3// 2015 No:: 91905/2015-ASIE

Excellency,

Allow me to take this opportunity to commemorate the $65^{\rm th}$ Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our countries.

I am very pleased to note that the foundations for the establishment of our relations were laid on 2 February 1950. After the former Czechoslovakia split into two independent states, your country reconfirmed the validity of existing diplomatic relations with the independent Czech Republic as of its foundation 1 January 1993.

The historic relationship between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Czech Republic has developed over the past years in a respectful, friendly and cooperative way.

There is currently an intense dialogue between our countries. The Government of the Czech Republic has recently officially recognized the Vietnamese community living in the country as a national minority group. They contribute to the values of the Czech society, enrich our relations and significantly connect our countries despite the geographical distance that might separate us.

I am also contented by the effort of our Ministries to strengthen our economic and cultural ties. A number of ongoing or envisaged activities to improve our bilateral regulatory framework, as well as increasing contacts between our Parliaments attest as a sign of a dynamic relationship. I believe that in the coming years we will exploit further the potential of our mutual cooperation.

I avail myself of this opportunity to wish your Excellency all the best of health and every success in your challenging tasks.

His Excellency Pham Binh Minh Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Socialist Republic of Vietnam H a n o i