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PRESS RELEASE

INTERVIEWS FOR 2010 VEF FELLOWSHIPS

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Hanoi, July 29, 2009 – The Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) announces the working visit to Vietnam by a delegation of U.S. scientists and professors from August 1–9, 2009, to interview candidates for VEF Fellowships for the 2010 cohort, which would begin graduate studies in the United States in the fall of 2010.

During this final round of the Fellowship selection process, the U.S. scientists and professors will conduct oral exams/interviews to select the most talented candidates for the 2010 cohort of VEF Fellows. Sixty-nine VEF Fellowship candidates have been chosen from more than 449 applicants through various rounds of the selection process. All VEF Fellowship applicants were required to have taken the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test in order to be considered. In addition, at the request of the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET), the U.S. scientists and professors will also interview 20 candidates for the Vietnam International Education Development (VIED) scholarship program, which is emulating the Fellowship application and selection process of VEF. While in Vietnam, the U.S. delegation will also conduct scientific lectures at universities and research institutes in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

A press conference regarding the oral exams/interviews for the 2010 VEF Fellowship cohort will be held on Sunday, August 2, from 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm at the Sofitel Plaza Hotel in Hanoi.

Dr. Lynne A. McNamara, VEF Acting Executive Director, commented, "The Vietnam Education Foundation is proud to be a part of the development of science, engineering, mathematics, medicine, and technology for Vietnam. The highly recognized VEF Fellowship program enables the best minds of Vietnam to pursue their dreams of getting a graduate degree in these fields in one of the outstanding research universities in the United States. With the help of the U.S. National Academies throughout the selection process, VEF expects to send up to 40 new Fellows to begin American graduate programs in the fall of 2010. Reflecting the importance of the relationship between the United States and Vietnam, VEF is honored to share the process of the successful VEF Fellowship application and selection process with the MOET VIED program."

Dr. Nguyen Xuan Vang, Director General of VIED, said: "On behalf of VIED of MOET, we are grateful to VEF for their time and effort in sharing the VEF processes, procedures, and technology. As a result of this close cooperation with VEF, VIED has been able to establish cooperative

relationships with American universities. Thanks to the help of the National Academies and VEF to include the VIED finalists in this year's interviews by the American professors, the Vietnamese government scholarship applicants, applying to U.S. universities, have an excellent opportunity to be admitted to the best universities in the United States.

An initiative of the U.S. Congress, the Vietnam Education Foundation, a U.S. federal government agency, is in its seventh year of operations. As its flagship activity, the VEF Fellowship program has placed 306 Fellows at 69 top U.S. graduate institutions, mostly for doctoral degrees. Among its other programs, the VEF Visiting Scholar Program provides opportunities for Vietnamese to pursue post-doctoral programs at U.S. universities for up to 12 months.. In addition, the U.S. Faculty Scholar Grant Program allows for U.S. professors to teach at Vietnamese universities for one or two terms either via videoconferencing or on-site in Vietnam. VEF Fellows and Visiting Scholars are required to return to Vietnam upon completion of their academic programs in the United States.

For more information on VEF, please visit the website: www.vef.gov.