

# Nguyen The Hung - Vietnam Session

Activities of the Police in Religion, Foreign Non-governmental work

## I. For religious activities

The main task of the police is responsible for security matters of religion, to ensure the operation of various religious organizations in Vietnam to remain within the legal framework to ensure the right to freedom of religion of all citizens, not allowing religious conflict.

In the past, information about religious persecution in Vietnam was not accurate, the Vietnamese government was only to handle violation of Vietnam law from those citizens but did not discriminate any religion.

1. Counsel with, recommend to the government to enforce guidelines, policies and laws relative to religious issues, take the initiative to discover the weakpoints, shortcomings in policies and legal documents on religion to propose amendment, addition, perfection, to ensure freedom of religion of all citizens, and gradually integrate the religious activities into the framework of the law in Vietnam.

2. Cooperate and exchange information with foreign religious organizations relative to religious activities in Vietnam on guidelines and policies about religion and objective reality on religious situation in Vietnam, specifically:

- Situation of the religious freedom and the implementation of religious policy, progress, change relative to the religious situation in Vietnam in recent years, the recognition of the legal status and registration of activities for organizations, religious institutions, enabling to organize religious activities and services, provide more training for officers, expand and increase the friendliness, and international exchange of religion.

- Information about some complicated nature of religion occurred in Vietnam

3. Provide favorable conditions to organizations, especially Non-Government Organization (NGO) with active religious sources helping in the social, charitable, service areas in order to eliminate famine and reduce poverty, and contribute to the socio-economic development of the country.

However, according to the legal framework of Vietnam, those individuals with bad intention who would exploit charitable, humanitarian activities in order to proselytize or to influence, divide the great national solidarity (for example help IGE to develop the cooperation such as organizing workshops about christianity, international symposium on religion, law, participate and organize the training on religious policy for staff and religious officers in the local areas.

4. Supervise, discover and handle the organizations and those individuals with bad intention who would exploit religion to carry out activities that would break the law of Vietnam.

5. Propagate, guide the policies and perspectives of the government about religion that the religious officers, followers would understand and comply with the guidelines, policies and laws in religious activities, to help them distinguish pure religious activities with the activities that exploit religion to break the law against the government.

Counsel with the government at all levels to consider, grant the activity registration, and recognize the legal entity and issue registration papers for denominational activities, the group that is eligible in accordance with Vietnamese laws, focus in addressing the appropriate needs of the religious officers, followers; without allowing those with bad intention to distort the policy of the government policy, to sow division between the religious officers, followers and the government.

For foreign non-governmental activities

1. Communicate directly with foreign non-governmental organizations when coming to Vietnam to labor in the areas of the police department or foreign non-governmental organizations with needs in the relevant areas.

2. Participate as members of the committee about non-governmental organizations (COMINGO) help the Vietnamese government excel in management, coordination, guidance of the activities of the foreign non-governmental organizations in Vietnam in accordance with the provisions of the Vietnamese law.

3. Perform the tasks assigned by the government in the legal documents regarding foreign non-

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governmental organizations.

- Decree 12 "on the registration and management activities of the foreign non-governmental organization in Vietnam: the police department is responsible for the matters related to national security and social order and safety in the operation of foreign non-governmental organizations in Vietnam.
- Decree No. 93: Regulation on management and use of foreign non-governmental organization aid.
- Guide and support agencies in Vietnam in the process of receiving and using the foreign non-governmental organization aid to implement the provisions of the Vietnamese law in order to protect national security and maintaining social order and safety .
- Participate, evaluate and suggest on the relevant foreign non-governmental organization aid (security, defense, religion, and direct aid to support the building of legal documents, law, policies, policy issued under the authority of the prime minister, the strategy, planning, economic and social development, for the entire country, sector, territory) for safety before they are presented to the prime minister to consider for decision; guide provincial police to participate in the evaluation of foreign non-governmental organizations aid under the approval of the People's Committees of provinces and cities.
- Participate in supervising the receipt and use of foreign non-governmental organizations aid, especially to the aspects affecting political security and social order and safety of the receipt and use of foreign non-governmental organizations aid.
- Carry out the tasks according to their ability when discover signs of law violation relating to the receipt and use of non-governmental organizations aid.