

**Subject to Legal Review for Accuracy, Clarity and Consistency**

Ms. Barbara Weisel  
Assistant United States Trade Representative  
for Southeast Asia and the Pacific  
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative  
Washington, D.C., United States of America

Dear Ms. Weisel:

I have the honor to refer to the following understanding between representatives of the Government of Viet Nam (Viet Nam) and the Government of the United States of America (United States) reached during the negotiations on Section E (Geographical Indications) of Chapter 18 of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP Agreement):

Viet Nam and the United States confirm their understanding that from the date of confirmation of the Agreed Minute by the TPP Chief Negotiators until the date of entry into force of the TPP Agreement for each Party, each government will take all measures within its legal authority to prevent any action that may be contrary to the object and purpose of Article 18.36, which relates to the protection or recognition of geographical indications under international agreements.

I have the further honor to propose that this letter and your letter in reply confirming that your Government shares this understanding shall constitute an agreement between Viet Nam and the United States, which shall enter into force on the date of your letter in reply.

Sincerely,

Tran Quoc Khanh

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The Honorable Tran Quoc Khanh  
Vice Minister  
Ministry of Industry and Trade  
Hanoi, Viet Nam

Dear Vice Minister Khanh:

I am pleased to acknowledge your letter of this date, which reads as follows:

I have the honor to refer to the following understanding between representatives of the Government of Viet Nam (Viet Nam) and the Government of the United States of America (United States) reached during the negotiations on Section E (Geographical Indications) of Chapter 18 of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP Agreement):

Viet Nam and the United States confirm their understanding that from the date of confirmation of the Agreed Minute by the TPP Chief Negotiators until the date of entry into force of the TPP Agreement for each Party, each government will take all measures within its legal authority to prevent any action that may be contrary to the object and purpose of Article 18.36, which relates to the protection or recognition of geographical indications under international agreements.

I have the further honor to propose that this letter and your letter in reply confirming that your Government shares this understanding shall constitute an agreement between Viet Nam and the United States, which shall enter into force on the date of your letter in reply.

I have the honor to confirm that my Government shares this understanding, and that your letter and this letter in reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments, which shall enter into force on this date.

Sincerely,

Barbara Weisel