

Ian M Britza, MLA

Member of Legislative Assembly Member for Morley

29 July 2015

H.E Mr Nguyen Tan Dung Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on Hoang Hoa Tham Street, Ba Dinh District Ha Noi Vietnam

Dear Prime Minister

I write to you to bring to your attention the plight of three human rights defenders who remain detained by the Vietnamese government.

Ho Duc Hoa, Dang Xuan Dieu and Nguyen Dang Minh Man have been sentenced to lengthy prison terms for allegedly "Carrying out activities aimed at overthrowing the People's Government" under Article 79 of the Penal Code.

Their detention has been deemed arbitrary by the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and their prison terms reflect the human rights violations occurring in Vietnam. I am also concerned about their health and state of being. The detainees have held several hunger strikes during their incarceration to protest the ill-treatment they have received while in detention.

I respectfully request you to release Ho Duc Hoa, Dang Xuan Dieu and Nguyen Dang Minh Man and honour your commitments to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, of which Vietnam is a signatory.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Ian M Britza MLA

State Member for Morley