



*Embassy of the United States of America
Hanoi*

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Hanoi, December 8, 2014

Dear Governor Haley:

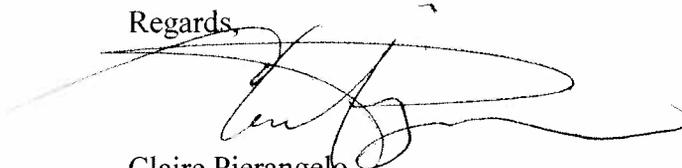
Next year, the United States and Vietnam will mark the 20th anniversary of the normalization of our relations. Much has changed over the last twenty years since we reopened our diplomatic presence in Hanoi. Most notably, Vietnam has transformed itself into a vibrant economy that has become a growing market for U.S. goods and services, with exports more than tripling over the last decade.

American products are well received in Vietnam, and over the last four years U.S. exports have increased by over 60%, compared to 46% globally. With real GDP growth targeted at 5.8% for this year and even higher the next, a young and increasingly affluent population, and an expanding modern industrial base, there are real opportunities for your companies to be part of this growth. Furthermore, with the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade and investment agreement on the verge of conclusion, the future of U.S. companies in the Vietnamese market has never been more promising.

With this in mind, I would like to encourage you and your trade development office to consider Vietnam when you plan your state's international business outreach for 2015. This coming year will provide many opportunities for the Embassy to highlight our growing trade relationship as part of our 20th anniversary celebrations, and we would welcome a delegation of South Carolina businesses to help us demonstrate the increasing importance of our bilateral trade.

If you or your trade office has any questions regarding export opportunities or how the Embassy can work with you to plan an effective trade mission to Vietnam in 2015, please contact my Senior Commercial Officer Stuart Schaag at Stuart.Schaag@trade.gov.

Regards,



Claire Pierangelo
Chargé d'Affaires