

**JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
ON THE INTENT TO PURSUE THE COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND THE SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM**

WE, the Minister of State for Foreign Trade of the United Arab Emirates, Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, and the Minister of Industry and Trade of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Nguyen Hong Dien, met today on XX April 2023 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

ACKNOWLEDGING that strengthening United Arab Emirates (UAE) - Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (Viet Nam) trade and investment partnership will bring economic and social benefits and improve the standard of living in both nations;

DESIRING to create favorable conditions that are conducive to expanding two-way trade and investment and maximizing the potential of the bilateral relationship;

RECOGNIZING that a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) would serve as a platform for a modern and dynamic partnership that will drive a new era of cooperation between the two nations;

WE HEREBY ANNOUNCE the intent to pursue the negotiations for the United Arab Emirates-Socialist Republic of Viet Nam Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (UAE-VN CEPA) with the understanding that:

- a. The UAE-VN CEPA should be mutually beneficial and comprehensive, covering trade in goods and services, investment facilitation, other areas to be agreed upon, and cooperation in related matters, so as to serve the economic objectives set by the two parties of substantially increasing the volume of bilateral trade and investment;
- b. The UAE-VN CEPA shall be ambitious while recognizing specific interests, concerns, obligations, and sensitivities each country may have;
- c. The UAE-VN CEPA negotiations will commence after the finalisation of Viet Nam's internal procedures, with the aim of concluding the agreement in the near future.

Signed in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on 06 April 2023.

**MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND
TRADE OF THE SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM**

NGUYEN HONG DIEN

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN
TRADE OF THE UNITED ARAB
EMIRATES**

DR. THANI BIN AHMED AL ZEYUUDI