KEY FACTS ON ONE HEALTH

- One Health is an integrated approach that calls for increased multidisciplinary and inter-sectoral cooperation and communication to address diseases that emerge at the human-animal-ecosystem interface and that pose a threat to animal and human health.

- One Health embraces the inextricable links between the health of humans, animals and the ecosystems they inhabit.

- People usually speak of zoonoses (animal diseases that can be transmitted to humans) but anthroponosis (human diseases that transmit to animals) can result in significant health impacts to animals, and in wildlife, serve as a source of conservation concern.

- One Health enables a better response to emerging and endemic zoonotic diseases such as Avian Influenza, Rabies, and Streptococcus Suis.

- One Health aims at streamlining technical agencies, key players and donors in the Emerging Infectious Diseases field, in light of decreasing available resources and the need for a long-term response planning to emerging threats.

ONE HEALTH IN VIET NAM

- Viet Nam was one of the first countries in the region to adopt a multi-sectoral approach in 2003, which became an One Health approach in 2010 through the endorsement in the Ha Noi Declaration at the International Ministerial Conference on Animal and Pandemic Influenza.

- One Health is the basis for the joint Circular number 16 on zoonotic diseases jointly issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the Ministry of Health (MOH) in 2013.

- One Health is integrated in Viet Nam’s integrated National Plan on Avian Influenza, Pandemic Preparedness and Emerging Infectious Diseases (AIPED) for the period 2011-2015.

- One Health has been applied to the control and prevention of SARS, HPAI H5N1, rabies, and Ebola virus disease in Viet Nam.

- Academic One Health curriculum was developed by the Viet Nam One Health University Network (VOHUN).

- One Health partnership is going to be established based on the newly broadened mandate and scope of the existing Partnership for Avian and Human Influenza Prevention (PAHI). The Partnership will bring different sectors and disciplines together to identify potential public health risks related to zoonotic infectious diseases and to align and coordinate prevention and control actions.

- Viet Nam’s strong commitment to fight highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) is the major factor behind the success for containment of H5N1 disease.

THE UNITED NATIONS (UN) CONTRIBUTION TO ONE HEALTH IN VIET NAM

- Since the first avian influenza outbreak in 2003, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO) have provided technical assistance such as surveillance, laboratory diagnostics and risk communication to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the Ministry of Health (MOH).

- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), FAO and WHO have been supporting various policy dialogues, multi-stakeholders coordination and consultation between national and international partners.

- The UN efforts have led to better preparedness and response capacity for zoonotic diseases especially for avian Influenza H5N1 and H7N9 and the UN is continuing to share and update information on avian influenza with the Government of Viet Nam and international agencies.