CONFIRMATION LETTER

Quy Nhon University wishes to be chosen as the host of the calling project so as to implement the proposed programme to enhance the university's research capacity, thereby effectively serving the local communities. To achieve this major goal, this programme aims at (i) focusing on the sustainable development of the South Central Coast and Highlands region by enhancing the livelihoods of local farmers and the living conditions of the local community and (ii) strengthening QNU capacity in applied science and education, particularly in food science, environment and renewable energies in order to provide the local community with advanced technology and high-quality manpower to handle the regional socio-economic problems. The programme will be achieved by handling simultaneously four agriculture-oriented multidisciplinary research-based and two institution-based domains of change with the main involvement of about 8 PhD sandwich candidates. Intensive collaboration and exchange with local governmental and local farmer as well as Flemish university stakeholders is foreseen to maximize the impact of the programme. The ultimate goal is to empower QNU as a pioneering scientific headquarter to design sustainable solutions answering the region's considerable challenges.

On behalf of Quy Nhon University leadership, as the Rector of Quy Nhon University, I hereby appoint Prof.Dr. Vu Thi Ngan – a female professor in chemistry – to be the local coordinator of the project. As an academic staff, who attained her dotorate from KU Leuven in 2011 and then worked as postdoctoral fellow for one more year at KU Leuven – a prestigious high-ranked university in the world, Prof.Dr. Ngan has gained a vast amount of valuable knowledge not only in teaching but also in conducting scientific research during her professional career. Moreover, Prof.Dr. Ngan has plentiful managerial experience accumulated over many years working as a managerial official. In fact, Prof.Dr. Ngan is currently the Head of the Department of Chemistry, one of the five departments of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, the biggest academic unit of QNU; hence, she can coordinate with all relevant staff members as well as make decisions supporting the proposed IUC programme implementation. Prof.Dr. Ngan also has good experience in coordinating multi-partner projects. Specifically, she is now the project manager of a project titled "Research-based curriculum development in molecular and materials sciences in Vietnam" funded by the European Union under the Erasmus+ programme with the participation of three European universities and four Vietnamese universities. The project is now running smoothly at the beginning stage of its three-year period lasting from the January of 2019 to the December of 2021. Therefore, she is capable of coordinating an international team in this IUC programme.

Summarily, Prof.Dr. Ngan can act as a bridge among QNU, Flemish partners, local authorities, local communities, and all the related stakeholders. With the participation of Prof.Dr. Ngan, I strongly believe that the project could be successfully implemented and achieve its ultimate goal as expected.

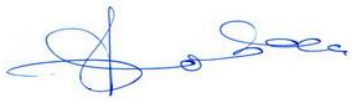
I hereby commit to support Prof.Dr. Ngan as the local coordinator of the project during its lifetime in terms of university policies, administrative procedures as well as counseling opinions.

I wish that the project would be successful and the society would be benefited the most.

Best regards

Quy Nhon University

Rector



Prof.Dr. Do Ngoc My