



IDAHOT  
2014

# FREE EXPRESSION

## INVITATION

The International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia (IDAHOT) was created in 2004 to draw the attention of policymakers, opinion leaders, social movements, the public and the media to the violence and discrimination experienced by LGBTI people internationally. This year, "Free Expression" is selected as a key theme.

In Vietnam, the LGBTI movement to gain equality and freedom of expression has been supported by many agencies and organizations, including Ministry of Justice, Committee of Social Affairs of National Assembly, Institute of Legislation Studies, NGOs, and media. The United Nations in Vietnam has been actively supporting this process along with other development partners. This collective effort has contributed significantly to the transformation of public opinion on homosexuality, reducing stigma and discrimination, and creating a more friendly and safe environment for LGBTI to express their identity freely.

On the occasion of IDAHOT, UN agencies in Vietnam, in coordination with Sexual Rights Alliance a group of Vietnamese NGOs (CCIHP, LIGHT, CGFED, iSEE, ICS and WPF), would like to invite you to a special event to celebrate progress in Vietnam in reducing stigma and discrimination against LGBTI. It is also an opportunity to reinforce messageings of inclusion, non-discrimination and equality for all which are shared by the government of Vietnam, UN agencies, development partners and civil society organizations.

The event will be organized from 15.00 to 17.30 at Hotel Melia Hanoi (44B Ly Thuong Kiet street) on 15 May 2014. Please confirm your participation to Mr. Pham Khanh Binh at dangky@isee.org.vn or phone 04-62737933 before 17.00 on 13 May 2014.

Thank you very much and we look forward to receiving you.

Louise Chamberlain  
Country Director of UNDP

Quach Thu Trang  
Representative of SRA

### *The tentative program*

- 15.00: Registration.
- 15.30: Opening remarks by UN representative and SRA representative.
- 15.45: Video clip: how Vietnam has changed toward protecting equal rights.
- 15.50: Recognize Vietnam's progress on guarantee the LGBT free expression and ways ahead.
- 16.20: Key messages to law makers on protection of LGBT rights.
- 16.30: Contemporary dance on IDAHOT 2014 theme: Free Expression.
- 16.40: Drinks, finger food and sharing time.