Intellectual Property: Marketing of Certain Pharmaceutical Products

Letter from the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne

8 March 2018

The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne Minister of International Trade Canada

Dear Minister,

I have the honour to confirm the following understanding reached by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (Viet Nam) and the Government of Canada with regard to Article 18.53 (Measures Relating to the Marketing of Certain Pharmaceutical Products) of Chapter 18 (Intellectual Property) of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (the Agreement) signed on this day:

Viet Nam and Canada recognise that nothing in Article 18.53 (Measures Relating to the Marketing of Certain Pharmaceutical Products) of Chapter 18 (Intellectual Property) of the Agreement limits a Party from establishing conditions, limitations or exceptions when implementing the obligations set forth under that Article, provided that the Party continues to give effect to that Article.

I have the further honour to propose that this letter and your letter in reply, equally valid in English and French, confirming that your Government shares this understanding will constitute an understanding between our two Governments, which will enter into effect on the date of entry into force of the Agreement as between Viet Nam and Canada.

Yours sincerely,

Tran Tuan Anh Minister of Industry and Trade Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

Response from His Excellency Tran Tuan Anh

8 March 2018

His Excellency Mr. Tran Tuan Anh Minister of Industry and Trade Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

Dear Minister,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this date, which reads as follows:

"I have the honour to confirm the following understanding reached by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (Viet Nam) and the Government of Canada with regard to Article 18.53 (Measures Relating to the Marketing of Certain Pharmaceutical Products) of Chapter 18 (Intellectual Property) of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (the Agreement) signed on this day:

Viet Nam and Canada recognise that nothing in Article 18.53 (Measures Relating to the Marketing of Certain Pharmaceutical Products) of Chapter 18 (Intellectual Property) of the Agreement limits a Party from establishing conditions, limitations or exceptions when implementing the obligations set forth under that Article, provided that the Party continues to give effect to that Article.

I have the further honour to propose that this letter and your letter in reply, equally valid in English and French, confirming that your Government shares this understanding will constitute an understanding between our two Governments, which will enter into effect on the date of entry into force of the Agreement as between Viet Nam and Canada."

I have the further honour to confirm that the above reflects the understanding reached between the Government of Canada (Canada) and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (Viet Nam) during the course of negotiations on the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (the Agreement), and that your letter and this letter in reply, equally valid in English and French, will constitute an understanding between Canada and Viet Nam, which will enter into effect on the date of entry into force of the Agreement as between Canada and Viet Nam.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne Minister of International Trade