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### **Cooperation between the cities of Ruse and Can Tho discussed at a work meeting in Vietnam**

COR MEM Prof. Hristo Beloev, DTSc– Rector of the University of Ruse and Assoc. Prof. Mimi Kornazheva participated in the fourth International forum- seminar „Europe-Asia“, which involves the countries from the basins of the Danube and Mekong rivers. The event was held in Ben Che, located on the Mekong delta in Vietnam.

Representatives of the city of Can Tho also took part in the forum. A memorandum for cooperation between this city and the city of Ruse was signed on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015 in Sofia.

In the same day, 5<sup>th</sup> June, a Bulgarian delegation in Vietnam discussed several topics with representatives of institutions from the host country. The Rector of the University was authorized in advance by the Mayor of Ruse, Mr. Plamen Stoilov, to hold a meeting with the representatives of Can Tho. The Bulgarian group included COR MEM Prof. Hristo Beloev, DTSc– Rector of the University of Ruse and Assoc. Prof. Mimi Kornazheva, Director BRIE, Ruse, Dr. Oleg Marinov, Sales representative of Bulgaria in Ho Chi Minh city, Mrs. Marinela Petkova, Consul of Bulgaria in Hanoi, MRS. Vera Monova, Directorate “Asia, Australia and Oceania” of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The participants from Vietnam were: Mrs. Vo Thi Hong Ann, first Vice Chairperson of the People’s Committee of Can Tho (first deputy Mayor), Mr. Pham Van Kuen, Director of the Department of Agriculture and Rural regions Development, Mr. Nguen Van Su, Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Mr. Tiong Kouk Tang, Director of the Department for Department of International Activity.

During the two-hour meeting, Prof. Beloev presented information about the city of Ruse and the University while Mrs. Vo Thi Hing Ann and her colleagues – the Vietnamese city of Can Tho. The possible areas of cooperation were outlined, with special attention paid to economy, the different branches of industry, agriculture, conservation, culture, etc. Education, research student and lecturer exchange, joint educational programmes and issuing dual diplomas, participation in various scientific forums have been specifically discussed.

COR MEM Prof. Hristo Beloev presented the Vietnamese partners with albums of Ruse and the University of Ruse, booklets about the development of economy, culture, historical heritage as well as souvenirs from the University. Mrs. Vo Thi Hong Ann was honoured by a plaque of the University of Ruse.

The Vietnamese partners from the city of Can Tho have shown a serious interest and a great willingness for cooperation with Ruse, and the Bulgarian participants believe that such cooperation will be perspective and beneficial for both cities.

After returning from Vietnam, the Rector of the University of Ruse arranged a meeting with the Mayor, Plamen Stoilov and informed him about the discussions. Some future activities have been outlined.

