



The Vietnam Association for Victims of Agent Orange/Dioxin (VAVA)

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VAVA's activities in commemoration of "the Memorial Day for Vietnamese Victims of Agent Orange/Dioxin", August 10th, 2008

As in the past years, those who concern themselves with the Agent Orange/Dioxin issues again remember to commemorate the Memorial day of August 10, 2008. On that date, 47 years ago (08/10/1961), the U.S forces begun their toxic chemical sprayings in Viet Nam.

Hereunder are the principal main activities designed to commemorate the date this year:

1. The VAVA's Central fund distributes one billion VND to its provincial chapters so that they may buy gifts and support local victims. Several VAVA officials plan to visit victim families and centers in different local areas.
2. In Ha Noi, on August 09, 2008, an art performance night is to be held in the Hanoi's Opera House with the attendance of several high-ranking State men and women and more fund would be raised in support of our AO victims.
3. Each provincial chapter commits itself to deliver from 20 – 100 million VND for assisting local victims and also to organize many humanitarian & charitable delegations to visit the victims and their families, especially in rural areas. The local Party and Government officials also join in the above-mentioned visiting delegations.
4. While our Central VAVA speeding up activities for preparing **VAVA National Congress in December 2008**, on this occasion, local chapters organize their musical performances and emulation congresses with participation of several important sponsors (e.g. Da Nang, Hai Phong, Ninh Binh).
5. On this occasion, the Voice of Vietnam and the Vietnam Central TV Stations hold interviews with VAVA's leaders on the activities & tasks designed to help AO victims in next year. And several local radio and TV

also stations also plan to show special programs. National and local newspapers also pledge to join this event.

6. On August 7, 2008, Vice-President, Nguyen Thi Doan, on behalf of the Party and Government, visits the *Friendship Village* (a centre for Agent Orange victims in Hanoi).
7. On international scale:
 - US attorneys who represent Vietnamese AO victims continue to prepare documents for filing into the U.S Supreme Court before October 6, 2008.
 - American friends from the Vietnam Agent Orange Relief and Responsibility and Veterans For Peace are hurrying up their plan for supporting a visit of a delegation of Vietnamese Agent Orange victims to visit across the U.S in September and October, 2008. This visit will be headed by Mrs. Dang Hong Nhut.
 - Representatives of *Collectif Dioxine, Les Enfants de la Dioxine* (France) and other French mass organizations together with representative of the U.S. *Global Exchange* are going to hold a talk on August 10, 2008 in Paris to discuss strategies designed to strengthen support to our Agent Orange victims. Other French friends on this occasion will manage to get more supporting signatures and donations.
 - On this occasion, on 14-15 of June, 2008, Ms. Masako (Japan) showed her “*Agent Orange: A Personal Requiem*” in Tokyo and successfully collected USD 8,000 for supporting of our victims.
 - REN, a Russian Film Group from August 8th, 2008 will tour the country for making a 52 minutes documentary on Agent Orange victims.
 - A French delegation of *Les Enfants de la Dioxine* visited VAVA on August 7th and committed to help 30 Agent Orange children in their treatment and schooling for two years

On this occasion VAVA calls upon all of our friends through out to provide more support and assistance to our Agent Orange victims in 2008-2009.