THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ANDTRAINING THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

HANOI LAW UNIVERSITY

INFORMATION ON NEW RESEARCH FINDINGS OF THE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

Dissertation title: International law on protection of international watercourses and the practical implementation in Vietnam

Specialty: International Law **Code:** 9 38 01 08

Doctoral candidate: Ha Thanh Hoa

Supervisor: Assoc.Prof. Dr. Dinh Ngoc Vuong

Training Institution: Hanoi Law University

SUMMARY OF NEW RESEARCH FINDINGS

The doctoral thesis is a comprehensive research of theoretical and legal issues on protection of international watercourses under international law as well as legal and practical issues on protection of international watercourses, specifically Mekong River of Vietnam. On the basis of inheriting the results of previous research works related to the topic, the thesis has brought the following contributions to knowledge:

First, the thesis has developed the concept of protection of international watercourses and characteristics of protection of international watercourses from the legal perspective on the basis of comprehensively approaching international watercourses as a natural resource as well as a component of the environment.

Second, the thesis has systematically analyzed some fundamental theoretical issues of international law on protection of international watercourses. In particular, the thesis has clarified the principles of international law on protection of international watercourses on the basis of analyzing judgments of relevant international jurisdiction bodies and the practice of concluding treaties between countries along international watercourses.

Third, the thesis has more deeply analyzed and comprehensively evaluated international law on protection of international watercourses on the basis of analysis of international treaties, globally, regionally and bilaterally and the rulings of relevant international jurisdiction bodies, thereby, pointing out some “gaps” of international law in this regard.

Fourth, the thesis has comprehensively analyzed legal issues on protection of international watercourses of Vietnam, specifically the protection of Mekong River’s watercourses, including the law of Vietnam, the Agreement on cooperation for sustainable development of Mekong River basin and the Procedures and Technical Guidelines approved by the Secretariat of Mekong River Commission, thereby making objective assessments of the limitations of the current legal framework for protection of international watercourses.

Fifth, the thesis has clarified the status quote of protection of international watercourses, specifically Mekong River’s watercourses in Vietnam, on the basis of updated data provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Secretariat of Mekong River Commission, thereby, proposing some solutions to enhance the efficiency of protection of international watercourses of Vietnam.

Supervisor	**Doctoral Candidate**
Assoc. Prof.Dr. DINH NGOC VUONG	**HA THANH HOA**