Following is a joint statement on the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cultural Co-operation between the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam:

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Cultural Co-operation today (November 9) with a view to promoting and strengthening co-operation in the fields of culture, the arts and education.

The signing was made by the Secretary for Home Affairs, Hong Kong, Dr Patrick Ho, and the Minister for Culture and Information, Vietnam, Dr Le Doan Hop.

Speaking on the occasion, both Dr Ho and Minister Le Doan Hop advised that both Governments would commit to further cultural exchanges by presenting each other's performances or exhibitions in Hong Kong and Vietnam.

Ends/Thursday, November 9, 2006 NNNN