

vietnam architects' association



Country report
For the 29th arcasia council meeting

busan, korea
October 28 - 29, 2008

Country report

Of Vietnam Architects' Association For the 29th ARCASIA Council meeting

1. Brief History of Association

Vietnam Architects' Association (VAA) was established in 1948. Vietnam Architects' Association is a political - social and professional organization belonging to the system of literature and art associations in Vietnam. It takes the important role of a social critic to government and management agencies and makes itself responsible for diffusing architectural knowledge, promoting and developing the profession of architecture in the nation.

2. Office Bearers

The 7th Executive Committee Election of Vietnam Architects' Association (VAA) was held in the August of 2005 in Hanoi. Following Architects are elected as the Standing Committee of Vietnam Architects' Association's Executive Committee for the term of 2005-2010.

President: Ar. Nguyen Tan Van

Vice-President: Prof.Dr.Ar. Hoang Dao Kinh

Vice-President: Ar. Nguyen Thuc Hoang

Vice-President: Ar. Pham Sy Chuc

Vice-President: Ar. Khuong Van Muoi

Members: Ar. Chau My Anh; Prof.Dr.Ar. Nguyen Viet Chau;
Ar. Tran Ngoc Chinh, Dr.Ar. Ngo Doan Duc;
Ass.Prof.Dr.Ar. Tran Trong Hanh; Ar. Nguyen Van Tat.

3. Membership Strength

With almost 3600 members, VAA comprises 54 Member Sections in provinces/ cities and 19 Association's Branches in agencies those are practicing planning, architecture, construction and education in the whole country and VAA's functional divisions.

4. Financial Resources

The Association is officially recognized and supported by Vietnam Government. In addition, it has another sources of income, such as:

- Membership fees
- Incomes from activities of consultation, research on application of science, technology, practicing, services and contributions from other organizations belong to the association.
- Funds from other sponsors.

5. AGM of the Association

National Congress of Vietnamese Architects is held every term of 5 years, general meeting of the VAA's Executive Committee is held every year and the Standing Committee is twice per year.

6. Legal status of the Association

VAA is registered with the Government as a professional – political – social society with its legal entity under provision of law.

7. Registration Authority

Registration Authority for Vietnamese architects are the Local Construction Departments which's under the Ministry of Construction.

8. International Affiliations

VAA is an official member of UIA, Regional UIA and ARCASIA.

Beside, VAA has signed the MOU with other foreign organizations such as Architectural Institute of Korea (AIK), Korean Gyeong-gi Institute of Registered Architects (KGIRA), Association of Laos Architects and Civil Engineers (ALACE), Cuban Association of Architects ...

9. Major programs and activities in 2008

2008 is the 60th anniversary of VAA so many events were organized by VAA and our members sections, such as:

- The general meeting to celebrate VAA's 60th anniversary and the Gold Star Medal Award Ceremony with the participation of many special guests who are the government leaders at all level, foreign delegations as well as almost 1000 members of VAA...
- International conferences and seminar on the following themes:
 - + Vietnamese Contemporary Architecture – the inner and outer visions.
 - + New Ideas and Realizations.
- Selecting “*the Best Architectures in 20 years of renovation period*”.
- Opening the Thanson House of Culture which was built by the collection of the members of VAA for Thanson district in Vinhphuc province, where is the place to established the precursor of the association since 1948.
- Publish the books: “*The first generation of Vietnamese architects*”, “*Vietnamese Architecture – reality and trends*”.
- Produce the film: “*Vietnam Architecture today*” – which is presented on national and provincial television channels to introduce and diffuse the Vietnam architectural & constructional achievements in the renovation period; film: “*Vietnam Association of Architects – the common roof*” about the establishing and developing process of VAA.
- Exhibition “*Vietnam Architecture today*” with almost 80 pictures of typical architectures in all over the country.
- Awarding “*The VAA Campaign Medal and Certificate for Career in Architecture*” to 459 individuals and VAA members who are actively contribute to build up the Association and develop Vietnamese architecture.

The working program of VAA until the end of 2008 is listed as following here:

- National Architecture Prizes 2008.
- Loa Thanh Awards 2008 for the best architecture student's graduate projects.
- Annual Seminar “Autumn meeting” with the theme “*Acknowledge and assess construction's real situation in Vietnam rural area in the renovation period*”.
- 2008 Architecture Student Festival in Hochiminh city.
- Cooperate with the architectural authorities to organize some national and international competitions for the major projects and monuments.

- Carry out the program of research and assess construction's real situation in rural area after the period of 20 years renovation; identify the developing trends, the risk of being changed in landscape, environment and rural life style... to propose the key orientations for the rural architectural research in the future.
- Establishing the law of Architects' Association.
- Submitting "Critical regulation of Vietnam Architects' Association" to the government.
- Completing 3 professional books in the book collection of Vietnamese Architecture.

10. Publications

- Architecture Journal (monthly)
- Nice House Architecture Magazine (monthly)
- Architecture & Life Magazine (monthly)
- Others: News Letter (monthly), professional books...

11. Key issues facing the Architects and the Association

- Presently, Vietnam's construction environment has many shortcomings: urban planning and architecture development is in get out of control, bad management, backward infrastructure, polluted environment and people's awareness of law and architectural culture is not very high...
- The policy and method of architectural education is inadequate, short of timely updating.

12. Future Plans

- Preparing for the 8th National Congress of Vietnamese Architects in 2010.
- Concentrating on establishing the Architects Law.
- Continuing the project of diffusing architectural knowledge and architectural culture through some television programs and compiling some professional books in respect of Vietnamese Traditional and Contemporary Architecture.

- Studying the planning, construction and housing in rural areas in changing process of economic structure and participating in the program of housing construction in urban areas of Vietnam, particularly is settlement issue and social housing.
- Organizing the effective operational model for VAA's branches and Member Sections.
- Participating actively in the reformatory programs and method for educating and training the young generation of architects.

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