

Hanoi, 19 December 2025

Reference for Passapol Phukhang
By Pauline Tamesis, Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Viet Nam

Mr. Phukhang served as Junior Officer for Digital Transformation in the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) in Viet Nam. This was his first assignment within the United Nations system, during which he worked directly under the Head of the RCO.

Despite being new to the UN system and its operational processes, Mr. Phukhang demonstrated an exceptional ability to adapt and learn rapidly. He made a significantly positive impact on advancing the office's digital readiness and alignment with the UN 2.0 agenda, drawing on his strong technical background in digital transformation and artificial intelligence. As the first-ever Junior Officer for Digital Transformation in the RCO, he carried out his responsibilities in a professional, mature, and reliable manner, and quickly established effective working relationships with colleagues across the UN system in Viet Nam, as well as with Development Coordination Office (DCO) counterparts at regional and global levels.

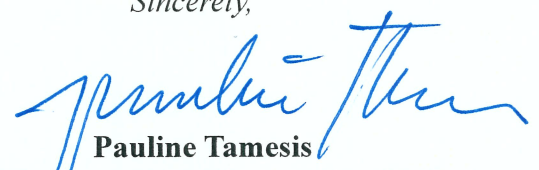
Mr. Phukhang provided highly valued technical and strategic support to the RCO. His contributions included the design and development of an automated translation tool to support timely dissemination of Vietnamese Government alerts on typhoons and floods; conducting internal mapping exercises of digital and data initiatives across UN agencies in Viet Nam; and creating and guiding the use of an AI agent to support the formulation of the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for 2027–2031. He regularly delivered clear and well-structured presentations during RCO team meetings, actively supported colleagues across portfolios, and consistently demonstrated a collaborative and solutions-oriented approach.

Throughout his assignment, Mr. Phukhang showed strong initiative, discipline, and self-management, requiring minimal Head of RCO supervision. Weekly check-ins with the Head of RCO were consistently productive, as he demonstrated an excellent ability to synthesize priorities, clearly articulate progress, and identify concrete next steps. He navigated a steep learning curve related to UN procedures and governance with determination and professionalism, ultimately excelling in his core areas of responsibility, digital transformation and artificial intelligence, which are key strategic priority areas for Viet Nam's development context.

Mr. Phukhang has shown a strong commitment to the values and principles of the United Nations, along with a genuine passion for public service and sustainable development. He is open, transparent, professional, and an effective communicator, with a proven ability to share complex technical knowledge with diverse audiences through presentations, briefings, and participation in regional-level meetings and workshops.

I am confident that Mr. Phukhang possesses the technical competence, analytical capacity, management potential, and interpersonal skills required to succeed in future roles, whether within the United Nations system, in related professional positions, or in advanced academic programs. I recommend him without reservation and am certain that he will continue to make meaningful and high-quality contributions in his future endeavors. I am more than pleased to provide additional details and can be reached at pauline.tamesis@un.org.

Sincerely,


Pauline Tamesis
UN Resident Coordinator, Viet Nam



Hanoi, 23 September 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I highly recommend Mr. Passapol Phukhang for graduate school. As a Junior Officer for Digital Transformation and Ethical AI at the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office in Viet Nam, Mr. Phukhang has significantly contributed to the advancement of interagency digital strategies and the promotion of UN-government partnerships on technology and innovation.

Passapol demonstrated exemplary initiative in charting AI and digital projects at many agencies, delivering analysis directly to senior-level decision-makers. Beyond that, he facilitated AI literacy by conceptualizing staff training at the UN, thereby reducing complex technical issues to applied expertise. His skill at bringing technical competency and management capability together is unusual at this stage of his career and is a demonstration of his leadership potential.

What sets him apart most is his focus on ethical and inclusive innovation. He never sees digital transformation as a technical feat but always as a way of enabling individuals and institutions. Alongside his global experiences in the United States, Thailand, the Czech Republic, and Viet Nam, he provides a global knowledge base, sound intercultural communication expertise, and a sense of responsibility.

Without doubt, Passapol will excel in any demanding, innovation-driven graduate program. He possesses the scholarly talent, the global outlook, and the entrepreneurial spirit required to have a worthwhile influence among his peers and to become a leader of the future in the building of responsible digital horizons.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Sincerely,

Shin Umezu

Head of UN RCO Viet Nam

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