Foreword

In early 2021, the 13th Communist Party Congress of Viet Nam adopted a resolution with the goal of achieving developed country status by 2045. The resolution specifies steps to achieve this long-term goal, starting with graduation from lower middle-income country status by 2025 – the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the South and national reunification. By 2030, when the Communist Party celebrates its 100th anniversary, Viet Nam hopes to be an upper middle-income country. Finally, by the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, now the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, in 2045, it plans to be a developed, industrialised nation. It is observed to be the first time the Party has published such a long-term roadmap in detail and Viet Nam is likely to be confident in its development pathway.

Viet Nam and Japan established diplomatic relations on 21 September 1973, 2 years prior to the liberation of the South. Accordingly, both countries celebrated the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations in 2023. To mark this milestone, and following the advice of His Excellency Yamada Takio, the Ambassador of Japan to Viet Nam, the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) embarked on a comprehensive study aimed at charting the path towards 2045, with policy recommendations to help achieve the national goal.

The study is organised into three themes: (i) a historical view and development model, (ii) industrial development as the driving force for economic growth, and (iii) sustainability and social issues. Based on 21 studies on these three themes, the report provides policy recommendations for the country's development strategy.

The resolution of the 13th Communist Party Congress was approved amid the ever-evolving global landscape, with growing anti-globalisation sentiment and geopolitical tensions, as well as fast-changing technological advances. Any development strategy will have to navigate these challenges and optimise the opportunities they may bring. In this light, I hope this publication contributes to Viet Nam in paving the way towards 2045, as well as future Viet Nam–Japan cooperation in the years to come.

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