

HO CHI MINH NATIONAL ACADEMY OF POLITICS

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**APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CURRENT
RENOVATION PROCESS IN VIETNAM**

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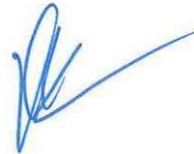


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INTRODUCTION

1. Rationale for Selecting the Topic

During his lifetime, President Ho Chi Minh paid particularly profound attention to the development of Vietnam's agriculture. In his view, for a country whose livelihood depended on agriculture, whose population consisted predominantly of farmers, and whose economy was fundamentally based on farming, agricultural development was of paramount importance in ensuring food security, improving the people's living standards, strengthening the rear, supporting the resistance war and national reconstruction, and providing an essential foundation for national construction and development. Based on the conviction that "When our farmers are prosperous, our country will be prosperous. When our agriculture flourishes, our country will flourish", throughout his revolutionary leadership and direction, Ho Chi Minh developed a highly valuable system of viewpoints on agricultural development. These viewpoints encompassed the position and role of agriculture; the actors and forces involved in agricultural development; and the contents, methods, and measures for organizing production, improving farmers' living standards, and developing rural areas. A prominent feature of his thought was that he consistently placed agricultural development in close connection with the interests of the people, the cause of national liberation, the establishment of a new social system, and national development. These viewpoints were not only of theoretical significance but also constituted an important practical foundation for the Communist Party of Vietnam to formulate guidelines, orientations, and policies on agricultural development in accordance with the requirements of each revolutionary period.

Thoroughly grasping and applying Ho Chi Minh's thought, the Communist Party of Vietnam has consistently identified agriculture, farmers, and rural areas as holding a strategic position in the revolutionary cause. During the early years of the revolutionary government, his viewpoints on agricultural development contributed to guiding the tasks of eliminating the "enemy of hunger," restoring production, ensuring the people's livelihoods, and supporting the resistance war and national reconstruction. In the current process of national renovation, the Communist Party of Vietnam continues to affirm the major role of agriculture. The Documents of the 14th National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam identify agriculture as a strategic pillar, emphasizing that agricultural development not only contributes to economic growth but also constitutes a key factor in ensuring social stability and national security. Agricultural development serves as a fundamental basis for realizing the nation's aspiration to rise and prosper. Therefore, continuing to study, thoroughly grasp, and apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the current process of national renovation is a requirement of profound theoretical and practical significance.

After 40 years of national renovation, Vietnam's agriculture has undergone an important transformation from predominantly subsistence production to commodity-oriented production increasingly aligned with the demands of domestic and international markets. The application of science and technology, the reform of production organization methods, and the development of high-tech agriculture, green agriculture, ecological agriculture, and sustainable agriculture have brought about positive improvements in the productivity, quality, and value of many agricultural products. As a result, agriculture has continued to affirm its role as a key production sector of the economy, ensuring social welfare and contributing to national food security. During many periods of difficulty, agriculture has also demonstrated its role as a "mainstay" of the economy, while helping to enhance Vietnam's position in global agricultural trade. Vietnam's agriculture is now ready to capitalize on its advantages and advance together with the country into a new era.

However, alongside the achievements attained, Vietnam's agricultural development still faces numerous limitations and shortcomings. The scale of production generally remains small, scattered, and fragmented; the establishment of large-scale, modern production and sustainable agricultural value chains has yet to meet development requirements. The productivity, quality, added value, and competitiveness of many agricultural products remain low; certain agricultural

products still depend heavily on exports in raw or preliminarily processed forms and have yet to establish strong brands in international markets. Although progress has been made in the application of science and technology, digital transformation, mechanization, and automation in agriculture, such progress remains uneven and has not yet generated a sufficiently strong driving force to improve the quality of growth across the entire sector. The capacity to adapt to climate change, market fluctuations, and increasingly stringent requirements concerning green, clean, and safe standards and traceability remains limited. Linkages among enterprises, cooperatives, farmers, and other actors in value chains are not yet truly strong and sustainable; in many localities, infrastructure serving the production, preservation, processing, and distribution of agricultural products has not kept pace with development requirements. Therefore, although Vietnam's agriculture has achieved many important accomplishments, its development has not yet been commensurate with its inherent potential and advantages; nor has it truly become a modern, efficient, high-value-added, and sustainable agricultural sector capable of meeting the expectations of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the State, and the people for national development in the new period. Accordingly, research into how to further develop Vietnam's agriculture to a level commensurate with its potential constitutes an issue that needs to be addressed in the current process of national renovation.

Agricultural development in Vietnam is currently taking place in the context of the country's entry into a new era of development—the era of national rise and a historic turning point marked by the rapid and powerful advancement of the entire nation. This context places increasingly high demands and requirements on all levels, sectors, and fields, including agriculture. Vietnam's agricultural sector is facing increasingly comprehensive, stringent, and strategic development requirements. Agriculture must not only meet the requirements of economic efficiency but also ensure the quality of growth, sustainable development, adaptation to climate change, environmental protection, the economical use of resources, and enhanced competitiveness in global value chains. In addition, agricultural development in Vietnam during the current period presents both opportunities and challenges, requiring the agricultural sector to pursue faster and more far-reaching reforms in order to adapt to the new context. Globalization and international economic integration continue to create opportunities for market expansion, investment attraction, and access to modern management knowledge and advances in science and technology; however, they also intensify competitive pressure, compelling Vietnamese agricultural products to meet increasingly stringent international standards regarding quality, food safety, traceability, environmental protection, and sustainable development. The Fourth Industrial Revolution creates favorable conditions for agriculture to apply digital technology, biotechnology, artificial intelligence, big data, and automation to the production, processing, management, and distribution of agricultural products; however, it also imposes substantial requirements in terms of investment capital, human resources, technical infrastructure, and technological mastery. In this context, the requirements placed on Vietnam's agricultural sector in the new era are not limited to maintaining its growth rate but also include the simultaneous achievement of such objectives as increasing added value, strengthening resilience to global shocks, ensuring food security, social stability, and ecological security, and making an increasingly significant contribution to the country's rapid and sustainable development. Therefore, conducting research to propose more practical solutions that facilitate the development of Vietnam's agricultural sector and enable it to meet the requirements of national construction in the new era constitutes an urgent issue at present.

Although numerous studies in recent years have addressed Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, as well as the application of that thought in Vietnam's practice from different perspectives, there remain relatively few works that approach this issue in a comprehensive, systematic, and in-depth manner. In particular, insufficient attention has been paid to clarifying the content, value, and orientational significance of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development under new conditions. Consequently, the awareness of certain actors and forces regarding the content, value, and requirements for applying his thought in this field

has, at times and in certain places, remained inadequate; nor has sufficient emphasis been placed on the need to continue thoroughly grasping, applying, and creatively developing Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the country's new era of development.

For the foregoing reasons, continuing to conduct comprehensive research into, and develop a profound understanding of, the content and value of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in order to apply it creatively to present conditions is of practical significance to the process of building a modern, comprehensive, efficient, ecological, and adaptive agricultural sector in Vietnam that meets the requirements of the contemporary era. Such application not only contributes to maintaining the foundational role of agriculture in the economic structure but also aims to safeguard the legitimate interests of farmers, build a modern peasantry, and improve the material and spiritual well-being of the people, particularly rural residents. Therefore, the doctoral candidate has selected the topic ***"Applying Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development in the Current Process of National Renovation in Vietnam"*** for the doctoral thesis in Ho Chi Minh Studies.

2. Research Objectives and Tasks

2.1. Research Objectives

To examine Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development and its application by the Communist Party of Vietnam and the State in the process of national renovation in Vietnam, thereby proposing orientations and solutions to enhance the effectiveness of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in Vietnam in the coming period.

2.2. Research Tasks

To achieve the above objective, the thesis undertakes the following tasks:

First, to review the research related to the topic, summarize the results achieved, and identify the issues that the thesis needs to examine further.

Second, to analyze and clarify several theoretical issues concerning the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in Vietnam.

Third, to assess the current situation and identify the issues arising from the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the process of national renovation in Vietnam during the 2011-2025 period.

Fourth, to identify the influencing factors, determine orientations, and propose solutions to enhance the effectiveness of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the coming period.

3. Research Subject and Scope

3.1. Research Subject

Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development and the process of applying his thought on agricultural development in the course of national renovation in Vietnam.

3.2. Research Scope

- Scope of content: The thesis focuses on examining and elucidating the fundamental contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; the current state of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the process of national renovation in Vietnam; and the orientations and solutions for enhancing the effectiveness of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in Vietnam in the coming period.

- Spatial scope:

Scope in terms of content: Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development encompasses a relatively broad range of fields, including crop cultivation, animal husbandry, forestry, fisheries, salt production, traditional occupations, and supplementary occupations. Within the scope of the topic, the thesis focuses on several fundamental fields of agricultural development, namely crop cultivation, animal husbandry, forestry, and fisheries.

Scope of application: The application of Ho Chi Minh's thought in the field of agricultural development in Vietnam.

- Temporal scope: Vietnam's process of national renovation commenced in 1986; however, within the scope of the thesis, the research focuses on the 2011-2025 period. The year

2011 is selected as the starting point because it was associated with the Resolution of the 11th National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Platform for National Construction during the Period of Transition toward Socialism (Supplemented and Developed in 2011), in which the Communist Party of Vietnam set forth important orientations for agricultural development.

- Scope in terms of actors involved in the application: The thesis approaches the actors involved in applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development primarily as the Communist Party of Vietnam, which plays the leading role in formulating guidelines and policies on agricultural development, farmers, and rural areas; the implementation also involves the State, the political system, Party committees, local authorities, cadres and Party members, enterprises, cooperatives, and farmers.

4. Theoretical and Practical Foundations and Research Methods

4.1. Theoretical and Practical Foundations

4.1.1. Theoretical Foundation

The thesis is grounded in the theoretical foundations of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh's thought, and the guidelines and viewpoints of the Communist Party of Vietnam on agricultural development, as well as the Party's review reports on theoretical issues related to agricultural development.

4.1.2. Practical Foundation

The practice of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development and the practice of agricultural development in the current process of national renovation in Vietnam.

4.2. Methodology and Research Methods

4.2.1. Methodology

As the thesis falls within the discipline of Ho Chi Minh Studies, it is based on the methodology of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's thought.

4.2.2. Research Methods

On the basis of the methodology of dialectical materialism and historical materialism, the thesis employs a combination of specialized and interdisciplinary research methods in the social sciences and humanities, together with methods specific to Ho Chi Minh Studies. Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development is approached as an integrated and systematic whole, situated within the specific historical context of the Vietnamese revolution and associated with the tasks of national liberation, socialist construction, and ensuring the well-being of the people. Specifically:

The logical method, the historical method, and the combination of the logical and historical methods: The logical method is employed to systematize Ho Chi Minh's viewpoints on agricultural development according to such fundamental aspects as its importance, actors, forces, contents, and measures, thereby clarifying the integrated nature and theoretical value of his thought. The historical method is applied to situate those viewpoints within the specific context of each revolutionary period and to identify the process of formation, evolution, and development of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. The combination of these two methods enables the thesis both to generalize the core arguments and to ensure objectivity, thereby avoiding subjective interpretation or the modernization of his thought.

Document analysis method: This method is used to examine domestic and international documents related to the research topic, thereby identifying issues that require further study concerning Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development and its application in the current process of national renovation in Vietnam.

Analytical and synthetic methods: The analytical method is employed to clarify the fundamental contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; simultaneously, it is used to examine the guidelines and policies of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the State, as well as the current state of agricultural development in Vietnam, thereby identifying achievements, limitations, and their causes. The synthetic method is applied to generalize Ho Chi Minh's core arguments on agricultural development, assess their application in practice, and propose solutions appropriate to the new context.

Statistical and comparative methods: These methods are used to examine documents, official records, and works related to Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; on that basis, comparisons are made across historical periods and with several relevant theoretical viewpoints. Through these methods, the thesis clarifies the similarities, differences, inheritance, application, and development in Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, while affirming the theoretical and practical value of that thought.

Forecasting method: This method is used to identify trends, changes, and factors that may affect the process of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. On that basis, the thesis gains further scientific grounds for determining orientations and proposing appropriate measures for application in the current context of national renovation in Vietnam.

Sociological survey method: This method is used to collect information for assessing the current state of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. The thesis conducts surveys among two respondent groups, comprising cadres and Party members with 250 questionnaires and members of the public with 1,600 questionnaires. The survey data are processed using Excel and Google Forms, serving as a basis for analyzing the current situation, identifying causes, and proposing solutions for applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in Vietnam in the coming period.

Practical review method: The author uses this method to collect, analyze, and evaluate models, movements, and policies concerning agricultural development in Vietnam in recent years. On that basis, lessons of theoretical and practical value are drawn for the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the coming period.

5. New Scientific Contributions of the Thesis

5.1. Theoretical Contributions

The thesis contributes to systematizing, analyzing, and further clarifying the content of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; it also elucidates several theoretical issues concerning the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the process of national renovation in Vietnam from 2011 to the present.

5.2. Practical Contributions

The thesis clarifies the current state of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the process of national renovation in Vietnam from 2011 to the present. On that basis, it identifies the issues arising in the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; at the same time, it analyzes the influencing factors, determines orientations, and proposes solutions to enhance the effectiveness of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the coming period.

6. Theoretical and Practical Significance of the Thesis

6.1. Theoretical Significance

The research findings of the thesis contribute to further clarifying the understanding of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, while supplementing and developing theoretical issues concerning the application of his thought in the current process of national renovation in Vietnam. The thesis also provides important scientific arguments for renewing thinking on agricultural development toward modernity, efficiency, and sustainability.

6.2. Practical Significance

The thesis may serve as a reference for research, teaching, and learning activities at educational and training institutions. Its research findings also contribute additional practical grounds for Party committees and local authorities in leading, directing, and applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development to the current renewal of agriculture, farmers, and rural areas.

7. Structure of the Thesis

In addition to the Introduction, Conclusion, List of the Author's Published Works Related to the Thesis, References, and Appendices, the thesis is structured into four chapters and ten sections.

Chapter 1

LITERATURE REVIEW OF STUDIES RELATED TO THE THESIS TOPIC

1.1. STUDIES ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN VIETNAM

Research on agricultural development has been approached by numerous domestic and international scholars from different perspectives. The works of Tran Van Dat (2010); Pham Ngoc Dung (2011); Bonnin, Turner et al. (2012); Pham Thanh Trung (2013); Nguyen Hoai Son (2013); Rutten et al. (2014); the World Bank (2016); Dang Kim Son et al. (2016); Bui Nu Hoang Anh (2017); Bui Thi Van Anh (2018); Dang Kim Khoi and Tran Cong Thang (2019); Dao Thi Hoang Mai (2019); Newman, Singhal and Tarp (2020); Maitah et al. (2020); Duc Tam Duong (2020); Vinh Bao Ngoc et al. (2021); Vu Thi Thuy Hang (2021); Nguyen Tuan Anh and Nguyen Thi Bao Nga (2022); Doan Minh Quan and Tran Thi Hai Van (2022); Dang Kim Oanh (2022); Cao Duc Phat (2023); Do Thi Hanh (2023); Tran Thi Van Anh (2024); Le Minh Hoan (2025); Dao Thu Tra (2025); and Ta Kim Sen (2026) have contributed to clarifying the fundamental role of agricultural development in economic growth, ensuring food security, maintaining social stability, reducing poverty, and improving farmers' living standards; analyzing the position, role, and participation of such actors as farmers, cooperatives, enterprises, the State, and social organizations in the process of agricultural development; and, at the same time, addressing relatively comprehensively the contents and measures for promoting agricultural development, such as restructuring the agricultural sector, improving policies, reorganizing production, developing the cooperative economy, strengthening value-chain linkages, applying science and technology, promoting digital transformation, expanding markets, and enhancing the productivity, quality, added value, and competitiveness of agricultural products. Overall, these studies affirm that agricultural development is not merely an economic requirement but also an issue of strategic significance to the country's sustainable development. To achieve long-term effectiveness, it is necessary to harness the combined strength of multiple forces, with farmers playing a central role, while linking the renovation of production models with the reorganization of value chains and the enhancement of the socioeconomic efficiency of agriculture.

1.2. STUDIES ON HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ITS APPLICATION IN THE PROCESS OF NATIONAL RENOVATION IN VIETNAM

Representative authors who have studied this issue include Le Van Sang (2000); Nguyen Thi Kim Dung (2000); Pham Ngoc Anh (2003); Nguyen The Hinh (2004); Nguyen Huy Oanh (2004); Tran Van Phong (2005); Nguyen Xuyen (2007); Nguyen Van Tuan (2009); Nguyen Khanh Bat (2010); Le Huu Nghia (2010); Pham Ngoc Anh and Phan Ba Linh (2010); Nguyen Thi Nguyet Anh (2014); Tran Thanh Quang (2016); Pham Bich Hang (2017); Tran Hoa Phuong (2019); Tran Thi Thu Huyen (2020); Hoang Cong Vu (2021); Lai Quoc Khanh (2022); Dang Cong Thanh (2024); Nguyen Thi Quyen (2024); Nguyen Xuan Thuy (2026), among others. Overall, these works were conducted in a thorough and rigorous manner, clearly demonstrating the revolutionary and scientific nature of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. The authors focus on in-depth analyses of Ho Chi Minh's speeches and writings on agricultural development, as well as the fundamental contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, such as the role of agriculture; the necessity of agricultural development; the actors and forces involved in agricultural development; and the contents and measures of agricultural development. According to these authors, such thought not only provides a theoretical basis for determining guidelines and policies, but also offers valuable lessons and experience for agricultural development in Vietnam today. These works are indeed highly useful references for the doctoral candidate in fulfilling the objectives and tasks set out in the thesis.

1.3. SUMMARY OF RESEARCH FINDINGS AND ISSUES REQUIRING FURTHER INVESTIGATION IN THE THESIS

1.3.1. Summary of Research Findings

** Studies on Agricultural Development in Vietnam*

First, the studies have clarified the importance of agriculture to socioeconomic development, food security, job creation, livelihood stability, poverty reduction, the improvement of farmers' living standards, and the enhancement of the country's position. Agriculture is regarded not only as a fundamental material production sector but also as a "mainstay" of the economy and a foundation for social stability, particularly in rural areas and localities vulnerable to fluctuations in markets, climate, and policies. Studies on rice production, rural livelihoods, food security, and agricultural transformation in Vietnam have contributed to affirming the foundational role of agricultural development in the country's sustainable development.

Second, the studies have initially identified with considerable clarity the system of actors and forces involved in the process of agricultural development. Farmers are affirmed as the central actors who directly engage in production and adopt and operate new production methods; the State plays the role of providing orientation and support, promulgating policies, and creating a favorable development environment; the Communist Party of Vietnam plays the leading role in determining the objectives, orientations, and driving forces of agricultural development; and sociopolitical organizations, consumers, enterprises, scientists, and rural communities are regarded as important forces participating in supervision, cooperation, technology transfer, market development, and the improvement of production efficiency. Several studies have also paid attention to producers in the context of digital transformation, considering farmers' digital capabilities, awareness, financial resources, and capacity for technological adaptation to be important factors determining the effectiveness of modern agricultural development.

Third, the studies have clarified many fundamental aspects and emerging trends in Vietnam's agricultural development. The issues addressed are relatively diverse, ranging from market expansion, investment attraction, the application of science and technology, improvement of agricultural product quality, development of post-harvest processing and preservation, rational use of resources, and environmental protection to agricultural restructuring toward increased value, the development of ecological agriculture, clean and safe agriculture, organic agriculture, high-tech agriculture, digital agriculture, smart agriculture, multifunctional agriculture, and the circular economy. Many studies have indicated that agricultural development in the current period must not be limited to increasing output but should aim to enhance added value, quality, efficiency, competitiveness, climate change adaptability, and market integration.

Fourth, the studies have proposed numerous measures to promote agricultural development in a modern, efficient, and sustainable direction. Prominent measures include institutional reform; improvement of policies on land, credit, agricultural insurance, and agricultural trade; promotion of land consolidation, large-scale commodity production, and agricultural restructuring; increased application of science and technology, high technology, mechanization, digital transformation, and the Internet of Things; development of agricultural human resources; strengthened value-chain linkages and public-private partnerships; development of cooperatives and agricultural enterprises; enhanced capacity to adapt to climate change; protection of natural resources and the environment; and expansion of consumption markets. Several studies examining the international experience of China, South Korea, India, Israel, Poland, and other countries have also provided useful lessons for Vietnam in production organization, agricultural modernization, new-style rural development, high-tech application, and the improvement of agricultural development policies.

Overall, the studies have established an important theoretical and practical foundation for

identifying the role, actors, contents, and measures of agricultural development in Vietnam in the context of national renovation, international integration, and sustainable development. These findings constitute valuable sources that the thesis may inherit and draw upon in examining Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development and the application of that thought in the current process of national renovation in Vietnam.

** Studies on Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development and Its Application in the Process of National renovation in Vietnam*

Theoretically, the studies generally agree that Ho Chi Minh showed an early interest in agriculture and consistently placed agricultural development in direct relation to revolutionary tasks, particularly after the August Revolution of 1945. His thought on agricultural development both inherited the Vietnamese nation's tradition of attaching importance to agriculture and absorbed international experience, while creatively applying Marxism-Leninism to Vietnam's specific conditions. The studies have also initially clarified the principal contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, including the position and role of agriculture; the requirement for comprehensive agricultural development; and the actors, forces, and measures involved in agricultural development. Through these findings, the studies have contributed to affirming the theoretical value of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, regarding it as an important foundation for the Communist Party of Vietnam and the State to formulate guidelines and policies on agricultural development throughout different periods, particularly in the current process of national renovation.

In practical terms, the studies have indicated that the achievements of Vietnam's agricultural development in recent years have reflected the inheritance and application of Ho Chi Minh's thought, particularly his viewpoints on promoting farmers' role as the central actors, developing cooperatives, attaching importance to science and technology, and reorganizing production. Many studies affirm that continuing to thoroughly grasp and creatively apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development is an essential requirement in contemporary policymaking and practical implementation. In addition to general studies, several works have examined specific issues such as promoting the role of farmers, developing new-style agricultural cooperatives, building new-style rural areas, and applying science and technology and digital transformation to production. These approaches have contributed to clarifying various aspects of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the new context, while providing further arguments for the Communist Party of Vietnam, the State, authorities at all levels, sectors, and localities in formulating appropriate guidelines and policies on agricultural development.

1.3.2. Issues Requiring Further Investigation in the Thesis

First, the thesis clarifies the connotations of several concepts, including agriculture, agricultural development, Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, and the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. This contributes to supplementing the theoretical foundation for a more comprehensive and systematic understanding of the content of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, while providing a basis for analyzing the application of his thought in the current process of agricultural development in Vietnam.

Second, the thesis continues to examine Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in a comprehensive and systematic manner, focusing on clarifying the importance, actors and forces, contents, and measures of agricultural development. On that basis, it affirms the theoretical and practical value of his thought and the necessity of creatively applying it to Vietnam's agricultural development in the coming period.

Third, the thesis clarifies theoretical issues concerning the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought to agricultural development, identifies the roles and responsibilities of the participating actors and forces, and systematizes the contents and measures of application in a coordinated, feasible manner consistent with the requirements of national renovation.

Fourth, the thesis analyzes the current state of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development from 2011 to the present, identifying the achievements, limitations, causes, and issues arising therefrom.

Fifth, the thesis identifies the factors affecting the current application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development and, on that basis, proposes orientations and solutions consistent with the development requirements of the new period.

Chapter 1 Summary

Studies related to the thesis topic, conducted at different levels and from various perspectives, have provided important arguments concerning agricultural development, Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, and the application of his thought in the practice of agricultural development in Vietnam. The body of domestic and international materials, monographs, scientific articles, conference proceedings, and workshop papers has not only contributed to clarifying the theoretical and practical foundations of the topic but has also suggested numerous valuable approaches, providing the thesis with the necessary foundation for further research.

The literature review shows that studies on agricultural development in Vietnam have addressed a wide range of issues, including the importance of agriculture, the roles of the actors and forces participating in agricultural development, the contents of agricultural development, and measures to promote agricultural development in the context of national renovation, international integration, digital transformation, and sustainable development. At the same time, several studies have initially examined Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development and its application in practice. However, in response to the new requirements of agricultural development in Vietnam today, it remains necessary to continue studying this issue in a systematic and comprehensive manner that closely connects its ideological foundations, practical application, and new development requirements. Published studies constitute an important source of reference, enabling the author of the thesis to identify the issues more objectively, while determining which findings may be inherited and which areas remain insufficiently explored and therefore require further supplementation and development.

On the basis of selectively inheriting previous research findings, the thesis focuses on clarifying the importance, actors and forces, contents, and measures of agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh's thought; analyzing the current state of applying his thought on agricultural development in the process of national renovation in Vietnam, particularly from 2011 to the present; and identifying the achievements, limitations, and their causes. On that basis, the thesis determines orientations and proposes solutions to enhance the effectiveness of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, thereby contributing to the development of a modern, comprehensive, efficient, and sustainable agricultural sector in Vietnam in the coming period.

Chapter 2

APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CURRENT RENOVATION PROCESS IN VIETNAM THEORETICAL ISSUES

2.1. SOME RELATED CONCEPTS

2.1.1. Concept of Agriculture

Agriculture is a fundamental material production sector of society, encompassing crop production, forestry, and fisheries, with the aim of producing food and other products to meet human needs and contribute to socioeconomic development.

2.1.2. Concept of Agricultural Development

** **Development:** Development is the process by which an object, phenomenon, or sector progresses to a higher level, in which quantitative accumulation and qualitative transformation*

lead to the emergence of something new in a more advanced state in terms of scale, structure, quantity, and quality.

*** Agricultural development:** Agricultural development is the process of movement and transformation of the agricultural sector toward an increasingly rational scale, a more complete structure, and higher productivity, quality, efficiency, added value, and competitiveness. It aims to build a modern, comprehensive, and sustainable agricultural sector, thereby contributing to improving the people's living standards and strengthening the country's economic potential.

2.1.3. Concept of Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development

Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development is a system of his viewpoints on the importance, actors, forces, contents, and measures of agricultural development, aimed at organizing and promoting agricultural development in accordance with the country's practical conditions; gradually expanding its scale, improving its structure, and enhancing productivity, quality, and production efficiency; thereby contributing to ensuring food security, improving the people's material and spiritual well-being, and serving the causes of national resistance and national construction.

2.1.4. Concept of Applying Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development

The application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development refers to purposeful activities undertaken by relevant actors and forces to study, thoroughly grasp, absorb, and creatively develop his viewpoints in the formulation of guidelines and policies and in the practical organization of agricultural development. Such application aims to promote positive changes in the scale, structure, productivity, quality, added value, efficiency, and competitiveness of agriculture; build a modern, ecological, and sustainable agricultural sector, civilized rural areas, and a prosperous and increasingly happy peasantry; and contribute to realizing the goal of a prosperous people, a strong country, democracy, equity, and civilization.

2.2. SOME FUNDAMENTAL VIEWPOINTS IN HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

2.2.1. The Importance of Agricultural Development

2.2.1.1. Agricultural Development as the Foundation of National Economic Development

According to Ho Chi Minh, agricultural development plays a fundamental role and constitutes an important foundation for ensuring and promoting the sustainable development of the national economy. He clearly stated: "Vietnam is a country whose livelihood depends on agriculture. Our economy takes farming as its foundation." This clearly demonstrates his strategic vision regarding the position and role of agriculture in Vietnam's economy. As a predominantly agricultural country in which the majority of the population lived in rural areas, agriculture was not only the source of livelihood for the vast majority of the people but also the material foundation for national economic construction and development.

2.2.1.2. Agricultural Development Contributes to Building Military Strength for the Nation's Resistance Cause

In Ho Chi Minh's thought, military strength is constituted not only by weapons, organization, and the art of warfare, but must above all rest on a solid foundation of logistics, food supplies, and military provisions. To establish such a foundation, the entire population must be mobilized to actively increase production and develop agriculture so as to ensure sufficient food for both the people and the armed forces engaged in combat. He clearly stated: "Only when there is enough food and clothing for the troops and the people can the resistance war quickly achieve victory, and reunification and independence soon be attained." This is because "when food supplies are sufficient, the army is strong." To sustain a prolonged resistance war and achieve victory, it is necessary to ensure adequate supplies of food and

military provisions for the front while stabilizing life in the rear. Without actively increasing production, it would be impossible to sustain combat capability, maintain the armed forces, or preserve fighting morale and discipline.

2.2.1.3. Agricultural Development Is a Condition for Improving the People's Material and Spiritual Well-Being

Ho Chi Minh clearly stated: "To achieve victory in the resistance war and success in national construction, it is essential to rely on the peasant masses. To rely on the peasants, it is essential to strengthen their forces. To ensure that the peasants possess abundant strength, they must be provided with land to cultivate, food to eat, clothing to wear, and housing." Ho Chi Minh regarded food as the most essential human need: "To improve the people's living standards, it is first necessary to properly resolve the issue of food, followed by clothing and other matters." In his view, improving material living conditions was a prerequisite for enhancing spiritual life. Given that Vietnam was still poor and devastated by war at that time, ensuring sufficient food for the people was therefore the foremost priority.

2.2.1.4. Agricultural Development Contributes to Preserving and Promoting the Nation's Traditional Cultural Identity

In Ho Chi Minh's thought, the importance of agricultural development was viewed not only from an economic perspective but, more profoundly, within the cultural, social, and human dimensions of Vietnam throughout its millennia-long history of national construction and defense.

2.2.2. Actors and Forces in Agricultural Development

First, the Communist Party of Vietnam leads agricultural development

Ho Chi Minh consistently affirmed that the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam was the decisive factor in ensuring that agricultural development proceeded in the right direction, was properly organized, and achieved practical effectiveness. Agricultural development had to be closely associated with the Party's leadership, both addressing the practical interests of farmers and orienting the development of a modern, collective, and socialist agriculture. According to Ho Chi Minh, the Party's leadership role was demonstrated through the formulation of sound guidelines and policies on agricultural development suited to each period and stage of the revolution, as well as through Party organizations and the contingent of Party cadres.

Second, the State manages agricultural development

Ho Chi Minh placed particular emphasis on the important role of the State in agricultural development. In his view, the State was responsible for effectively organizing the implementation of the Party's guidelines and policies on agriculture; formulating and promulgating mechanisms and policies for agricultural development; and managing, directing, and organizing the production, processing, and distribution of agricultural products.

Third, Party committees and local authorities directly lead and direct agricultural development

According to Ho Chi Minh, Party committees and local authorities play a particularly important role in the cause of agricultural development. He emphasized that "Party committees and authorities at all levels must discuss and formulate highly specific plans together with the people" in order to ensure essential conditions for production, such as adequate irrigation water, fertilizers, high-quality seeds, and technical improvements, while consolidating labor-exchange teams and agricultural cooperatives. In addition, Ho Chi Minh affirmed that "the leadership of Party committees at all levels must be strengthened, first and foremost the direct leadership of the Provincial Party Committee."

Fourth, the Vietnam Fatherland Front and sociopolitical organizations, with the Peasants' Association as the core force, bear the principal responsibility for ensuring the implementation of agricultural development plans

Regarding the role of sociopolitical organizations in agricultural development, Ho Chi Minh emphasized: "The Peasants' Association bears the principal responsibility for ensuring

the implementation of production plans. The Youth Union has the task of taking the lead in promoting the movement. Women must bring their strength into full play in order to produce more and produce better.”

Fifth, cadres and Party members constitute the core force in agricultural development

In Ho Chi Minh’s thought, cadres and Party members are the force that thoroughly understands the guidelines and policies of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the State, while serving as an important bridge between the Party, the State, and the people in the cause of agricultural development.

Sixth, farmers constitute the direct force and play a decisive role in agricultural development

Ho Chi Minh consistently affirmed that Vietnam was an agricultural country and that, therefore, national prosperity directly depended on farmers’ living conditions and productive capacity.

2.2.3. Contents of Agricultural Development

2.2.3.1. Comprehensive Development and Diversification of the Structure of Agricultural Sectors and Occupations

For agriculture to truly serve as the foundation of people’s livelihoods and the national economy, Ho Chi Minh maintained that agricultural development must first ensure a diversified structure of sectors and occupations. He set forth the following orientation: “Production must be comprehensive, including the cultivation of food crops and industrial crops, the development of animal husbandry, and the development of forestry.” Agricultural development must diversify the structure of sectors and occupations so as both to ensure food supplies for daily life and to create commodities and raw materials for the processing industry. At the same time, the development of animal husbandry and forestry helps make effective use of resources, increase added value, and maintain ecological balance, thereby laying a long-term foundation for the national economy.

Development of crop production. In the agricultural sector, Ho Chi Minh paid particular attention to the development of crop production.

Development of animal husbandry. Ho Chi Minh consistently regarded animal husbandry as an important component of comprehensive agricultural development.

Development of forestry. Ho Chi Minh showed an early and profound interest in forestry development, particularly in the rational planting, protection, and exploitation of forests.

Development of fisheries. Given Vietnam’s inherent advantage of a long coastline, Ho Chi Minh paid great attention to the development of fisheries and marine-related economic activities.

2.2.3.2. Balanced and Harmonious Agricultural Development in Relation to Other Sectors of the National Economy

Ho Chi Minh consistently viewed agricultural development as organically connected with other economic sectors rather than as an isolated field. Agricultural development must be closely linked with industry and commerce.

2.2.3.3. Agricultural Development in Accordance with the Advantages of Each Region and Locality

According to Ho Chi Minh, agricultural development required not only the diversification of sectoral and occupational structures but also coordinated and comprehensive development throughout the country. Accordingly, agricultural development could not be concentrated solely in regions and localities with favorable natural conditions, such as the deltas, but had to be promoted comprehensively in other localities across the country as well.

2.2.4. Measures for Agricultural Development

2.2.4.1. Disseminating Information and Providing Education to Foster Farmers’ Self-Reliance and Resilience, Respect for Labor, Emulation in Production, and Practice of Thrift

Agriculture is closely associated with farmers; therefore, agricultural development must first affirm and promote farmers’ role as the principal actors. Ho Chi Minh clearly stated: “In

the construction of the new democracy, the development of industry and commerce necessarily requires liberated farmers to emulate one another in production, supply raw materials and food, and, at the same time, extensively consume industrial products”. Recognizing farmers as the principal actors who play a decisive role, Ho Chi Minh consistently emphasized their initiative, creativity, and responsibility in agricultural development.

2.2.4.2. Improving Guidelines, Policies, and Laws on Agricultural Development

In Ho Chi Minh’s thought, agricultural development requires sound guidelines and policies as well as appropriate mechanisms. He consistently attached importance to the organizational role of the State and the political system in orienting, regulating, and supporting farmers, while ensuring fairness and combating privilege, vested interests, wastefulness, and bureaucracy. Therefore, improving guidelines, policies, and laws on agricultural development constitutes a fundamental measure for unlocking resources, creating development drivers, and establishing a stable and sustainable development environment.

2.2.4.3. Developing Forms of the Collective Economy, Particularly Cooperatives, in Agricultural Development

According to Ho Chi Minh, in order to develop Vietnam’s agriculture in a sustainable direction and create the prerequisites for advancing toward large-scale socialist agricultural production, it is necessary to develop forms of the collective economy, particularly cooperatives.

2.2.4.4. Advancing Agricultural Industrialization and Modernization

Based on the country’s practical conditions, Ho Chi Minh affirmed that agricultural industrialization was not only a measure but also an inevitable step in promoting the development of Vietnam’s agriculture. In his view, the people could enjoy a truly adequate and abundant life only when machinery was widely applied in production, in both industry and agriculture. Machinery would augment human labor, increase productivity hundreds or thousands of times, and enable people to accomplish extraordinary tasks.

2.2.4.5. Strengthening Scientific and Technological Research and Application in Agricultural Development

During his journey abroad in search of a path to national salvation, Ho Chi Minh had opportunities to observe, study, and learn about various models of agricultural development around the world. From this practical experience, he soon recognized a universal principle: the outstanding achievements of agriculture in many countries stemmed primarily from attaching importance to and applying science and technology in production organization, from seeds, cultivation, and irrigation to mechanization, preservation, and processing.

2.2.4.6. Linking Agricultural Development with the Building of a New Way of Life in Rural Areas

According to Ho Chi Minh, agricultural development must attach importance to the development of socioeconomic infrastructure in rural areas. This constitutes an important driving force for promoting and ensuring the process of building a new way of life in rural areas. In this regard, housing construction, road development, and irrigation works are among the most essential issues.

2.2.4.7. Promoting International Cooperation in Agricultural Development

Ho Chi Minh showed an early interest in and addressed the issue of international cooperation in general and economic cooperation in particular. He maintained that agricultural development should be linked with international cooperation in order to obtain support from other countries, while making use of agricultural exports to generate economic benefits and acquire the materials and machinery necessary for production, the resistance war, and national construction.

Chapter 2 Summary

Ho Chi Minh’s thought on agricultural development reflects his profound concern for agriculture, farmers, and rural areas, while also charting the course of the country’s

socioeconomic development. His guiding viewpoints on the importance, actors, forces, contents, and measures of agricultural development resulted from the inheritance of national traditions and the creative application of the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism. His thought on agricultural development not only contributed to overcoming famine and improving the people's material and spiritual well-being, but also laid a solid foundation for the country's industrialization and modernization. At the same time, it has provided an important basis for the Communist Party of Vietnam to formulate guidelines and policies on agricultural development in the past, present, and future, toward a sustainable and modern agricultural sector closely associated with building a new way of life in rural areas.

Applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the Renovation process in Vietnam is an issue of particular significance. Beginning with the clarification of several related concepts, including agriculture, agricultural development, Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, and the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, the author analyzes the fundamental issues involved in applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, namely the importance, actors, forces, contents, and measures of its application. At the same time, the thesis analyzes and elucidates the contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in accordance with the logical sequence of the research issue, including the importance of agricultural development, its actors and forces, contents, and measures. This demonstrates the value of his thought and the necessity of thoroughly grasping and applying it to agricultural development in Vietnam today. It also provides a theoretical foundation for assessing the current state of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought in the Renovation process in Vietnam from 2011 to the present, thereby identifying the issues arising in the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the Renovation process.

Chapter 3

THE CURRENT SITUATION OF APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE RENOVATION PROCESS IN VIETNAM FROM 2011 TO 2025 AND ISSUES ARISING

3.1. THE CURRENT SITUATION OF APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE RENOVATION PROCESS FROM 2011 TO 2025

3.1.1. Awareness and Responsibilities of the Actors and Forces Involved in Agricultural Development

3.1.1.1. The Communist Party of Vietnam and the State

Thoroughly grasping Ho Chi Minh's viewpoints on the position, role, and importance of agricultural development, through successive National Party Congresses, the Communist Party of Vietnam has consistently identified agriculture as a field of strategic significance and accorded it particular attention, as reflected in increasingly comprehensive and consistent guidelines and orientations concerning agricultural development, farmers, and rural areas.

3.1.1.2. Party Committees and Local Authorities Nationwide and Cadres and Party Members Responsible for Agriculture

In general, Party committees, local authorities, and cadres and Party members, particularly heads of Party committees and local administrations and personnel responsible for the agricultural sector, have demonstrated positive changes in their awareness and responsibilities regarding the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. This has been clearly reflected in their thorough understanding of and compliance with the guidelines, viewpoints, and policies of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the State on agricultural development.

3.1.1.3. The Vietnam Fatherland Front and Sociopolitical Organizations

In recent years, the Vietnam Fatherland Front and sociopolitical organizations,

particularly the Vietnam Farmers' Union at all levels, have demonstrated marked changes in their awareness and responsibilities regarding the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development.

3.1.1.4. Farmers

Farmers' awareness of agricultural development has undergone significant changes. Farmers have increasingly placed profound trust in the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the management of the State, while becoming more proactive in implementing guidelines and policies on agricultural and rural development. They have gradually affirmed their central role as the principal actors in agricultural development and new-style rural development; actively participated in agricultural restructuring; developed household and farm economies; strengthened cooperation and production linkages; and joined large-scale cooperatives and cooperative groups.

3.1.2. Contents of Agricultural Development

3.1.2.1. Comprehensive Development and Diversification of the Agricultural Sector Structure

From 2011 to 2025, Vietnam's agricultural structure shifted in the following direction: in crop production, the proportion of rice cultivation gradually declined, while that of industrial crops and fruit trees increased; animal husbandry developed toward greater concentration and modernization; forestry expanded the area of planted forests and increased forest coverage; and fisheries grew strongly, becoming a key export sector.

First, development of crop production. The Communist Party of Vietnam and the State have consistently regarded crop production as a key field of decisive significance to ensuring national food security and promoting agricultural economic growth.

Second, development of animal husbandry. Based on a thorough understanding of the viewpoints and orientations of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the State, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development directed localities to accelerate the restructuring of the animal husbandry sector and vigorously transform it from small-scale, scattered production into concentrated livestock production on farm and household-farm scales, with the aim of developing industrialized and high-tech animal husbandry.

Third, development of forestry. The forestry sector has achieved important accomplishments and recorded rapid growth.

Fourth, development of fisheries. With its outstanding natural advantages, including a long coastline, extensive systems of rivers, ponds, and lakes, and numerous sheltered waters, Vietnam possesses considerable potential for the comprehensive development of the fisheries sector. Fully recognizing this importance, the Communist Party of Vietnam, the State, and Party committees and local authorities in coastal localities have focused their leadership and direction on developing the sector sustainably and ensuring a harmonious balance between capture fisheries and aquaculture, with aquaculture gradually becoming the principal pillar.

3.1.2.2. Balanced and Harmonious Agricultural Development in Relation to Other Sectors of the Economy

From 2011 to the present, the Communist Party of Vietnam and the State have consistently maintained the viewpoint that agriculture is a pillar of the national economy and, at the same time, an important link in intersectoral, interregional, and inter-field value chains. In the process of transforming the growth model toward sustainability, modernization, and international integration, agricultural development is no longer confined to production but is oriented toward close linkages with the processing industry, support services, logistics, science and technology, and e-commerce.

3.1.2.3. Agricultural Development in Accordance with the Advantages of Each Region and Locality

The 2011-2025 period shows that Vietnam's agricultural sector developed in an increasingly coordinated and comprehensive manner on the basis of promoting the potential and

strengths of localities throughout the country. This was reflected first and foremost in the Communist Party of Vietnam's guidelines and orientations on agricultural development: "Restructure regional economies, reform institutions for linkages among localities within each region and among regions, promote the role of dynamic economic regions and major urban areas, pay attention to the development of disadvantaged regions, and narrow development gaps among regions."

3.1.3. Measures for Agricultural Development

3.1.3.1. Disseminating Information, Providing Education, and Promoting Farmers' Role as the Principal Actors in Agricultural Development

The Communist Party of Vietnam and the State have introduced numerous guidelines and measures to promote farmers' role as the principal actors, while regarding this as one of the foremost measures for agricultural development. On the basis of the Party's viewpoints, Party committees and authorities at all levels have attached importance to disseminating information and providing education to raise farmers' awareness of the role of agriculture and their own role as the principal actors in agricultural development.

3.1.3.2. Promulgating Guidelines, Policies, and Laws Related to Agricultural Development

The period from 2011 to the present has witnessed the notable achievement of a relatively coordinated system of guidelines, policies, and laws on agricultural development, which has been increasingly improved toward sectoral restructuring, higher added value, stronger value-chain linkages, and sustainable development, thereby establishing an important institutional framework for nationwide implementation.

3.1.3.3. Developing Cooperatives and Forms of Production Organization in Agriculture

On the basis of thoroughly grasping Ho Chi Minh's thought on the role of cooperatives in agricultural development, since 2011, the Communist Party of Vietnam and the State have promulgated numerous important guidelines and resolutions aimed at renewing and improving the operational effectiveness of the collective economy and models of agricultural production organization.

3.1.3.4. Agricultural Industrialization and Modernization

In recent years, the Communist Party of Vietnam and the State have consistently identified agriculture as a key field in the country's process of industrialization and modernization. As a result of this orientation, Vietnam's agriculture has undergone marked transformations from small-scale production to large-scale commodity production, with the extensive application of science and technology, toward a modern, efficient, and sustainable agricultural sector.

3.1.3.5. Application of Science and Technology in Agricultural Development

Thoroughly grasping Ho Chi Minh's viewpoint on the role of science and technology in enabling the Vietnamese people to quickly "permanently escape poverty and backwardness," the Communist Party of Vietnam and the State have consistently recognized the role and importance of science and technology in economic development in general and agricultural development in particular. On that basis, numerous guidelines and policies have been introduced to strengthen scientific and technological research and application throughout all stages of the agricultural development process.

3.1.3.6. Linking Agricultural Development with New-Style Rural Development

On the basis of a proper understanding of the close relationship among agriculture, farmers, and rural areas, in recent years, the Communist Party of Vietnam, the State, Party committees, and local authorities have consistently attached importance to linking agricultural development with new-style rural development. Guidelines and policies have been implemented in a coordinated manner to enhance agricultural productivity and product quality, improve farmers' material and spiritual well-being, and gradually develop rural infrastructure and landscapes.

3.1.3.7. International Cooperation in Agriculture

In the context of increasingly extensive international integration, the Communist Party of Vietnam, the State, and administrative authorities at all levels have consistently promoted international cooperation in agriculture. In recent years, numerous bilateral and multilateral cooperation programs and projects have been implemented with the participation of international organizations, enterprises, and foreign governments, focusing on key areas such as technology transfer, the improvement of crop varieties and livestock breeds, fisheries development, natural resource management, and rural infrastructure development.

3.2. ACHIEVEMENTS, LIMITATIONS, AND ISSUES ARISING IN THE APPLICATION OF HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

3.2.1. Achievements and Limitations in the Application of Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development from 2011 to 2025

3.2.1.1. Achievements and Their Causes

** Achievements*

First, the awareness and responsibilities of the actors and forces in thoroughly grasping and applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development have been increasingly enhanced.

Second, the contents of agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh's thought have been more comprehensively and synchronously understood and implemented across various fields.

Third, the measures for agricultural development in accordance with Ho Chi Minh's thought have been applied in increasingly diverse and flexible ways and have gradually become more consistent with practical requirements.

Fourth, agriculture has achieved noteworthy accomplishments and made major contributions to the national economy.

** Causes of the Achievements*

First, the actors and forces have developed an increasingly comprehensive and profound awareness of the value of Ho Chi Minh's thought to agricultural development.

Second, the leadership and direction of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the State's management of agricultural development have been increasingly strengthened, thereby providing an important political and legal foundation for applying Ho Chi Minh's thought in practice.

Third, coordination between central ministries, commissions, and sectors and Party committees and local authorities in implementing guidelines and policies on agricultural development has gradually become closer and more effective.

Fourth, the strong development of science and technology and the continued improvement of agricultural infrastructure have created favorable conditions for applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development.

3.2.1.2. Limitations and Their Causes

** Limitations*

First, awareness of the position, contents, and orientational value of Ho Chi Minh's thought for agricultural development in certain localities and grassroots units remains insufficiently comprehensive, profound, and consistent.

Second, although the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought to the contents of agricultural development has become broader and more coordinated, implementation in certain fields still lacks depth and balance.

Third, the application of measures for agricultural development in certain fields and localities remains insufficiently coordinated and ineffective; production linkages, the application of science and technology, and the promotion of farmers' role as the principal actors remain limited.

Fourth, the actual results of agricultural development remain incommensurate with the country's potential and advantages.

** Causes of the Limitations*

First, the thorough understanding and application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development by certain actors and in certain fields remain insufficiently profound and have not yet been effectively transformed into development thinking and practical action.

Second, coordination mechanisms between the central and local levels and among sectors and authorities at different levels remain insufficiently synchronized in certain areas of agricultural development; implementation responsibilities have, at times and in certain places, not been clearly defined.

Third, the concretization of guidelines and policies on agricultural development in certain localities remains slow, lacks adequate foresight, and is not sufficiently aligned with regional characteristics and farmers' needs.

Fourth, climate change, natural disasters, drought, saltwater intrusion, epidemics, and environmental pollution have directly affected agricultural production and reduced development effectiveness.

Fifth, complex and unstable developments in the global economic and political situation have affected agricultural production and markets.

3.2.2. Issues Arising from the Application of Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development in the Renovation Process in Vietnam

3.2.2.1. *Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development Retains Its Enduring Value, Yet Its Understanding and Practical Application Remain Subject to Certain Limitations*

3.2.2.2. *The Application of Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development in the Current Period Must Be Flexible, Creative, and Appropriate to New Conditions and Contexts; However, in Practice, the Application Process Remains Mechanical, Formulaic, and Insufficiently Suited to Reality*

3.2.2.3. *Mechanisms and Policies Constitute an Important Foundation for Promoting Agricultural Development; However, in Practice, They Remain Insufficiently Coordinated and Have Not Kept Pace with Market Developments*

3.2.2.4. *The Development of Modern, Efficient, and Sustainable Agriculture Requires a Generation of "Civilized" Farmers; However, in Practice, Vietnamese Farmers' Qualifications and Capabilities Remain Limited in Many Respects*

3.2.2.5. *The Application of Science and Technology and Innovation, Particularly Digital Transformation, is an "Inevitable Path" and a Driving Force for the Development of Vietnam's Agriculture; However, This Area Still Faces Numerous Shortcomings*

3.2.2.6. *The Need to Address Uneven Development Quality among Agricultural Sectors and Regions and to Ensure Harmonious Relationships in Agricultural Development in Vietnam Today*

Chapter 3 Summary

Born and raised in an agricultural country, Ho Chi Minh possessed a profound understanding of the issues of agriculture, farmers, and rural areas in Vietnam. Accordingly, he regarded agriculture as the foremost front, farmers as the core force, and rural areas as the foundation of social life. These viewpoints were not only valuable in the historical conditions of his time but also continue to provide an important theoretical and practical foundation for the Communist Party of Vietnam and the State to formulate guidelines and policies for modern and sustainable agricultural development.

In the Renovation process, particularly from 2011 to the present, the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development has achieved many positive results. The awareness of actors and forces within the political system has gradually improved; the contents of agricultural development in accordance with his thought have been implemented relatively comprehensively; and measures for agricultural development have been applied more flexibly, contributing to important changes in agriculture, farmers, and rural areas. Nevertheless, the

application process still faces numerous limitations. Some actors lack a comprehensive and profound understanding; in certain places, the thorough grasping of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development remains formalistic and insufficiently coordinated; and several implementation measures are not fully suited to practical conditions and have yet to achieve high effectiveness. Meanwhile, Vietnam's agriculture is facing many new requirements, including restructuring the sector toward ecological development and modernization, increasing added value, developing high-tech agriculture, advancing digital transformation, adapting to climate change, and integrating more deeply into international markets. These requirements demand that the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development be understood more comprehensively, implemented more creatively, and linked more closely with the country's development realities. Therefore, agricultural development in Vietnam remains incommensurate with the country's potential, advantages, and the requirements arising in the new context.

Based on the current situation of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in terms of the awareness of the actors and forces, the contents, and the measures, Chapter 3 has clarified the achievements and limitations, explained their causes, and identified several issues arising at present. This constitutes an important practical foundation for the thesis to determine orientations and propose solutions to enhance the effectiveness of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in Vietnam in the coming period.

Chapter 4

FACTORS AFFECTING, ORIENTATIONS, AND SOLUTIONS FOR ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN VIETNAM IN THE COMING PERIOD

4.1. FACTORS AFFECTING THE APPLICATION OF HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE COMING PERIOD

4.1.1. The Continuing Complex and Unpredictable Developments in the Global Economic and Political Situation Pose Unprecedented Challenges

In the coming years, although peace, cooperation, and development will remain the prevailing trends, the global landscape is undergoing rapid and unprecedentedly complex changes toward multipolarity, multiple centers, multiple layers, and increasingly pronounced divisions. Peace, cooperation, and development will remain major trends; however, the world is facing numerous new and increasingly complex challenges.

4.1.2. The Increasingly Extensive and Comprehensive Process of International Integration across Various Fields Creates Both Opportunities and Major Difficulties and Challenges

Increasingly extensive and comprehensive international integration across various fields continues to be an inevitable global trend, in which Vietnam is both an active participant and directly affected. This process creates major opportunities and favorable conditions for the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development.

4.1.3. The Fourth Industrial Revolution Is Advancing Rapidly and Will Continue to "Boom" in the Coming Period

The Fourth Industrial Revolution, with the rapid and groundbreaking development of science and technology, is exerting and will continue to exert profound and comprehensive impacts on every sphere of social life, including agriculture.

4.1.4. Climate Change, Natural Disasters, Epidemics, and Environmental Pollution Are Increasing and Becoming More Complex, Erratic, and Difficult to Control

Climate change, natural disasters, epidemics, and environmental pollution are increasing in scale, frequency, and severity and are becoming, and will continue to become, major challenges to agricultural development in Vietnam.

4.1.5. The Continued Shift in Vietnam's Economic Structure and Labor Structure

The ongoing shifts in Vietnam's economic and labor structures, in the context of accelerated industrialization and modernization, are exerting increasingly evident impacts on the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development.

4.1.6. Impacts Arising from the Requirements of National Development in the New Era, Institutional Reform in Governance, and Changes in Resources for Agricultural Development

As Vietnam enters a new era of development, the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development is no longer confined to agriculture alone but is directly affected by major national transformations in the growth model, governance institutions, the spatial organization of development, and production resources. The orientations toward building ecological agriculture, modern rural areas, and a civilized peasantry; the requirements to enhance the productivity, quality, and competitiveness of the economy; and the processes of digital transformation, green transformation, and deeper international integration require agricultural development to be approached in a more dynamic, modern, and effective manner.

4.2. ORIENTATIONS FOR APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE COMING PERIOD

First, remaining steadfast in and creatively applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the new era

Throughout his revolutionary career, President Ho Chi Minh always paid special attention to agricultural development, regarding it as a fundamental field directly associated with the people's livelihoods, the country's economic strength, and the stability of the political system. In his view, agriculture not only provides food but also serves as a basis for social stability, the improvement of people's livelihoods, and the development of other economic sectors. Therefore, Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development possesses profound theoretical value and demonstrates practical vision, becoming an orientational foundation for the Communist Party of Vietnam to lead the development of agriculture, farmers, and rural areas from the periods of resistance and national construction to the present.

Second, developing comprehensive and modern agriculture in association with new-style rural development

Agricultural development is a strategic issue of particular importance to the cause of national industrialization, modernization, and sustainable development. Developing comprehensive and modern agriculture in association with new-style rural development constitutes an important orientation in applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development.

Third, accelerating industrialization and digital transformation in agricultural development

In the current process of national development, accelerating industrialization, modernization, and digital transformation is an urgent requirement. However, sustainable development cannot be achieved if attention is devoted solely to industry and services while agriculture, farmers, and rural areas are neglected.

Fourth, closely integrating agricultural development with the protection of natural resources and the environment

In the context of increasingly serious climate change, resource degradation, and environmental pollution, closely integrating agricultural development with the protection of natural resources and the environment has become an urgent requirement. This is not only an economic issue but also one of profound sociopolitical and humanitarian significance.

Fifth, promoting the roles and responsibilities of relevant actors in applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development

The application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the coming period must aim to build a modern, ecological, efficient, and sustainable agricultural sector in

Vietnam; civilized rural areas rich in cultural identity; and a farming population whose material and spiritual well-being is continuously improved and who possess the knowledge, skills, and capacity to master science and technology. This objective must be concretized in every guideline, policy, program, and project on agricultural development, ensuring that agricultural development not only increases output and export value but also improves farmers' incomes, status, capacity for self-mastery, and quality of life.

4.3. SOLUTIONS FOR ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF APPLYING HO CHI MINH'S THOUGHT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN VIETNAM IN THE COMING PERIOD

4.3.1. Raising the Awareness of Actors and Forces in Applying Ho Chi Minh's Thought on Agricultural Development

Given its considerable potential and advantages, agriculture will continue to play an important role in the cause of national development in the coming period. To effectively apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, it is first necessary to raise the awareness of relevant actors and forces regarding the pillar role of agriculture in ensuring food security, creating livelihoods, maintaining social stability, preserving national culture, protecting the ecological environment, and enhancing the country's position. On that basis, the responsibilities of the entire political system, enterprises, cooperatives, scientists, sociopolitical organizations, and particularly farmers-the direct producers and beneficiaries of the achievements of agricultural development-must be brought into full play.

4.3.2. Formulating and Improving Policies and Laws on Agricultural Development

Policies and laws constitute a fundamental foundation and one of the foremost factors enabling agricultural development to proceed smoothly and achieve positive results. A coordinated, comprehensive, and appropriate system of policies and laws will promote the dynamism of relevant actors and facilitate the fullest utilization of the country's potential and strengths in agricultural development, and vice versa. At present, Vietnam's system of mechanisms, policies, and laws on agricultural development still contains numerous shortcomings and remains insufficiently coordinated and complete. Therefore, formulating and improving policies and laws on agricultural development constitutes one of the core solutions that creates the prerequisites for implementing other solutions.

4.3.3. Continuing to Renew the Contents of Agricultural Development toward a Balanced Structure, Coordinated and Comprehensive Development, and Sustainable Effectiveness

Creatively applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on the contents of agricultural development in the current period requires coordinated changes in thinking, approaches, and actions from the central to the local levels and among managers, scientists, and farmers.

4.3.4. Building a Strong Vietnam Farmers' Union and Promoting Its Core Role in Agricultural Development

Building a strong Vietnam Farmers' Union is of great significance to the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. While farmers are the direct producers, innovators, and beneficiaries of the achievements of agricultural development, the Vietnam Farmers' Union is the sociopolitical organization that represents, unites, mobilizes, supports, and protects the lawful and legitimate rights and interests of farmers. Through the Union's activities, the Communist Party of Vietnam's guidelines and the State's policies and laws on agriculture, farmers, and rural areas are communicated to the grassroots level; at the same time, farmers' concerns, aspirations, difficulties, and recommendations are conveyed to Party committees, authorities, and relevant agencies. Therefore, building a strong and substantively effective Vietnam Farmers' Union that remains close to farmers and the grassroots level is an important condition for bringing farmers' strength into full play and promoting modern, efficient, and sustainable agricultural development.

4.3.5. Renewing the Models and Improving the Operational Quality of Agricultural Cooperatives

During his lifetime, President Ho Chi Minh identified cooperatives as a core force in agricultural development. To thoroughly grasp his thought and meet the requirements of developing agriculture toward large-scale commodity production, it is necessary to renew the models and improve the operational quality of agricultural cooperatives. This is an issue of great significance in promoting collective production, increasing productivity and farmers' incomes, strengthening value-chain linkages, and developing agriculture in a modern and sustainable direction.

4.3.6. Strengthening the Application of Science and Technology, Innovation, and Digital Transformation to Develop Modern and Sustainable Agriculture in the Context of the Fourth Industrial Revolution

Although Vietnam's agriculture has made remarkable progress, it generally continues to lag behind countries with advanced agricultural sectors. To narrow the gap in agricultural development levels between Vietnam and other countries and achieve the goal of developing modern agriculture, strengthening the application of science and technology and innovation in association with the Fourth Industrial Revolution, particularly digital transformation, is a key and decisive issue.

4.3.7. Creating an Ecosystem of Value Linkages in Agricultural Development

One of the major bottlenecks in Vietnam's agricultural development today is that production remains fragmented and small-scale, linkages among relevant actors are insufficiently strong, the added value of agricultural products remains low, and the capacity to participate deeply in domestic and international value chains remains limited. Meanwhile, Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development consistently emphasized the need to organize production, bring into full play the strength of solidarity, cooperation, and mutual assistance, and safeguard farmers' practical interests. Therefore, in the nation's era of rise, creating an ecosystem of value linkages should be regarded as a breakthrough solution for creatively applying Ho Chi Minh's thought to modern, efficient, and sustainable agricultural development.

Chapter 4 Summary

The application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the current Renovation process in Vietnam, despite certain fundamental advantages, faces numerous difficulties and challenges, including the increasingly complex and unpredictable global economic and political situation, which entails many potential risks and challenges; the increasingly extensive and comprehensive process of international integration across various fields, which creates opportunities while simultaneously giving rise to difficulties and challenges; the rapid advancement of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, which will continue to accelerate in the coming period; the increasing severity, complexity, unpredictability, and uncontrollability of climate change, natural disasters, epidemics, and environmental pollution; the continuing difficulties and challenges facing the internal strength of the national economy; and major fluctuations in agricultural human resources, with a continuing downward trend in both quantity and quality. Therefore, relevant actors and forces must thoroughly grasp and fully understand these factors so as to take advantage of favorable conditions and overcome difficulties in the process of agricultural development.

To apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the Renovation process in Vietnam in the coming period, several fundamental orientations must be thoroughly grasped: remaining steadfast in and creatively applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; linking comprehensive and modern agricultural development with new-style rural development; harmoniously integrating agricultural development with accelerated

industrialization, modernization, and digital transformation; closely combining agricultural development with the protection of natural resources and the environment; and promoting the roles and responsibilities of relevant actors in applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development. On that basis, the author proposes seven solutions for applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the coming period, including: raising the awareness and responsibilities of relevant actors in applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; formulating and improving policies and laws on agricultural development; renewing the contents of agricultural development toward a balanced structure, coordinated and comprehensive development, and sustainable effectiveness; building a strong Vietnam Farmers' Union and promoting its core role in agricultural development; renewing the models and improving the operational quality of agricultural cooperatives; strengthening the application of science and technology and innovation in association with the Fourth Industrial Revolution, particularly digital transformation in agricultural development; and creating an ecosystem of value linkages in agricultural development. These fundamental solutions directly address the limitations and shortcomings in Vietnam's agricultural development in recent years. Therefore, they must be implemented in a coordinated manner and applied flexibly and creatively in accordance with specific circumstances.

CONCLUSION

Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development constitutes a system of viewpoints on the importance, actors, forces, contents, and measures of agricultural development. This system of viewpoints possesses profound theoretical and practical value. It not only provides a fundamental basis for the Communist Party of Vietnam to formulate guidelines and viewpoints on agricultural development in both previous periods and the present stage, but also directly contributed to building the country's economic potential, supporting the causes of resistance and national construction, achieving national independence and reunification, and building socialism in Northern Vietnam. In particular, Ho Chi Minh's thought and his direct activities in leading and directing agricultural development fundamentally resolved the famine and gradually improved the people's material and spiritual well-being. Therefore, thoroughly grasping and creatively applying his thought on agricultural development in the current Renovation process in Vietnam is an issue of profound theoretical and practical significance.

In recent years, numerous studies have examined agricultural development, Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, and its practical application, thereby clarifying many theoretical and practical issues. However, most studies have remained limited to analyzing and generalizing the contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought and have not examined in depth how it should be applied in the new context. Therefore, it is necessary to clarify such concepts as agriculture, development, agricultural development, Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, and the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development; and to analyze such fundamental issues as the importance, actors, forces, contents, and measures of application. At the same time, it is necessary to elucidate and analyze the contents of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, thereby affirming its theoretical and practical value and the necessity of continuing to apply Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the new era.

In the national Renovation process, particularly from 2011 to the present, the application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development has achieved many positive results. Nevertheless, certain limitations remain. Some actors and forces have yet to develop a sufficiently comprehensive understanding of the necessity of agricultural development in

accordance with Ho Chi Minh's thought; the thorough grasping and application of the contents and measures of agricultural development remain insufficiently comprehensive, flexible, and creative, and their effectiveness is still limited; and the results of agricultural development have not been commensurate with the country's potential and advantages. These limitations primarily stem from the fact that some actors and forces lack a profound understanding of the value of Ho Chi Minh's thought; the concretization of that thought into guidelines and policies in certain localities still contains numerous shortcomings; coordination between central ministries and sectors and Party committees and local authorities remains insufficiently synchronized; and the qualifications and occupational skills of the majority of farmers remain low and have yet to meet new requirements. These circumstances require the continued and more thorough grasping of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, together with its flexible and creative application in accordance with the new context; the improvement of mechanisms and policies; the enhancement of farmers' qualifications and capabilities; the promotion of the role of cooperatives; the acceleration of science and technology application and digital transformation; and the strengthening of competitiveness in international cooperation, toward the development of modern and sustainable agriculture.

The application of Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development in the coming period will take place against the backdrop of complex and unpredictable developments in the global political and economic situation, with numerous potential risks and challenges. The increasingly extensive process of international integration across all fields creates many opportunities while also posing considerable difficulties for Vietnam's agricultural development. In addition, the Fourth Industrial Revolution is advancing rapidly and is expected to continue to "boom" in the coming period, while climate change, natural disasters, epidemics, and environmental pollution are becoming increasingly severe, erratic, and difficult to control. Domestically, the restructuring of the economy and labor force continues to accelerate, while the internal strength of the economy remains subject to numerous limitations and challenges. In this context, agricultural development must be comprehensive and modern and closely associated with new-style rural development; harmoniously integrated with industrialization, modernization, and digital transformation; closely linked with the protection of natural resources and the environment; oriented toward ensuring independence and self-reliance while strengthening international economic cooperation; and aligned with national defense and security strategies and effective responses to climate change.

Therefore, to enhance the effectiveness of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, relevant actors and forces must focus on implementing several fundamental measures. First, it is necessary to raise the awareness of relevant actors and forces in the process of applying Ho Chi Minh's thought on agricultural development, regarding this thought as the orientational foundation for all activities. At the same time, the system of policies and laws on agricultural development must be formulated and improved to ensure consistency, feasibility, and conformity with practical conditions. The contents of agricultural development must continue to be renewed toward ensuring a rational structure, comprehensive and coordinated development, and sustainable effectiveness. In addition, it is necessary to build a strong Vietnam Farmers' Union that truly represents the lawful and legitimate rights and interests of farmers; renew the models and improve the operational quality of agricultural cooperatives; and create an ecosystem of value linkages in agricultural development. In parallel, the application of science and technology must be strengthened, and innovation associated with the Fourth Industrial Revolution, particularly digital transformation, must be promoted.

LIST OF THE AUTHOR'S THESIS-RELATED PUBLICATIONS

1. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2023), “Applying Ho Chi Minh’s Thought to Agricultural Development in Vietnam Today”, *Electronic Journal of Political Theory*, September 11, 2023, available at <http://lyluanchinhtri.vn>
2. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2023), “Ho Chi Minh’s Thought on the Role of Agriculture: Application in Orienting Agricultural Development in Vietnam Today”, *Journal of Social Sciences Information*, No. 492, pp. 28-35.
3. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2024), “Promoting the Role of the Grassroots Political System in Building New Rural Areas Today”, *Ho Chi Minh Studies Journal*, No. 61, pp. 71-84.
4. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2024), “Applying Science and Technology to Agricultural Development in Accordance with Ho Chi Minh’s Thought”, *Journal of State Organization*, No. 8, pp. 42-45.
5. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2024), “Applying Ho Chi Minh’s Thought on Cooperatives in Current Agricultural Development”, *Journal of Political Theory*, Special Issue, Fourth Quarter, pp. 212-220.
6. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2025), “The Communist Party of Vietnam Applying Ho Chi Minh’s Thought in Leading the Development of Vietnam’s Agricultural Economy during the Renovation Period”, *National Scientific Conference*, January 2025, pp. 541-551.
7. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2025), “Several Solutions to Promote the Application of Digital Technology in Agricultural Development in Vietnam Today”, *Journal of State Management*, August 28, 2025, available at <http://www.quanlynhanuoc.vn>
8. Vu Thi Thu Ha (2026), “Developing Ecological Agriculture Associated with Building New Rural Areas in Vietnam Today”, *Communist Review Online*, February 10, 2026, available at <https://www.tapchicongsan.org.vn>