VARIOUS EDITING FORMS OF DOCUMENTS FOR TEXTS OF NATIONAL SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract:

Definition of relations between contents and editing forms of national science-technology (S&T) development planning documents is very meaningful for activities of editing, implementing and amending works for plans. Contents of plans for S&T development can be presented in various editing forms of texts. Contents of plans for S&T development can combine with other contents in editing forms of texts for S&T strategies, plans for S&T development and S&T plans. At the same time, there exist various editing forms of texts of plans: global-individual, integrated-independent. Every editing form of texts has its own advantages and disadvantages. For actual situation in Vietnam, a particular attention should be paid to individual and independent editing forms of texts for plans of S&T development.

Keywords: Texts of plans: S&T development; S&T planning.

1. Relations between contents and editing forms of plan text for national science and technology development

There exist certain relations between contents of planning and editing forms for texts of national S&T development which are dialectic in their independency and consistency. The consistency between contents of planning facilitates the set-up of global documents and, inversely, the difference between contents of planning requires them to be individual and independent.

Editing forms of texts, global or individual, integrated or independent, will affect activities of editing, implementing and amending the plans.

Every editing forms of texts, integrated or independent, has its own advantages and disadvantages. Integrated editing forms facilitates the set-up of global structure of plans, namely: reflecting the global nature of plans, coordinating the set-up of plans, simplifying the collection of comments-proposals and the approval procedure. At the same time, this form has also disadvantages, namely: coordinating works may be formal leading to rigid constraints in editing and implementing plans.

Individual and independent editing forms of texts offer convenient editing works in some aspects, namely: presenting individual features of matters,

saving time for building and issuing plans, increasing the self-governance of parties involved into editing and implementing plans (in individual and independent documents the involved editing units may be hosting organizations but not the ones playing the coordinating and/or supporting roles in global documents), amending them more easily (it is required to amend separate documents instead of global plans). But the individual and independent forms of texts do not exclude coordinations between various documents (in editing and implementing plans). By other words, the coordination can be carried out in individual and independent documents. But in practice, there is not absolute independence between them but only various options of combination of global and individual approaches in direct or indirect way.

Therefore, when considering the editing forms of texts we need pay attention not only to convenient features in editing plans (which in many case are better for global forms) but also to implementation of plan (which are better for independent forms), not only to the once-for-ever plans bur also for their amendment and adjustment. Here exist also conflicts which require the one of these forms. In fact, similarly to observations made by Samuelson in economics: "Excellent and toughly established theories are very difficult to be applied in life and inversely" [3] we can give a remark: "Highly consistent and globally covering texts are very difficult to be implemented in practice".

In Vietnam, we have many different editing forms of texts. In addition to master plans, numerous specific legal documents provide concrete regulations for component-plans. There are some examples: Decision No. 121/2007/QĐ-TTg dated 27 July 2007 by the Prime Minister on the plan of the network of universities and colleges, 2006-2020 periods, Decision No. 1436/QĐ-TTg dated 10 September 2009 by the Prime Minister of the amendment of the Master Plan of Vietnam railway transport development up to 2020, vision to 2030, Decision No. 2190/QĐ-TTg dated 24 December 2009 by the Prime Minister on the Plan of the system of Vietnam marine ports up to 2020, vision to 2030, Decision 1734/QĐ-TTg by the Prime Minister on the Plan of development of Vietnam network of highway system up to 2020, and vision after 2020, Decision No. 140/QĐ-TTg dated 21 January 2010 by the Prime Minister on the Detail Plan for Eastern side North-South Highway, Decision No. 1488/QĐ-TTg dated 29 August 2011 by the Prime Minister on the development of Vietnam Cement Industry, 2011 - 2020 periods and vision to 2030, and etc.

At the same time, the actuality in our country puts down various problems related to the links between contents and editing forms of plans, namely:

- Many points of views say that we are experiencing at the same time the shortage and the surplus of plans. We can cite: "... we are experiencing the

shortage and the surplus of plans. The number of plans annually developed by ministries, branches and local governments are very big. Many of them have similar names and contents. Many of them get approved but rarely used, even not implemented. In general, many sectors and fields are developing "without plans" which means the studies for planning have problems which lead to non-integrated development, without plans or with broken plans..." [8, p.12]. The nature of these conflicts rests in the relations between contents of plans and editing forms of plans. The attention is focused heavily on editing forms but not on contents. There are gaps between contents (shortage) and editing forms (surplus);

- There are comments on the lack of coordination between plans which leads to low quality of texts. The cause may come from little attention to editing forms of global plans. However, it is only one side of problems. The other side, more important, is the lack of consistency in global approaches, global methods, global frameworks in setting up different plans [2, p.21-24]. This make plans texts so different that there is no chance to coordinate them. We can confirm that the consistency in approaches, methods, analysis frameworks would lead to the consistency of contents and provide the coordination between plans;

- There are many comments also for partiality of plans [6, p.8-10]. The partiality exists in practice but it is not absolutely caused by the existence of individual and independent texts. It is necessary to confirm that the partiality in plans provides positive effects when the contents themselves are of partial nature.

2. Relations between contents and editing forms in science and technology plans in the world

In the world, the contents of S&T plans may exist in various editing forms. There are some notes for these relations:

- Contents of S&T plans are reflected in texts, e.g. the Thesis for middle-term and long-term national S&T development 2006-2020 of China promulgated on 9 February 2006;

- Contents of S&T plans presented in various Government programs, e.g. the development of national research centers are important tools for improvement of inter-regional cooperation as noted in the Program for national Research Centers by Czech Republic Government (2001), Development of Technological Clusters noted in Promethee Program by Belgium Government (2000), Special Catch-up Program for undeveloped regions by Hungarian Government (1999) containing numerous S&T

contents, Australian Capacity Support Program by Australian Government to develop modern S&T infrastructure and etc;

- Contents of S&T plans are presented in texts of S&T strategies, e.g. Japanese S&T Strategies dated 19th August 2011 (the Fourth Science-Technology Strategies) mentioned about development of research facilities of international level, establishment of large scaled and advanced R&D facilities (with some key nuclear research facilities of the world role, set-up of more than 100 research-training facilities (some of them may be ranked in the world's top 50) for research topics of high applicability of various research fields, establishment of regional systems for technological transfer, and etc;

- Thailand National Science-Technology Strategies (2004-2013) had considerable contents about S&T development infrastructure mentioning orientations and measures for implementation of development of centers of excellence (COE), development of scientific parks and technical services, and etc;

- South Africa National Strategy of Bio-technology Development mentioned about contents for development regional centers of innovations and etc;

- National Strategies for Bio-Technology Development up to 2020 (announced by May 2005) noted clearly contents for development of infrastructure for bio-technologies in various regions of the countries and etc.

From experiences of some countries in the world on relations between contents and editing forms of S&T plans the following remarks can be made:

- Contents of S&T plans can exist in different editing forms of texts which can be plans, strategies, programs and etc;

- Diversity of these relations reflects the complex diversity of the relations between S&T plans, S&T strategies and S&T policies. Efforts to link contents of S&T plans with the contents of S&T strategies and S&T policies create different editing forms of texts;

- Different relations between contents of S&T plans depend also on specific features of systems of documents of every nation and tradition of their editing and etc.

3. Editing forms of texts for national science and technology development in Vietnam

Plans for S&T development in Vietnam set up the orientations of development and organizational space for S&T activities for a long period and for certain scopes. It is necessary to define editing forms of this type of texts.

3.1 Contents of science-technology development can be presented in numerous editing forms of texts

a) Contents of science-technology development can be combined with other contents in editing forms of S&T Strategies, Master Plans for S&T development and S&T plans.

There exist flexible and different ways to combine *contents* and *editing forms* for national S&T plans.

In terms of contents, there exist differences between: (i) contents of strategies for S&T development; (ii) contents of planning for S&T development, (iii) contents of plans for S&T development; (iv) contents of detailed S&T plans. These contents can exist in different editing forms of texts (Table 1).

Table 1: Editing forms of texts having contents of S&T development

Editing forms / Contents	Texts of S&T Strategies	Texts of S&T development plans	Texts of S&T plans	Texts of S&T policies	Text of detailed S&T plans
(i)	X	X			
(ii)	X	X	X		
(iii)	X	X	X	X	
(iv)					X

According to this table, contents of plans for S&T development can exist in the following editing forms of texts:

(1) Texts of strategies for S&T development: contents of plans for S&T development are combined with contents of strategies for S&T development, plans for S&T development and S&T policies in the same text where the main role belongs to strategies for S&T development;

(2) Texts of plans for S&T development: This can be of two forms:

- First form is for texts of plans for S&T development having only contents of plans for S&T development;

- Second form is for texts of plans for S&T development having mainly contents of plans for S&T development and also contents of strategies for S&T development, plans of S&T development and S&T policies in the same texts.

(3) Texts of plans for S& development: contents of plans for S&T development are combined with contents of S&T policies where the main role is for contents of plans for S&T development.

Here we need to focus on the following points:

- There exist diversified and rich relations between contents and editing forms of texts of plans for S&T development. From another side, even with some combined editing forms of texts including plans for S&T development and strategies for S&T development, there exist differences which are to be clearly noted for contents of S&T development and other contents;

- Contents of plans for S&T development and other contents can exist in close relations in the same texts but it is necessary to identify the main contents in every texts. The yin-yang model can be used for illustration:
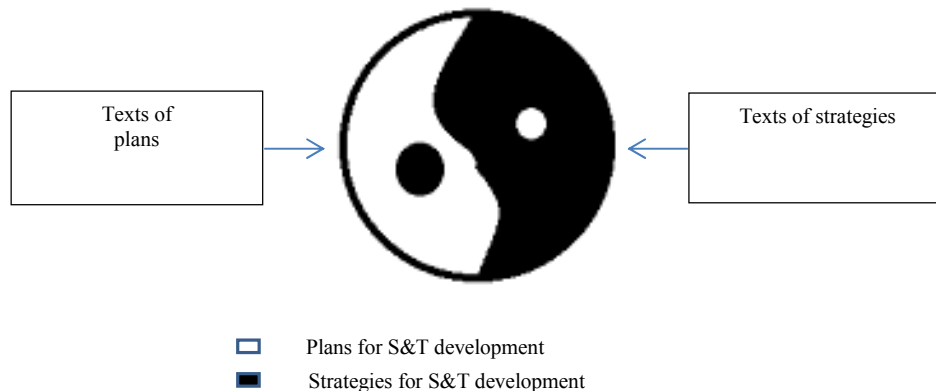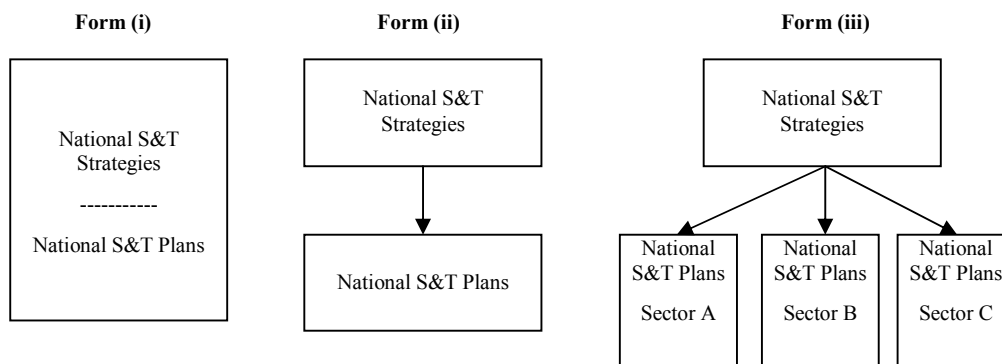

Plans for S&T development
Strategies for S&T development

Figure 1: Relation between contents and editing forms of texts

- Every editing form of texts has its own advantages. They are used to link closely contents of plans for development with other related contents or to enhance the independence of contents of plans for S&T development;

- There exist here clear limits which exclude content of plans for S&T development from texts for S&T policies and detail plans of S&T projects.

b) Various editing forms of texts: global-individual, integrated-independent

For this matter, there exist the following main forms:

(i)   Integrated in texts of strategies for S&T development;

(ii) Independent from texts of strategies for S&T development but integrated in the same texts of national plans for S&T development;

(iii) Individual national plans for S&T development for various sectors of S&T activities or groups of activities;

Form (i)	Form (ii)	Form (iii)

National S&T
Strategies

National S&T Plans

National S&T
Strategies

↓

National S&T Plans

National S&T
Strategies

↙   ↓   ↘

| National S&T Plans Sector A | National S&T Plans Sector B | National S&T Plans Sector C |

Note: Impacts to National plans for S&T development, in addition to National plans for actual sectors, may come also from Strategies for S&T development in those sectors.

Figure 2: Editing forms of texts: global-individual, integrated-independent

3.2. Attention to be focused on individual and independent editing forms of texts of plans for S&T development

The above analysis shows the applicability of various editing forms of texts for S&T planning in Vietnam. At the same time, there exist also reasons to confirm the necessity and main position of individual and independent editing forms of texts for S&T development.

First of all, the scope of governing of national plans for S&T development includes also R&D activities, S&T applications and S&T services (namely S&T services include: Standards-Measurement-Quality, Intellectual Properties, Information, S&T Statistics). In the scope of national plans for S&T development, there exist differences in various aspects: contents of activities, impacting level (organizational space), integration level (closely linked with technical-economical sectors), commercialization level and etc.

One feature in context of setting up plans for S&T development relates to the existence of the S&T Strategies which is the global platform of orientations for S&T development of the country. S&T Strategies reflect the global consistence. Planning is the implementation stage for the Strategies where maybe exist separate processes. With the S&T Strategies and the National S&T Plans, we can secure the independence in the global consistence.

In practice we have some documents of individual plans in S&T fields such as: Decision No. 957/QĐ-TTg by the Prime Minister dated 24th June 2010 on the Masterplan for development of nuclear energies for peaceful purposes up to 2020, Decision No. 1636/QĐ-TTg by the Prime Minister on the Plan of the national network for monitoring and warning environmental radiation up to 2020 and etc.

Plans for national S&T development up to 2020 in Vietnam can be classified by concrete forms for the following fields, regions and human resources:

- Plans for S&T development in fields of Standards-Measurement-Quality, Plans for S&T development in fields of Intellectual Properties and etc;

- Plans for S&T development of Northern key economic regions, Plans for S&T development of Southern key economic regions and etc;

- Plans for network of R&D organizations, Plans of High Tech Zones, Master plan for S&T market, Plans of S&T information systems and etc.

The important note is that, when applying different editing forms of texts with contents of plans for S&T development it is necessary to set up global approaches, common methodologies and common frameworks to secure the coordination between texts. Ministry of Science and Technology should issue guidelines for this aspect to create the unified platforms for editing works of texts and administration of these documents[1].

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[1]This had been done by some ministries, e.g. Ministry of Agriculture-Rural Development which had issued Circular No. 39/2011/TT-BNNPTNT dated 24 May 2011 to guide the set up of Master plans, detail plans for mitigation and re-settlement and organization of agriculture, silviculture, aquaculture and processing-consumption of products in re-settlement areas for irrigation and hydropower projects and etc.