## PM lauds country-s diplomats in Ha- Noi-

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内容：HA- NOI- - Prime Minister Nguyen- Xuana Phucù visited the Foreign Ministry in its new headquarters in Ha- No-i yesterday, wishing that each diplomatic official be a soldier on the external front. In his speech, the PM noted that external work directly contributed to promoting exports of Vietnamese produce, tourism and labour export, and foreign investment attraction last year. The Foreign Ministry played a major role in ensuring national defencesecurity, reducing poverty and achieving the United Nations millennial development goals, he said. On the back of its achievements, he asked the sector to work to promote economic and trade activities. It was also required to improve the efficiency of external work, maintain a peaceful environment for socioeconomic development and raise national strength while pursuing an external policy of peace, independence, selfreliance and cooperation. The ministry should propose ideas to boost exports as well as develop domestic trade, particularly in fields of strength such as tropical agriculture, information technology and tourism, he said. The Government leader suggested that the ministry consider helping extend export markets, especially the US, China and Europe The Government leader suggested that the Foreign Ministry consider helping extend export markets, especially the US, China and Europe. while prioritising investors adopting advanced and ecofriendly technologies. He expressed his wish that the ministry would pay attention to overseas Vietnamese affairs and citizen protection. Apart from popularising domestic images to international friends, the sector was also urged to update Vietnamese business community and people on opportunities in the host countries. Lastyear,Viet- NamhostedAPEC Year 2017, with the APEC Leaders- Week held in the central city of -a- Nanü g in November. The country further deepened ties with neighbouring, regional and developed countries, as well as traditional friends. Vie-t Nam-s highranking leaders visited 19 countries, attended eight multilateral international conferences, held hundreds of bilateral exchanges with foreign leaders and welcomed 36 heads of state and Prime Ministers to the country. - VNS