The 2016 JAHR was developed in the first year of the Five-year health sector plan for the period 2016–2020, which corresponds to the starting year for implementing sustainable development goals spearheaded by the United Nations. This year’s JAHR has the following tasks: (i) provide information to support development of solutions for implementing the Five-year health sector plan 2016–2020; and (ii) support development of policies to ensure healthy aging in Vietnam.

This year’s JAHR report contains two main parts with 8 chapters as follows

**PART ONE: Update on the health system:**

Chapter I: Health system governance and health information system. Update on the situation of implementing the Five-year health sector plan 2016-2020 and results of implementation of tasks assigned for 2016 related to health system governance and the health information system. The six components of the health system have been updated in three chapters grouped in the following way: (1) Health system governance and health information system; (2) Inputs to health care; (3) Health service delivery.

Chapter II: Inputs to health services. Update on implementing the Five-year health sector plan 2016-2020 and results of implementing the targets for 2016 tasks related to inputs to health care including human resources, health financing, pharmaceuticals and medical equipment and
PART TWO: In-depth analysis on the topic “Towards healthy aging in Vietnam” with the following contents:

Chapter IV: Population aging and health status of older persons in Vietnam. This chapter analyzes the features of population aging in Vietnam; the health status of older persons in Vietnam, and identifies priority issues to be resolved and proposes various solutions to strive for healthy aging in Vietnam.

Introduction: International perspectives about aging and the WHO strategic framework for interventions; Vietnam’s policies on older persons and the Vietnamese organizations involved in protecting rights of older people, providing health and personal care interventions or activities to strengthen the social environment for older persons.

Chapter V: Health care to meet the needs of older persons in Vietnam. This chapter updates us on the policies about health care for older persons, the status of the healthcare network serving older persons, including human resources, health financing and health care service delivery.

Chapter VI: Long-term care of older persons in Vietnam. This chapter analyzes the need for long-term care among older people in Vietnam, assesses the various community-based and institutional long-term care options for older persons in Vietnam at present, and reviews the human resources and health financing issues related to long-term care in Vietnam.

Chapter VII: Social environment to support healthy aging in Vietnam. This chapter provides an analysis and evaluation of the social environment to meet the physical and spiritual needs of older persons.

Chapter VIII: Priority issues and recommendations for solutions towards healthy aging in Vietnam. This Chapter compiles the priority issues and recommendations aimed at the goal of healthy aging from Chapters IV through VII.

The Appendix provides a revised table of monitoring and evaluation indicators linked to various tasks and goals of the Five-year health sector plan 2016-2020 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and trends for the period 2011 to 2015.