

**ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME
HIS EXCELLENCY RUNALDO RONALD VENETIAAN
ON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS
BY THE AMBASSADOR OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC
HIS EXCELLENCY DIMITRI ALEXANDRAKIS
9 JUNE 2009**

MR. AMBASSADOR,

I WELCOME YOU AS THE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND
PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC TO THE REPUBLIC
OF SURINAME.

OVER THE YEARS MANY POSSIBLE FIELDS OF COOPERATION
BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED. THESE
POSSIBILITIES HAVE GAINED NEW MOMENTUM SINCE YOUR
COUNTRY JOINED THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. THE RECENTLY
SIGNED ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EU
AND THE CARICOM PROVIDES AN IMPORTANT FRAMEWORK FOR
FURTHERING OUR EXISTING BILATERAL COOPERATION.

COOPERATION ON MULTILATERAL LEVEL IS REQUIRED TO DEAL
WITH THE CURRENT GLOBAL CHALLENGES. WE HAVE WITNESSED
THE RECENT FOOD AND ENERGY CRISES. THE EFFECTS OF THE
CURRENT FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CRISES HAVE CREATED
ECONOMIC IMBALANCES ALL OVER THE WORLD. OTHER
CHALLENGES, SUCH AS GLOBAL WARMING, ARE LOOMING AND
ONLY THROUGH CONCERTED INTERNATIONAL ACTION, THESE
CHALLENGES MAY BE PROPERLY ADDRESSED.

SURINAME AND THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC SHOULD COMBINE
THEIR EFFORTS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EFFECTIVE TACKLING OF
THESE THREATS.

MR. AMBASSADOR,

ON YOUR SHOULDERS, RESTS THE NOBLE TASK TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FURTHER INTENSIFICATION OF THE BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL SUCCEED IN YOUR ENDEAVOURS. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME WILL SUPPORT YOU TO THIS END.