

**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 JAPAN
HIS EXCELLENCY TASUAKI IWATA
9 JUNE 2009**

MR. AMBASSADOR,

IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO ACCEPT THE LETTERS ACCREDITING YOU AS NON-RESIDENT AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF JAPAN TO THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME.

YOUR ACCREDITATION EXPRESSES YOUR GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC TIES.

I PLACE SPECIFIC EMPHASIS UPON THE RELATIONSHIP ON THE LEVEL OF OUR GOVERNMENTS, OUR PRIVATE SECTORS, THROUGH THE JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY (JICA). THESE RELATIONS HAVE ENABLED THE SURINAMESE GOVERNMENT TO COMPLETE PROJECTS SUCH AS PROJECTS IN THE FIELD OF FISHERIES AND IN THE HEALT-SECTOR.

AT MULTILATERAL LEVEL OUR COOPERATION HAS ALSO DEVELOPED SATISFACTORILY. THE FRAMEWORK OF THE JAPAN-CARICOM COOPERATION RELATIONS, IN PARTICULAR, PROVIDES AN ADDITIONAL FORUM FOR FURTHER BILATERAL COOPERATION, WITH POSSIBILITIES TO IMPROVE THE WELL-BEING OF OUR PEOPLES.

MR. AMBASSADOR,

I AM CONVINCED THAT WITH YOUR KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND DEDICATION YOU WILL BE ABLE TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES. IN CARRYING OUT YOUR DUTIES, YOU MAY REST ASSURE OF THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAME.

THANK YOU.