

**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  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, HIS EXCELLENCY VLADIMIR LVOVITCH TYURDENEV,  
ON 12 APRIL 2005**

Mr. Ambassador,

Also on behalf of the Government and people of the Republic of Suriname, I extend to you a warm welcome on the occasion of your assumption of duties as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation and thank you for the good wishes from your President, His Excellency Vladimir Vladimirovitch Putin.

The presentation of your Letters of Credence as Ambassador of your country to the Republic of Suriname once again underlines the good relations between our two countries.

Suriname and the Russian Federation have maintained diplomatic relations ever since 02 November 1976. In this context, I may refer to the relations of cooperation in the fields of education and our contacts in the mining sector. The visit to Suriname in 2003 of the Director General of the largest Russian Aluminum Company may be marked as a high point in this respect.

The political dialogue between our countries is considered of great importance, especially in our dealing with international issues and disputes. For Suriname, the signing of the Protocol of Political Consultations between our Ministries of Foreign Affairs indicates that we have similar views on important global issues.

Suriname attaches great value to regional integration, which through participation in CARICOM, the European Union - Latin American and Caribbean partnerships, as well as the FTAA, can be given shape in the right manner.

With the globalization of the world order, it is every state's duty to exert itself in order to achieve the best possible results, which may also be used to attain national objectives as well. We value the cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Caribbean, and shall dedicate ourselves to the continuation and strengthening thereof.

Mr. Ambassador,

In concluding, let me assure you that your efforts towards promoting the friendly relations between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Suriname shall have the support of the Government of Suriname. I wish you every success in the fulfillment of your duties for which you may count on the cooperation of the Government of Suriname. I also avail myself of this opportunity to extend my regards and best wishes to the President, His Excellency Vladimir Vladimirovitch Putin, and the people of the Russian Federation.

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