

**ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME, HIS
EXCELLENCY RUNALDO R. VENETIAAN, ON THE OCCASION OF THE
PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS BY THE NON-RESIDENT AMBASSADOR
OF THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN, HER EXCELLENCY MARGARETA WINBERG,
ON 07 APRIL 2005**

Mme. Ambassador,

It is a pleasure to accept your Letters of Credence as non-resident Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Sweden to the Republic of Suriname.

The Republic of Suriname extends a warm welcome to you, as the highest representative of the Kingdom of Sweden.

I thank You for the good wishes You have conveyed on behalf of His Majesty, King Carl Gustav.

On 15 March 1978 the Republic of Suriname and the Kingdom of Sweden established diplomatic relations and these past years, the relations are marked especially by cooperation within the organization of the United Nations.

Our countries have worked together to accomplish various UN Resolutions.

In Suriname, Sweden is known as an active participant in promoting international peace and security, disarmament, environmental protection and human rights.

It is important to point out that Sweden has played a pivotal role in advancing the work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) through substantial contributions to the various UNEP programmes.

Suriname as well is making sincere efforts to preserve the environment and biodiversity, and in this connection has proclaimed a large part of its territory a nature reserve.

Sweden is well known for its gender-conscious policy.

You rightly observe that in Suriname, just like in Sweden, women have gained an important place in society. Suriname focuses on conducting a balanced gender policy.

Since January Suriname fills the chairmanship of the Caribbean Community. I thank You for your good wishes in this context

In this position it is of importance to Suriname to emphasize that great value is attached to the multilateral approach in international politics and to preservation of peace and security in the world.

Mme. Ambassador,

In view of your knowledge and experience, I have confidence that you will succeed in making a significant contribution to the intentions of our countries to further shape the mutual bonds of friendship. The Government of the Republic of Suriname will give you the necessary support in this.

In conclusion, I wish you every success in the fulfillment of your mission. I also avail myself of this opportunity to extend our regards and best wishes to His Majesty, King Carl Gustaf, and the people of the Kingdom of Sweden.
