

**ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME,
HIS EXCELLENCY RUNALDO RONALD VENETIAAN, ON THE OCCASION OF
THE PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS BY THE NON-RESIDENT AMBASSADOR
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC, HIS EXCELLENCY JIRI JIRÁNEK,
ON 14 OCTOBER 2005**

Mr. Ambassador,

It is a pleasure for me to accept your Letters of Credence as non-resident Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Czech Republic to the Republic of Suriname, and to extend to you the warm welcome of the Government and people of the Republic of Suriname. Your accreditation as Ambassador of the Czech Republic will undoubtedly lead to the bilateral relations between our countries developing into firm bonds of friendship and dynamic cooperative relations.

The foreign policy adhered to by my Government, which includes the diversification of cooperative relations with friendly nations, has resulted inter alia in Suriname establishing relations of cooperation with the Czech Republic and welcoming you as representative of one of the young nations of the international community. This occasion is also seized to praise the impressive manner in which the Czech Republic has come about. It is our hope that the Czech Republic, as a member of the European Union, will be a partner of Suriname in its cooperation with the E.U.

I am confident that our two countries will be successful in jointly implementing projects and programmes which will not only benefit the respective economic sectors but will also contribute to cultural exchange and so ultimately foster the development of close ties between our peoples.

Mr. Ambassador,

Suriname sets great store by Regional Integration. Through participation in CARICOM, Cariforum, and ACS this concept may be given substance in the right way. Within this globalizing world, it is our duty to spare no efforts to achieve the best possible results which will also serve the national objectives.

Mr. Ambassador,

You also shoulder the responsibility for identifying, together with us, those areas of cooperation the implementation of which will be based on the principles of equal partnership and mutual benefit.

I may assure you that your efforts to promote the friendly relations between the Czech Republic and the Republic of Suriname will have the full support of the Government of Suriname.

In conclusion, I wish you every success in the fulfillment of your duties and avail myself of this occasion to convey best wishes and greetings to H.E. President Vaclav Klaus and the people of the Czech Republic.
