

Press Release

First visit by US Secretary of State to the ASEAN Secretariat ASEAN Secretariat, 16 February 2009

The US Secretary of State, the Honourable Hillary Rodham Clinton, will visit the headquarters of ASEAN on Wednesday, 18 February 2009. She will be the first US Secretary of State to visit the ASEAN Secretariat.

Secretary-General of ASEAN, Dr Surin Pitsuwan said, "We are very pleased to welcome Secretary Clinton to ASEAN and to the ASEAN Secretariat. We are honoured and thank her for taking the time off from her very busy schedule to include a visit to the headquarters of ASEAN in her first overseas trip as Secretary of State. It is a gesture that will be well noticed by this region."

Secretary Clinton will meet Dr Surin and his staff. Dr Surin said, "The US is a good friend of ASEAN and wants to see ASEAN succeed. The US was the first ASEAN Dialogue Partner to appoint an Ambassador to ASEAN. I look forward to discussing with Secretary Clinton the developments in ASEAN, including the entry into force of the ASEAN Charter and ASEAN's community building efforts."