

Press Release

New Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN on board ASEAN Secretariat, 17 February 2009



(L-R) Mr. Sayakane Sisouvong & Dr. Surin Pitsuwan

On 17 February 2009, Mr Sayakane Sisouvong from Lao PDR assumed his post as Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN. As DSG for ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC), he will support the Secretary-General of ASEAN, Dr Surin Pitsuwan, in implementing the APSC Blueprint and strengthening relations with ASEAN Dialogue Partners and the international community.

Mr Sayakane Sisouvong, nominated by the Government of Lao PDR, will serve a three-year term. His appointment was approved by the ASEAN Coordinating Council. Prior to his appointment, Mr Sisouvong was Ambassador-at-Large and former Lao SOM Leader (Senior Official for ASEAN Political Affairs), Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Under the ASEAN Charter, there shall be four Deputy Secretaries-General. Two DSGs are nominated by ASEAN Member States, based on alphabetical rotation, and two DSGs are openly-recruited based on merit. With Mr Sayakane Sisouvong assuming his post, three DSGs* are now on board and a fourth DSG for Community and Corporate Affairs is being recruited.

Mr Sayakane Sisouvong succeeds Mr Nicholas Tandj Dammen of Indonesia who relinquished his post as DSG on 31 January 2009. Dr Surin thanked Mr Dammen for discharging his responsibilities faithfully, enhancing closer economic and political cooperation with ASEAN Dialogue Partners and contributing towards ASEAN Community building efforts.

Mr Sayakane Sisouvong is married with four children.

Click [here](#) for Mr Sisouvong's curriculum vitae.



- * [Dr SOEUNG Rathchavy](#) from Cambodia is DSG for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community
- * [Mr Sundram Pushpanathan](#) from Singapore is DSG for ASEAN Economic Community