

**Romanian Ambassador to ASEAN Presents His Letter of Appointment
ASEAN Secretariat, 20 April 2009**



Today at the ASEAN Secretariat, the Secretary-General of ASEAN, Dr Surin Pitsuwan, welcomed the Ambassador of Romania to ASEAN, H.E. Mr Gheorghe VÎLCU. Ambassador VÎLCU became the 9th Ambassador to ASEAN from the European Union (EU) Member States to have presented his letter of appointment to the Secretary-General of ASEAN, following Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, and the United Kingdom.

Upon receiving Ambassador VÎLCU, Dr Surin said, "This is a positive gesture of enthusiasm from Romania to build stronger cooperation with ASEAN. Romania is one of the youngest members of EU. We welcome this expression of goodwill from Bucharest, making Romania one of the first few to appoint an Ambassador to ASEAN."

Under the ASEAN Charter, non-ASEAN countries may accredit Ambassadors to ASEAN. As one of ASEAN's Dialogue Partners, EU has announced that each of the 27 EU Member States shall appoint its Ambassador to ASEAN. The European Commission has already appointed an Ambassador to ASEAN.

Ambassador VÎLCU is concurrently the Romanian Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia.