

**Welcome Message from
His Excellency Mr. Surapong Tovichakchaikul
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand**

Welcome to the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand.

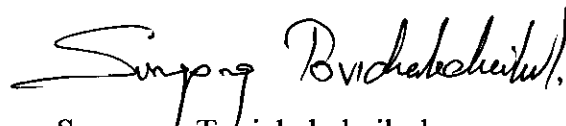
On 10 August 2011, the new Thai Cabinet was sworn in during an audience with His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej in accordance with Thailand's constitutional procedures. As the 46th Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, I am determined to work with the Kingdom's friends around the world to further our mutually rewarding ties of friendship and co-operation.

Under Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, Thailand's foreign policy will promote, among other things, closer ties with neighbouring countries and the country's strategic partners around the world, unity and cooperative endeavours among ASEAN Member States, the country's constructive role in international organizations, and closer relations at the people-to-people level.

To this end, the Thai Government will work proactively to strengthen existing partnerships as well as to forge new ones on the basis of equality, mutual understanding and respect. We will work harder with other like-minded nations to address and tackle the various challenges the world is facing. We will also work closely with civil society to ensure that our diplomacy and long-held humanitarian tradition are built upon and well understood, both at home and abroad.

As a founding member of ASEAN, Thailand is committed to the realization of the ASEAN Community in 2015. While emphasizing the importance of ASEAN centrality in regional co-operation, I intend to promote a greater awareness about ASEAN among all sectors of society so that all will share in the benefits of ASEAN connectivity and its robust economy.

As we embark upon these and other undertakings, this website will be continuously updated to provide you with the latest information regarding Thailand's foreign policy and its role in the international community. It also provides useful consular information for Thais travelling abroad as well as foreigners visiting the Kingdom. I hope you find this website informative and that it meets your expectations.



Surapong Tovichakchaikul
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand