

PRESIDENT REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

31 July 2008

HE Nguyen Minh Triet
President
Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Your Excellery

Tomorrow marks the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Singapore and Vietnam. On behalf of the people of the Republic of Singapore, I would like to extend to Your Excellency and the people of Vietnam our warmest wishes on this significant occasion.

Looking back, I am happy to see that relations between our two countries have taken great leaps forward in many areas over the years. Singapore is now one of Victnam's largest investors and top trading partners. Our cooperation in the fields of education, defence, law and culture has also expanded. Singapore and Vietnam are also cooperating closely within ASEAN and other regional and international bodies. More importantly, people-to-people links between our countries have continued to be better and will further develop in the years to come. Singapore and Vietnam must also keep up and intensify our efforts towards ASEAN's further integration.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

S R NATHAN