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**Ministry of Foreign
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& Trade**

News Release

NEW AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

January 28th, 2008

Recently designated Ambassador and Head of Delegation of the Commission of European Communities to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Mr. Valeriano Diaz, will present his credentials to His Excellency the Governor General, Sir Frederick Ballantyne, at Government House, tomorrow (January 29th).

The Delegation's role is to implement European Union policy and analyse and report on the policies of the countries of the Eastern Caribbean to which it is accredited.

Ambassador Diaz's previous posting was Head of the Commission's Pacific Unit where he was in charge of the execution of European Union policies in that region.

The delegation of the Barbados-based European Commission covers the Windward and Leeward Islands, the British Virgin Islands and Barbados. The European Union has been a partner of St. Vincent and the Grenadines since 1975 during deliberations which led to the institution of the first Lomé Convention in the mid 70's.

Ambassador Designate Diaz, who arrived in St. Vincent and the Grenadines today, will pay courtesy calls on Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves and Foreign Affairs Minister, Sir Louis Straker, before leaving tomorrow afternoon.

He succeeds Ambassador Amos Tincani as Head of the E.C. Delegation.

For Immediate Release
