

Mr. Felipe Palacios Sureda

**Head of Trade and Economic Section, The Office of the European Commission
in Hong Kong and Macao**



Felipe Palacios Sureda took up duties as Head of the Trade and Economic Section at the Office of the European Commission in Hong Kong and Macao on 4th September 2006. He joined the European Commission civil service in 1995, coming from the private sector where he held positions as economist in manufacturing and services companies.

Prior to his appointment to Hong Kong, Mr Palacios Sureda was Trade Counsellor at the Delegation of the European Commission in Vietnam where he worked in upgrading the EU trade strategy for Vietnam, developing from a textile-based bilateral framework into a comprehensive market access agenda, concluding with a bilateral agreement on WTO accession. He was negotiator for bilateral agreements on textiles and garments and on market access, as well as being part of the EU team that negotiated Vietnam's WTO accession. Mr Palacios Sureda also contributed to the design of the EU trade strategy for the Southeast Asia region in the preparatory phase for the launching of an EU-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement. He has provided technical advice to the EU trade related cooperation programmes.

At the European Commission, Felipe Palacios Sureda has held positions in the directorate general for trade dealing with trade defence instruments and policy development and as economic advisor at the Delegation of the European Commission in Eritrea, where he managed the economic cooperation programmes as well as the political and economic dossiers.

Felipe Palacios Sureda is a Spanish national, graduated in economics and business administration from the University of Zaragoza in Spain. He undertook post-graduate studies in marketing and finance at the Gothenburg Business School in Sweden and holds a masters degree in International Relations from the Paris X University.