

# **Gilles Rivard**

## **Canadian Ambassador to the Republic of Haiti**



Gilles Rivard is Canadian Ambassador to Haiti since June 2008. Since his appointment, he had to deal with two major crises: the first in September 2008, when four hurricanes severely affected the North of the country; the second on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January, 2010, when the most devastating earthquake in the Americas killed more than 250,000 people.

Mr. Rivard has over 25 years of experience in international relations, including nine years of experience in overseas assignments in Guinea, Costa Rica, Peru and now Haiti.

At the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Headquarters in Ottawa, he has held the positions of Program Director for Haiti, Cuba and the Dominican Republic; Director General of the Balkans, Caucasus and Central Asia programs; and Director General of Policy, Strategic Planning and Technical Service for Africa. In 2004, he accepted an assignment with the Privy Council Office as Director of Operations, Global Affairs Secretariat.

Upon his return to CIDA in 2005, he was appointed successively Vice-President of the Europe, Middle East and Maghreb Branch and in 2007 he took on responsibility for Vice-President of the Americas Branch.