17TH V20 MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE:
DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY IN A MULTIPOLAR WORLD

12 October 2026 (Monday) | 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM (ICT)
Level 1, Ballroom 3, Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok, Thailand

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Excellencies, colleagues, I speak today on behalf of our Finance Minister and Prime Minister, Dr. Friday, who's otherwise engaged at this moment, and he asked me to bring greetings to everyone.

As one of the newest members of this organization, this Climate Vulnerable Forum and the V20, our participation reflects a simple truth, and that is that climate vulnerability is not an abstract concern. For our communities, it touches homes, livelihoods, food security, infrastructure, and the prospects of future generations. Just over two years ago, our country experienced a devastating Category Five Hurricane Beryl, which wiped out over a quarter of our economy.

We inherited a government, we assumed the seat of government less than a year ago, where we inherited a debt-to-GDP ratio of about 113 percent. And if we really put that into perspective—that means for every dollar that our economy produces, every single dollar must go back into servicing or into paying back our debt if we were required to do that immediately. Plus, we have to find an additional 13 cents. That is what climate vulnerability does to countries such as ours.

We look forward to working together to advance climate finance that is accessible, predictable, and responsive to the needs of vulnerable countries, to strengthen resilience and adaptation, and to ensure that countries can recover from climate shocks without sacrificing their development priorities.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is ready to contribute constructively. We come not only to speak about the risk we face, but to help build the cooperation and ambition required to address them.

H.E. FITZ BRAMBLE
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade, and Consumer Affairs
St. Vincent and the Grenadines