

Thank you Mr President,

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines brings warm greetings to the delegation of Papua New Guinea and thanks them for their presentation today.

We commend the Government of Papua New Guinea for the measures taken to improve the economic and social development of its people and congratulate them for launching the National Small and Medium Enterprises Policy earlier this year. We take special notice of the Government-funded National Women's Bank geared toward women in the informal sector to commence income generation and assist in expanding business ventures.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines encourages you to continue such initiatives which have given women income earning opportunities and also access to banking services.

We also commend your government's valiant efforts in combatting HIV/AIDS and for joining efforts with the donors and civil society organizations to reduce the HIV prevalence rate to below one percent.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, therefore, encourages Papua New Guinea to continue the scaled up efforts in all parts of the country to address and contain what has been one of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines wishes the Government and People of Papua New Guinea a successful Universal Periodic Review.

I thank you.