

**Statement delivered by Sumbue ANTAS,**

**Ambassador/ Permanent Representative of the Republic of Vanuatu to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva**

**39**th **Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Saint Vincent and The Grenadines**

**3rd November 2021**

Madam President,

Vanuatu welcomes the delegation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to this review and thanks it for the comprehensive presentation today.

Vanuatu recognizes the actions taken from the last review by the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in protecting and promoting the human rights of its people and ratifying the majority of the core international human rights treaties.

Vanuatu wishes to recommend to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines the following:

1. Develop and implement polices on climate change and disaster risk reduction and seek international cooperation in the implementation of such plans.
2. Engage with the OHCHR to seek assistance in the implementation of the core international human rights treaties.
3. Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
4. Complete ratification of the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

Vanuatu wishes Saint Vincent and the Grenadines a successful review.

Thank you, Madam President.