

**Statement delivered by Sumbue ANTAS,**

**Ambassador/ Permanent Representative of Vanuatu to the United Nations and UN Agencies in Geneva**

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

**Review of Guyana**

**28th January 2020**

Thank you, Madam President,

Vanuatu warmly welcomes the delegation of Guyana to this review and thanks to Ambassador Ford for his comprehensive presentation today.

Vanuatu notes and commend Government of Guyana for its Green State Development Strategy 2040 that aims to achieve eight development objectives including transition to Renewable and clean energy; healthy, educated and socially cohesive population; sustainable management of natural resources; resilient infrastructure and green towns

Vanuatu recommends Guyana:

1. To increase the human, technical and financial resources allocated to the National Domestic Violence Oversight Committee and the National Task Force for the Prevention of Sexual Violence so as to effectively coordinate the implementation of the Domestic Violence Act (1996) and the Sexual Offences Act (2010);
2. To accelerate the delivery of quality health services, including to rural areas; and
3. Finally, to intensify efforts to have laws and policies in place to ensure oil and petroleum production will not contribute to climate change, adversely affect biodiversity and will not therefore compromise the right to life.

We wish Guyana every success at this Review.

Thank you, Madam President.