



PMO
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

JANUARY 28TH 2026
PRESS RELEASE

PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES PRIVATE SECTOR ADVISORY COUNCIL

Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines — January 27, 2026

Prime Minister Hon. Dr. Godwin Friday announced that Government will establish a Private Sector Advisory Council by the end of March 2026 to strengthen structured collaboration with the private sector.

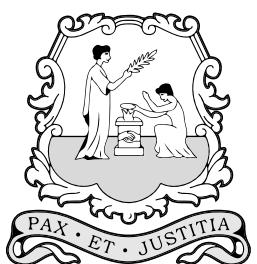
The Council will serve as a direct link between Cabinet and the private sector, meeting regularly to review economic conditions, identify challenges, and propose practical solutions to improve the business climate and reduce the cost of doing business.

The announcement was made during the Prime Minister's second engagement with private sector leaders, which was also attended by members of Cabinet and senior Government officials.

"This Council will help ensure that ideas shared with Government are translated into action to support investment, job creation, and economic growth," Prime Minister Friday said.

Further details on the establishment of the Private Sector Advisory Council will be provided in due course.

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PRIME MINISTER CONTINUES ENGAGEMENTS WITH PRIVATE SECTOR

Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines – January 27, 2026

Prime Minister Hon. Dr. Godwin Friday yesterday convened his second high-level engagement with private sector leaders as part of the Government's ongoing efforts to strengthen collaboration to drive domestic investment, job creation and inclusive economic growth.

The engagement, held under the theme “Partners in Progress: A New Social Contract for Saint Vincent,” forms part of a series of consultations aimed at deepening cooperation between Government and the private sector.

Addressing participants, Prime Minister Friday emphasized that sustainable prosperity must be built through partnership and action.

“We are not here for a talk shop, but a working session to forge a New Social Contract for 2026 and beyond. Prosperity is built on our farms, in our fishing villages, on construction sites, and in the boardrooms represented here today,” Prime Minister Friday said.

The Prime Minister also underscored the importance of mobilizing domestic investment, strengthening skills development, and ensuring that economic growth translates into better-paying jobs and improved living standards for Vincentians.

The panel discussion featured contributions from: Mr. Jimmie Forde (ACADO SVG); Ms. Shafia London (SLU Group); Mr. Derry Williams (Bank of SVG); Ms. Isola Giddings (SVGHTA); and Ms. Ronette Lewis (CED).

The Government will continue to build on these engagements to strengthen public-private collaboration and advance sustainable national development.

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CPSO CHIEF CALLS FOR STRONGER PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines — January 27, 2026

Dr. Patrick Antoine, Chief Executive Officer and Technical Director of the CARICOM Private Sector Organization (CPSO), has called for stronger and more structured public-private partnerships to support economic growth and development across the region.

Speaking at the Prime Minister's Private Sector Engagement Forum, Dr. Antoine emphasized the importance of formal, evidence-based collaboration between governments and the private sector to drive investment, innovation, and sound policy-making.

He highlighted opportunities for St. Vincent and the Grenadines, including support for emerging industries and improved regional business integration, particularly with Grenada.

Dr. Antoine also underscored the need for governments and the private sector to work more closely in shaping economic priorities and advancing the CARICOM Single Market and Economy.

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