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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Government Confirms Decision Not to Host Americas World Cup Netball Qualifier 2026

The Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines has confirmed its decision not to proceed with hosting the Americas World Cup Netball Qualifier, scheduled for 13–23 October 2026.

The decision followed careful consideration by Cabinet, which reviewed a detailed report outlining the requirements associated with hosting the tournament. After thorough deliberation, Cabinet concluded that the limited timeframe available would not allow for the satisfactory completion of the infrastructural upgrades required to meet regional and international competition standards.

In particular, the upgrades necessary for the courts identified for use during the tournament could not be reasonably completed within the existing timeline without compromising quality, safety, and compliance. The Government determined that it would be imprudent to host an international sporting event without the assurance that all facilities meet the highest standards expected by the sport's governing bodies.

The Government wishes to make clear that this decision does not reflect any lack of support for netball, nor does it diminish the importance of the sport or the valuable work of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Netball Association. On the contrary, the decision was a pragmatic one, guided by logistical realities and a commitment to maintaining the country's reputation as a responsible and credible host of international events.

The Government remains fully committed to the development and advancement of netball in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and looks forward to continued collaboration with the Association. Efforts will continue toward strengthening infrastructure and institutional capacity to support future hosting opportunities under more favourable conditions.

The Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture and Creative Industries extends its sincere appreciation to the executive and members of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Netball Association for their initiative, dedication, and enthusiasm in pursuing this opportunity, and reaffirms its willingness to engage constructively as both parties chart a way forward.