



September 21, 2022

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## FLASH FLOOD WATCH IN EFFECT FOR ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES UNTIL 6:00 P.M. THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

The National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) is urging residents and motorist in low lying areas, areas prone to flooding, lahar or mudflows and landslide to be vigilant and exercise caution.

A Flash Flood Watch is in effect for St. Vincent and the Grenadines until 6:00 p.m. on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2022. The 6:00 p.m. report from the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Meteorological Services stated that pockets of moderate to heavy showers, periods of light rain, gusty winds and isolated thunderstorms are anticipated across St. Vincent and the Grenadines as a strong tropical wave is affecting our islands. So far rainfall in excess of an inch have already been recorded at various stations across the mainland and models suggest that an additional accumulation of approximately 2-3 inches with isolated higher amounts in mountainous areas are possible within the next 24 hours.

A Flood-Watch is issued when conditions are favourable and there exists the possibility of flooding during the watch period. This flash-flood watch may be upgraded to a warning if becomes necessary.

The National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) is urging residents to step up their preparedness as we are in the peak of the hurricane season and the soils are already saturated from the heavy rainfall over the past few days. All residents are asked to be cautious especially persons living in areas prone to flooding and landslides. Persons living in areas near rivers and streams such as Fitz-Hughes, Chateaubelair, Spring Village, Vermont, Buccament, Rose Place, Calliaqua, Belair, Dauphine, Arnos Vale, Marriaqua, Lowmans, Greggs, South Rivers, Dickson and Langley Park are asked to be vigilant and be prepared to evacuate at short notice if it becomes necessary. Residents of the red volcano hazard zone are asked to monitor the rivers and streams and avoid crossing them during heavy rainfall

The high wind and marine advisory also remain in effect and small craft operators, sea bathers and persons living in the coastal areas in the Grenadine islands and mainland St. Vincent especially on the eastern coast should exercise caution and be prepared for rough seas and above normal swells. Persons living on the hillside and in windy areas are asked to be vigilant and guard against fallen trees and other loose objects outside that can become missiles.

Residents and motorists are asked to continue to monitor and listen to updates from the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Meteorological Services and to exercise extreme caution when traversing areas that are prone to flooding.

-END-