



## THE AGENCY FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

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### **MINISTER HUGGINS ATTENDS INAUGURAL ISLAND STATE OCEAN SUMMIT IN JAPAN**

**Kingstown, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, June 2026** — Honourable Conroy Huggins, Minister of Fisheries, Marine and Land Conservation and Climate Resilience, recently travelled to Tokyo, Japan, to participate in the Inaugural Island State Ocean Summit, which was held from June 3–4, 2026.

The summit was convened by The Nippon Foundation in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO. The event brought together more than 300 participants from over 35 countries, including heads of state from island nations, policymakers, scientists, and representatives of the United Nations.

Participants emphasized the urgent need for global cooperation to address the deterioration of the marine environment caused by climate change, marine pollution, and other emerging threats to ocean health.

During his address, Minister Huggins highlighted the critical role that the ocean plays in the economic development, food security, culture, and identity of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. He underscored the responsibility of island nations to serve as effective stewards of marine

resources and called for strengthened international collaboration in safeguarding the world's oceans.

Minister Huggins also acknowledged the significant challenges faced by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines as a result of climate change and recent extreme weather events. He reaffirmed the Government's commitment to sustainable and resilient development, stating:

“The Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines remains committed to working towards climate-resilient, science-based solutions for our people, not as an aspiration, but as a national and global imperative.”

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines was represented at the summit by Hon. Conroy Huggins, Minister of Fisheries, Marine and Land Conservation and Climate Resilience, and Kris Isaacs, Senior Fisheries Officer.

The Government continues to support regional and international efforts to promote ocean conservation, sustainable fisheries management, and climate resilience for present and future generations.

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