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Official Statement From the Premier of the Virgin Islands In the Occasion of the Recent Protest and Public Concerns

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To the People of the Virgin Islands,

I acknowledge the recent protest and the formal submission of a letter outlining longstanding and critical national concerns. I thank the individuals and groups who have taken the time to voice these matters in a structured and respectful manner. Civic engagement is a cornerstone of a healthy democracy, and your voices have been heard.

My administration continues to take these concerns seriously. Many of the issues raised are already being addressed through ongoing initiatives to improve the quality of life for all residents. These include efforts in infrastructure development, public sector reform, cost of living adjustments, public safety enhancements, and strengthened social support systems.

These areas, and our progress to date, were outlined in the recent <u>Territorial Address</u>, a comprehensive presentation of actions completed and initiatives underway. A copy of this Address is attached for your reference, and I encourage every resident to read it to better understand the work being done across the Territory.

Information is shared on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month to ensure transparency and continued public engagement via the Government's televised and radio programme, *Virgin Islands Voice*. This platform serves as a key channel for regular updates and informing the public of government plans and achievements.

While some matters require long-term planning and resource mobilisation, others are already showing signs of tangible progress. We remain committed to informing the public as further steps are taken and timelines for additional initiatives are established.

Let me reassure you: your concerns are not being ignored. My administration remains fully committed to delivering real, measurable progress that reflects the needs and aspirations of all who call these Virgin Islands home.

Premier of the Virgin Islands

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