My Fellow Guyanese, good afternoon. Today, I am pleased to launch a bi-annual review consultation on Guyana's New Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030. As you are aware, we have committed to launching a national consultation on this national development strategy. As I speak to you today, we must remain mindful of the global economic, health and social disruption from the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure that the consultation process continues to engage and inform all stakeholders.

In 2019, I launched the Guyana Low Carbon Development Strategy 2020-2030, a roadmap to diversify the economy away from fossil fuels. The 2020 strategy set the high common goal of reaching net zero emissions by 2050. It also aligned with the terms of the Paris Agreement, the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Today, I am pleased to announce the launch of the National Consultation on the Guyana Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030. The consultation is an opportunity for all stakeholders to participate in and provide their input on the strategy. This consultation is a key component of the development strategy and will help to ensure that it is relevant, effective, and meets the needs of all sectors.

The Guyana Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030 is a comprehensive plan that outlines the steps we need to take to achieve our goal of net zero emissions by 2050. It includes strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting renewable energy, and enhancing economic opportunities. The strategy is designed to be inclusive, with input from all stakeholders, including government, civil society, private sector, and international partners.

I am confident that with the support of all stakeholders, we can achieve our goal of net zero emissions by 2050. I urge all stakeholders to participate in the consultation and provide their input on the strategy.

Thank you and God bless you all. (October 8, 2021)