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**Ministry of Foreign
Affairs, Commerce
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News Release

BRAZIL'S AMBASSADOR BEGINS TOUR OF DUTY

January 19th, 2010:

The newly-accredited Ambassador of Brazil to St. Vincent and the Grenadines officially began his tour of duty today...

Ambassador Renato Xavier, who arrived in the State on Tuesday, presented his credentials this morning, to His Excellency the Governor General, Sir Frederick Ballantyne. He also paid courtesy calls this morning on Prime Minister- Dr. Ralph Gonsalves and Minister of Foreign Affairs – Sir Louis Straker.

Ambassador Xavier's last posting was in Ethiopia where he began a four-year assignment in 2005. He entered the diplomatic service for his country in 1968 and served in different capacities since then, including that of Consul General in Santiago, Chile.

Approval for the establishment of a Brazilian Embassy in Kingstown was granted in February last year. St. Vincent and the Grenadines appointed an Honorary Consul in Brazil in March 2009, in the person of Mr. Guiliano Vincenzo Locanto.

The Governments of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Brazil are now expected to accelerate collaboration on a number of areas including technical cooperation, education and culture.

For Immediate Release