



## Press Release

### **SBC to host Live Presidential Debates for the 2025 Elections** **Will also introduce its first live Vice-Presidential Debate**

With the approval of the National Assembly yesterday for the eleventh amendment to the Constitution, which includes provision for fixed dates for Presidential and National Assembly elections, the SBC has subsequently announced the dates for its live Election Debates for next year's elections, scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

This will include two rounds of Presidential Debates, and one round of its first ever Vice-Presidential Debate.

The first round of the Presidential Debate is scheduled for **Friday 5th September 2025** and the second round will be held two weeks later, on **Friday 19th September 2025**.

The week in between will cater for the Vice-Presidential Debate, which is planned for **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025**.

Invitations to all Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates will be issued after Nomination Day next year.

The SBC says the aim of such engagements is to allow candidates to put forward their policies, strategies and challenges and help ensure a more informed electorate.

For this reason, members of the public were enlisted in 2020 to send in questions, and a few were selected to be part of the live audience.

The SBC has also confirmed that the format to be adopted for all three debates will be similar to what was used in 2020 for the first-ever live Presidential Debates.

Further details about format, process and other information will be made available in due course.

### **BACKGROUND**

The live Presidential Debates, an initiative of the SBC, were first hosted in the SBC TV Studio during the 2020 elections, bringing together Presidential candidates; Mr Wavel Ramkalawan, Mr Danny Faure and Mr Alain St Ange to discuss and challenge each other around issues and topics such as housing, economy, education, drugs and many others, in front of a studio audience and live on SBC TV and Radio.