



ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Permanent Mission of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations

685 3rd Ave., Ste. 1108, New York, NY 10017 • Tel: (212) 599-0950 • Fax: (212) 599-1020 • www.svg-un.org

Statement

By

Ms. Diani Jamesha Prince

Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to the
United Nations

on the

Annual Report of the Security Council

September 10th, 2019

New York

GA Hall

Please check against delivery

Our delegation expresses gratitude to the Security Council and the Secretariat for the preparation of the annual report for the period 1st January to 31st December 2018, contained in document A/73/2. The submission of this annual report speaks to the important duty that the Security Council has to the General Assembly, enshrined in article 24 (3) of the UN Charter.

As the primary organ charged with the maintenance of international peace and security, the Security Council's work is of critical importance to all Member States of the United Nations. As such, the annual report chronicling the activities of the Council must be comprehensive, accessible and transparent.

Of equal importance is the consideration and the debate of the annual report by the General Assembly. This debate is not a mere formality. It fosters enhanced interaction between the Security Council and the General Assembly, and we must support this mutually reinforcing relationship.

Further, it is essential that the Security Council remain accountable to Member States and that they have the opportunity to constructively express their views and expectations of the work of the Security Council. After all, the Security Council carries out its mandate on behalf of all Member States.

That being said, it is unfortunate that the annual report has not been submitted in a timely fashion, having only been made available to Member States on 22nd August 2019. The late submission of the annual report is worrying, and Member States have continuously expressed their dissatisfaction with it.

When Member States are not given an appropriate period in which to prepare and consider the very extensive report, we are left at a disadvantage as we cannot then effectively debate its contents. This runs counter to the purpose for which we are gathered here.

Our delegation therefore encourages the Security Council to observe the guidelines contained in Note S/2017/507, specifically as it relates to paragraph 132, which provides that the annual report

should be adopted by the Security Council in time for consideration by the General Assembly “*in the spring of that calendar year*”.

Turning to the substance of the report, our delegation commends the Security Council for the excellent overview of its activities for the reporting period. We, however, echo the call which has been made time and again for the report to have a stronger focus on analysis. The General Assembly will be greatly aided in its assessment of the work of the Security Council if additional insights are provided.

Our delegation eagerly looks forward to our tenure on the Security Council starting 1st January 2020. We remain mindful that the General Assembly has placed its trust in us by electing us. We are committed to the continued improvement of the annual report to ensure that it is an instrument that is not only transparent but one which will lead to greater accountability and effectiveness of the Security Council.