



**Permanent Mission of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
to the United Nations**

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**Statement**

by

**H.E. Dr. Halimah Deshong**

Deputy Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
to the United Nations

**Briefing on the Situation in Libya  
United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL)**

Security Council Chamber

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Saint Vincent and the Grenadines thanks Ms. Stephanie Williams, Acting SRSG and head of the UNSMIL for her briefing. We express our gratitude to former SRSG, Ghassan Salamé, for his efforts in seeking to bring a peaceful solution to the conflict in Libya.

It is disturbing that during this difficult period, when countries across the globe are consolidating efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, violence continues to plague Libya. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines condemns the incessant and indiscriminate attacks in Libya, especially against civilians and civilian infrastructure.

We lament the violation by the conflicting parties of the humanitarian pause agreement. These actions can result in further deterioration of the fragile humanitarian situation, due to COVID-19. My delegation therefore urges all parties to adhere to the humanitarian pause and work towards a permanent ceasefire.

We are particularly concerned about refugees in Libya whose suffering and precarious living conditions have been exacerbated by the disruptions to humanitarian delivery caused by COVID-19 and the worsening economic situation that accompanies this pandemic.

We reiterate that the conflict in Libya would not be resolved unless all Member States comply with their obligations to uphold international law. Accordingly, we call for strict compliance with the 1970 arms embargo and all subsequent relevant resolutions. We stress the importance of a Libyan-owned and Libyan-led dialogue and reaffirm our view that any departure from a negotiated political solution will protract the hardship of the Libyan people. Now, more than ever, is a time for concerted actions by all Libyans. A time to unite in the fight against the COVID-19.

Finally, we reaffirm our support for UNSMIL and all ongoing dialogue initiatives aimed to resolve the conflict in Libya. The advances made in the three-step plan proposed by Salamé remain essential and should be consolidated. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines encourages Acting SRSG Williams to continue building on this plan. We look forward to the appointment an SRSG

promptly, especially to assist in finalizing the ceasefire agreement within the framework of the 5+5 Joint Military Commission.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines joins in supporting the press elements proposed by the UK.

We remain in solidarity with the Libyan people.

Thank you Mr. President