



**PERMANENT MISSION OF SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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Statement

by

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to the United Nations**

**ARRIA FORMULA ON CLIMATE AND SECURITY RISKS: WHAT CAN THE UN DO TO
PREVENT CLIMATE- RELATED CONFLICTS AND HOW CAN WE CLIMATE-PROOF
UN IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES**

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

3:00 p.m

New York, USA

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Thanks Nichola, and thanks to our three briefers

Climate change is undeniably a threat to international peace and security as well as a threat multiplier. It also constitutes an existential threat to some states through loss of territory, social capital, and governance capacity - which converge to undermine sovereignty and statehood. Accordingly, we echo the SIDS call, reflected in the Paris Agreement, to keep global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels).

We are convinced that it is past time the Security Council spoke more definitively on this issue to address climate-related conflict considerations.

All climate-related conflicts cut across the spectrum of development, humanitarian, peace and security and environmental concerns. This means we need a coordinated response across all key pillars of the United Nations and within the respective mandates of UN organs.

It is in this vein that SVG believes that the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) should be viewed as a composite, integrated whole, the tenets of which should undergird coherent action throughout the UN system as fundamental components of all policies, programs and operations.

Further, to climate-proof vulnerable countries, financing is key for adaptation, mitigation and loss and damage. Developed countries should meet their basic climate finance 2 commitments, as a floor, not a ceiling and these commitments are separate and apart from Official Development Aid. Vulnerable countries need us all to muster the political will to make economy-wide emission cuts. Indeed, any conversation about preventing

climate-induced or exacerbated conflict must acknowledge that a key prevention measure is mitigation through deep emission cuts.

In closing, we express our support for initiatives that strengthen information bases to better inform the UN's action on the ground. And we would like to express our support for the climate and security mechanisms, as mentioned by USG Dicarolo, which will assist in identifying security-related risks.