



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

685 3rd Ave., Suite 1108, New York, NY 10017 • Tel: (212) 599-0950 • Fax: (212) 599-1020 •
svgmission@gmail.com | <http://svg-un.org>

Statement

By

H.E. Inga Rhonda King

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

At the

**United Nations Security Council Monthly Briefing on the Middle East
(Yemen)**

July 28, 2020
New York
United Nations Security Council

Briefers:

Special Envoy, Martin Griffiths

OCHA USG Mark Lowcock

Raja Abdullah Ahmed Almasabi, Chairwoman Arab Human Rights Foundation

Wafa'a Aisaidy, General Coordinator – Yemen of Medecins du Monde

Thank you, Mr President,

We extend our sincere appreciation to our briefers for their valuable updates and insights regarding the situation on the ground which is, frankly, heartbreaking.

Mr President,

The protracted conflict in Yemen continues to worsen, as the security situation remains volatile without a viable political solution. Coupled with this, is the worsening of the humanitarian situation, which has been significantly compounded by the covid-19 pandemic. To that end, we underscore the need for unhindered passage of humanitarian aid to people who are most in need. As urgent as this is though, it is not a solution, but merely a measure to assuage the abject consequences of the crisis. The only sustainable solution is a political one. We reaffirm our support for the work of the Special Envoy and all actors that have been facilitating dialogue between the parties. As Ms Raja Abdullah Ahmed Alma-sabi says, we need to do more, we need to do better.

We express concern over the shortfall in funding, which is impacting and hindering humanitarian operations. The disbursement of pledged funds is urgently needed to ensure the continued delivery of life-saving assistance. We need to do more, we need to do better.

Mr President,

The Council recently convened a meeting to discuss the issue of the SAFER oil tanker, which remains unaddressed. We underscore that the environment, economy, and people of Yemen and the region will be gravely impacted by any explosion or leak that occurs. Consequently, in advancing this issue, these concerns must remain a priority, ahead of political interests and political dynamics. To avoid a catastrophe, an assessment of the condition of the tanker must be carried out and appropriate steps to eliminate the threat must be taken. We need to do more, we need to do better.

In concluding, Mr President, we reiterate our appeal to all parties to cease hostilities and return to the negotiation table. While we encourage constructive engagement with the Special Envoy, we recognize that an effective outcome can only be achieved through an inclusive Yemeni-led and Yemeni-owned political process. This is the only palpable path to the advancement of Yemen's people, institutions, and political expressions. I close by echoing Mark's plea —we must help Yemen **now** or watch Yemen fall into the abyss. Thank you.