



**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. Dr. Halimah DeShong**

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

At the

**Open Debate on the threats to international peace and security caused by  
terrorist acts: ISIL/Daesh strategic report**

United Nations Security Council  
24 August 2020  
New York

Thank you, Mr. President,

I wish to begin by joining Council members in thanking USG Voronkov and Executive Director Coninx for their valuable briefings on the threats that ISIL poses to international peace and security.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines remains profoundly concerned about the acts of violence and atrocious crimes committed by ISIL and its affiliates. Recent terrorist attacks across the globe demonstrate that, despite its territorial defeat in Iraq and Syria, ISIL is continuing to expand its network, threatening state authority and disrupting peaceful societies as it carries out attacks against innocent civilians. We also note with particular concern, the findings in the Secretary-General's report that the global threat from ISIL is likely to increase in the medium to long term if the international community fails to comprehensively address this threat. Also disturbing is the observation that the inequalities and social fractures, accelerated and magnified by the COVID-19 pandemic, have the potential to feed into a vicious circle of destabilization and violence that ISIL is keen to exploit.

In order to address the threats to international stability and security, engendered through ISIL's continued expansion, the international community should renew its commitment to strengthen cooperation, bolster stability, and enhance institutional capacities across all regions. Comprehensive strategies that promote social inclusion and cohesion, including through sustainable social and economic development initiatives, should be advanced in order to build resilient societies, and reduce radicalization. Moreover, all counter-terrorism actions must be conducted in accordance with international law, and with the full implementation of the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions and the UN Global Counter

Terrorism Strategy. We must also effectively and efficiently share information responsibly with our Law Enforcement and Intelligence Community partners.

Countering the financing of terrorism is also an essential part of the global fight against terror. Thus, it is of utmost importance to monitor the changes in terror financing techniques utilized by ISIL. Similarly, in an effort to combat emerging terrorist financing risks, we call on the international community to fully implement resolution 2462, which requires Member States to disrupt and to criminalise the financing of terrorism for any purpose. In this regard, we commend the efforts made by CTED and UNOCT in the area of terrorist financing, and welcome the recent launch of a global capacity-building programme, pursuant to resolution 2462, on the prevention and suppression of the financing of terrorism. We underscore, however, that all initiatives to combat terrorist financing must be designed in such a way that they safeguard all legitimate and well-managed financial activities including in offshore jurisdictions.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, we underscore the central role of the United Nations in preventing and countering terrorism. The threats posed by terrorism can only be defeated through increased regional and international co-operation, and a comprehensive approach, with the active contribution and participation of all Member States. Finally, we reaffirm our commitment to contributing to the global efforts of preventing and countering terrorism.

I thank you.`