Statement

by

H.E. Inga Rhonda King
Permanent Representative

The Situation in Ukraine - "Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements"

United Nations Security Council
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New York

Please check against delivery
Thank you, Madam President,

We welcome our briefers today and thank them for their presentations.

Madam President,

We begin by expressing our concern that the conflict in eastern Ukraine, especially in the Donbas region, has continued for almost seven years. Despite some positive progress in 2019, such as the swapping of prisoners and peace talks, the ongoing crisis continues to cause suffering to the civilian population, including through displacement, attacks on schools and hospitals and loss of human life. A cessation of hostilities is essential for peace and security, and we encourage parties to adhere to the ceasefire agreements which is necessary for reaching a sustainable solution.

We recognize the steps taken in 2020 by the Trilateral Contact Group in Ukraine (TCG) to reach a new ceasefire agreement on measures to strengthen the ceasefire regime along the frontline in Donbas. We welcome the continued work of the Special Monitoring Mission in facilitating and monitoring localized ceasefires and enabling repairs and maintenance of civilian infrastructures.

We emphasize our support for the full implementation of the Minsk Agreements, as it remains the basis for a political solution to the conflict in Donbas. We hope that all parties would recommit to the peace process and fully implement all of
the measures agreed in the Normandy format and the Trilateral Contact group in order to achieve immediate progress and lasting peace.

Madam President,

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reaffirms its full support to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Special Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (SMM) in their efforts to continue encouraging all parties to fulfill their obligations under all agreements. We also underscore the importance of ensuring safe and unimpeded access to monitors.

In conclusion, Madam President, we re-emphasize the need for full implementation of the Minsk Agreements and respect for international law, including international humanitarian law.

I thank you.