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 Private Meeting on Myanmar

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New York
United Nations Security Council
Thank you, Mr. President,

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines warmly welcomes and thanks Special Envoy Burgener and the Foreign Minister II of Brunei, Mr. Dato Erywan Yu-sof, for their briefings.

We remain concerned about the ongoing political situation in Myanmar, and we reiterate our condemnation of the coup and the detention of those arbitrarily detained. This situation requires continued action and attention by the Security Council. The map of the Armed Engagements and Events in Mynmar since February 1st Special Envoy Burgener has provided is a troubling if not chilling illustration of the spread of violence.

We are concerned about the increase in killings and the rising number of displaced people, most notably in the Rakhine, Kachin, Shan, and Chin States. We strongly condemn all violations and abuses of human rights, including those committed against women and children. In this regard, my delegation continues to stress the need for the parties to uphold democratic institutions, immediately end and prevent further violence and casualties, and fully respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the human rights of the Rohingya people.

Moreover, the humanitarian situation has drastically deteriorated because of the ongoing political crisis and COVID-19 pandemic. We note with concern that millions are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, including food, water, and medicine. In light of these issues, humanitarian partners must be allowed full, safe, and unimpeded access to the vulnerable population. Furthermore, we must ensure that the people of Myanmar have full and equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccines. Conditions must also be created to ensure that those displaced can return to their homes in a safe, voluntary, and sustainable manner.

Mr. President,
To achieve lasting peace, the parties must engage in meaningful dialogue and work productively to implement the Five-Points Consensus established by ASEAN in April. The Special Envoy’s continued engagement is also needed and should be translated into concrete steps forward.

In conclusion, we reaffirm our support for the peace and stability of Myanmar, but urgent steps are needed, such as allowing a visit by the Special Envoy to Myanmar. We also reiterate our full support to the efforts of the Special Envoy, ASEAN, and other regional actors in assisting Myanmar to return to the path of democracy.

Finally, we would like to add our voice in support of the press elements in circulation.

Thank you.