



**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

**Security Council Briefing on the Situation in Libya**

United Nations Security Council

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Thank you, Mr President,

At the outset, permit me to welcome His Excellency, Mr. Abdul Hamid Dbeibeh, Prime Minister of the Government of National Unity of Libya, as well as the distinguished Foreign Ministers, Cabinet Officials and the Secretary General of the League of Arab States with us today. I also thank Mr. Ján Kubiš, Special Envoy of the Secretary General, for his presentation.

Mr President, Over the past few months, Libyans have experienced significant advances through shared objectives, responsibilities and strong commitment in their pursuit to restore peace and stability. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines hails these developments and encourages the Government of National Unity (GNU) to stay the course.

Consolidating the existing momentum is critical for Libya's rebirth. We welcome UNSMIL's instrumental role and reaffirm our support for the UN multitrack Libyan-led and Libyan-owned process. We also look forward to the renewal of the UNSMIL mandate in September and call for the strengthening of UNSMIL's capacity to carry out Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration activities aimed at assisting countries of origin of returned fighters and mercenaries, along with addressing the influx of illegal weapons. We further express appreciation for the very important work and initiatives of the African Union, the Arab League, the European Union and other international partners.

Last month's Second Berlin Conference embodies the international community's commitment in supporting Libya. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines welcomes this Conference and endorses its outcome document.

As Libya continues its quest for lasting peace, stability and development, some critical tasks must be finalized. These include, inter alia, the fulfilment of arrangements for the holding of inclusive, free, fair, transparent and credible elections on December 24, 2021; the reunification of Libya's institutions; full implementation of the October 23<sup>rd</sup> Ceasefire Agreement, including the complete and properly supervised withdrawal of all foreign fighters and mercenaries to avoid grave ramifications for the Sahel region and the wider continent; and the initiation of a national reconciliation process, supported by the African Union.

Mr. President, Libya's historical circumstances and existing conditions require all stakeholders in the political process to honour their obligations. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines repeats its urgent call for full adherence to international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, respect for Libya's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and full compliance with the arms embargo and the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 2570, 2571, and 2578. We urge all Libyan stakeholders and influential external actors to assist in this regard.

The human rights and humanitarian situation facing the groups made vulnerable, in particular, refugees, migrants, IDPs and women and girls, are concerning. We note the Secretary General's repeated calls for urgent attention to migrants and refugees

in detention centers and emphasize the utmost importance of ensuring the protection and safety of these groups in vulnerable situations. We also reiterate that Libya is not a safe port for disembarkation of migrants and refugees.

Peace, security and development must go hand-in-hand, and this Council ought to fulfill its obligations and ensure that the necessary conditions are prevalent to give effect to Libya's full stability.

After ten years of uncertainty and extreme difficulties, Libyans are on the verge of mending a fractured country. The upcoming elections are movements in the right direction. However, we note difficulties in reaching consensus on the legal framework to hold elections and remain hopeful that the parties can exhibit compromise to reach consensus on this vital issue.

Of equal importance is the need to unite critical institutions, including the Central Banks to address financial shortcomings, treat socio-economic deficiencies and tackle the pandemic, which continues to take its toll. We further encourage the parties to settle their differences on the 2021 Budget.

In closing, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines commends all Libyans, who have toiled, compromised and exhibited their resolve to change their country's path and who continue to strive to do better in pursuit of lasting peace and stability. We remain in solidarity with you! I thank you.