



**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](mailto:svgmission@gmail.com) | <http://svg-un.org>

**Statement**

By

**Isis Gonsalves**  
**Political Coordinator**

At

**United Nations Security Council Private Meeting on Myanmar**

United Nations Security Council

8 November 2021

New York

Please check against delivery

Thank you, Mr. President, and thanks to the United Kingdom for requesting this timely meeting on the situation in Myanmar. We also express appreciation to the Special Envoy for the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar, His Excellency Mr. Yusof, and the Director of East Asia and Pacific Division, Mr. Peter Due, for their insightful briefings.

At the outset, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reiterates its strong support for the ongoing efforts of ASEAN in finding a peaceful resolution to the crisis in Myanmar. The political stability of Myanmar remains essential to achieving a secure and durable solution, not only for Myanmar but also for the entire region. In this respect, we strongly encourage the military to engage constructively with ASEAN to fulfil all aspects of the Five-Point Consensus and facilitate the visit of the ASEAN Special Envoy as soon as possible. We further call on the military to engage in meaningful political dialogue with all relevant stakeholders, including women, youth, and civil society. We recognise the need for the ASEAN Special Envoy to have access to all parties concerned. We agree that the release of unlawfully detained persons would build trust for dialogue and we reiterate our previous calls for their release.

The protection of the people of Myanmar should remain a priority, including ethnic minorities and the Rohingya. My delegation is deeply concerned about the escalating violence in the northwest region, especially in Chin, Sagaing and Magway states. The coup has further negatively impacted these areas, with disproportionate impact on women and children. We strongly condemn the use of lethal force and violence against civilians and civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals and offices that carry out work in the interest of the people of Myanmar. Once again, we call on all parties to the conflict to respect human rights law, exercise restraint and refrain from further violence. Work to address the root causes of violence remains crucial and conducive conditions must be created for the safe, voluntary, sustainable, and dignified return of refugees and displaced persons.

The coup and the COVID-19 pandemic have further restricted humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations. Access must be allowed for equitable and safe delivery of humanitarian aid and delivery of COVID-19 vaccines. Attacks on health workers and the blocking of aid must also stop. To this end, we must all act hand in hand to mitigate the humanitarian catastrophe threatening Myanmar and the region.

Finally, we express thanks to Special Envoy Burgener for her efforts to facilitate dialogue and de-escalation of the situation, and we encourage the new Special Envoy to continue on this path. We further reiterate our support for the important role of the ASEAN, the UN, and other international and regional partners in finding a lasting solution to the crisis in Myanmar. Before closing, I would like to express my delegation's support for the draft press statement currently under discussion.

I thank you.