



PERMANENT MISSION OF ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement

By

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For

**The United Nations High-Level International Conference on “The Peaceful
Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-
State Solution**

25-30 July, 2025

**Trusteeship Council Chamber, UNHQ
New York**

Thank you, Mr. President, for giving me the floor. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines extends its appreciation to the Co-Chairs of the Conference, H.E. Jean-Noël Barron, Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of France and H.H. Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud, Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. We welcome your efforts in convening this important High-Level Meeting on *The Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution*.

Excellencies,

Today, we must accept the harsh reality that our multilateral system is fractured, and this breakdown has, in turn, allowed the erosion of the principles of international law, including those set out in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the legally binding resolutions adopted by the Security Council. These principles are not abstract ideals but safeguards for our peaceful co-existence. This is why Saint Vincent and the Grenadines regards this Conference as a critical opportunity to rebuild trust among States through the recommitment, in good faith, to the principles of international law and the two-State solution, as set out in Security Council resolution 242 (1967).

The ongoing conflict in the Middle East has for far too long assailed the people of Gaza, their suffering being a tragic testament of the consequences of setting aside international law that was designed to, at a minimum, put an end to such a conflict. The Palestinian people continue to contend with illegal occupation, dispossession, and harsh settler colonialist policies, with our delay—in recognizing an independent state of Palestine—being a contributing factor to the toxic status quo. The cycle of

death and destruction, ongoing impunity, and the violations of our international framework cannot be allowed to continue.

International law, including the principles embedded in the Charter of the United Nations, can neither be selectively applied nor sporadically upheld. As a modern civilization, if we are credible defenders of peace, then we must ultimately be consistent defenders of international law. Within this context, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reaffirms its support to a two-State solution that guarantees that both Israel and Palestine can live side by side in peace and security, within internationally recognised borders, based on the pre-1967 lines. Every State and people desirous of such ambitions are deserving of achieving it.

Excellencies,

The Charter of the United Nations is clear in its preamble: *we the peoples of the United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.* This solemn commitment must serve as our collective moral compass.

It is our sincere hope that this Conference will mark a turning point in the region, as well as in our global commitment to peace, stability, and multilateral cooperation. We express our hope that the work of the working groups would amount to more than just an academic exercise but, instead, would contribute tangibly to a shift in the discourse and the direction of this long-standing issue, operating as launching pads for action. We recognize, however, that to be impactful, our commitments throughout this Conference must be backed by concrete, measurable action. Now is

not the time for fatigue. We can no longer simply *stand in solidarity*. The need to implement a two-State solution has become more urgent than ever and, to this end, we recognize the role played by regional actors, including Egypt and Qatar, in negotiating a ceasefire, as well as the Peace Day Effort initiative that was launched by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the EU and the Arab League. We must build on these efforts and mobilize to take decisive steps toward ending the occupation and genocide, addressing the humanitarian crisis, and advancing a just and lasting peace for both Palestinians and Israelis in a time-bound manner.

Although the current situation appears grim, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines remains hopeful about the future. We hold firm in the belief that where strong political will and unity exist, a just and lasting solution is possible. We stand in solidarity with the people of Palestine and call on all parties to leverage every diplomatic tool available to rebuild trust and create an environment that would be conducive to attaining durable peace. I thank you.