United Nations S/2020/1077



Distr.: General 2 November 2020

Original: English

Letter dated 2 November 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines assumes the presidency of the Security Council for November 2020 against the backdrop of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, restrictions imposed by the authorities of the State and City of New York and a recent move by the Council to return to the Security Council Chamber for quite a number of meetings.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines will approach the issue of in-person, including in-Council, meetings with agility, flexibility, responsiveness and a keen awareness of the material circumstances, and, above all, we will seek consensus among Council members while ensuring that the views of key stakeholders are also taken into account.

Accordingly, following consultations with the Secretariat and all the members of the Council, the presidency will extend and implement the working methods set out in the letter dated 7 May 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council (S/2020/372) for Council work conducted virtually. For in-person meetings in the Security Council Chamber, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines will extend and implement the measures laid out in the annex to the letter from the President of the Security Council for October 2020 on working methods (S/2020/966), with particular emphasis on the critical importance of wearing a mask at all times while in the Chamber, including while delivering remarks. Furthermore, the members of the Council are in agreement that, during November, for meetings in the Chamber, all participants will wear a mask. Use of the Economic and Social Council Chamber for in-person meetings remains an option to provide flexibility in November.

The Security Council will continue to optimize its working methods towards the maintenance of international peace and security in a number of ways. Council members agree that multilingualism will be prioritized for greater effectiveness and involvement at meetings. In addition, the Council will continue to endeavour to conduct its work effectively, efficiently and transparently, as the situation demands. The Council remains committed to further enhancing interaction with and seeking the views of non-Council members during the current extraordinary circumstances.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines recalls all the letters from the President of the Security Council issued during the COVID-19 pandemic from March to October 2020 on the issue of working methods (S/2020/253, S/2020/273, S/2020/372, S/2020/490,





S/2020/639, S/2020/778, S/2020/877 and S/2020/966) and will continue to draw on the wisdom contained therein.

The current methods and modalities of work are intended only to respond to the extraordinary circumstances related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and will not set a precedent for the future. They will be evaluated at the end of November and may be revised, adapted or suspended, subject to the agreement of all members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Inga Rhonda **King** President of the Security Council

2/2 20-14539