

**EOV by the United States of America  
Right to Development Resolution**

**UN Human Rights Council – 15<sup>th</sup> Session  
Geneva, October 1, 2010**

Thank you, Mr. President.

The United States has a longstanding and strong commitment to support development. Our Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, has repeatedly emphasized that the promotion of development and human security is one of the crucial pillars of our country's foreign policy. And, as recently as last week, President Obama signed a Presidential Policy Directive on Global Development that centers U.S. development policy on the promotion of sustainable economic growth. Through this directive, President Obama has made clear that sustainable development is a long-term proposition, and that progress depends on the choices of political leaders and the quality of institutions in developing countries.

We also reaffirm that development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing. We believe that, where leaders govern responsibly, set in place good policies, and make investments conducive to development, sustainable outcomes can be achieved. And, as President Obama said last week, the United States is committed to working with nations to achieve those outcomes, to actually develop, to move from poverty to prosperity.

We of course believe that international cooperation can assist in this regard. We believe there is still much debate about the right to development and think it is important to try to find common ground on this topic. In this vein, we have appreciated working with the Working Group and the High Level Task Force. We continue to believe that it is not appropriate for this resolution to suggest explicitly the possibility that any criteria related to the right to development would evolve into a basis for consideration of an international legal document of a binding nature. We therefore regret that we must call a vote on this resolution and abstain.