

## **UN General Assembly**

### **U.S. EOJ on the Draft Resolution, "Right to Development"**

**November 22, 2010**

During his September 22 address to the Millennium Development Goal Summit, President Obama announced a new U.S. Global Development Policy, the first ever for a U.S. Administration. This new policy places a premium on broad-based economic growth, democratic governance, innovation, and sustainable systems for meeting basic human needs. It recognizes that development is a long-term proposition and that progress depends to a great extent on the choices of policies and the quality of institutions in developing countries.

The objectives of the U.S. Global Development Policy align closely with the broader thrust of this resolution on the right to development. The United States regrets that it must nevertheless call a vote, as we do not believe that the current text of the resolution reflects consensus on the best way to achieve our shared commitment to development.

The lead sponsor did not negotiate this resolution in an open and constructive manner, and refused to consider many reasonable suggestions from negotiating partners that could have moved this resolution towards consensus.

In particular, we do not consider it appropriate, as the resolution states in OP8 for any criteria related to the right to development to evolve into a basis for consideration of an international legal standard of a binding nature .

While the resolution contains other problematic elements, it is primarily for this reason that the United States will vote no. We urge other delegations to do so as well.