

**UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK**

June 29, 2011

The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honor to convey the following objections to Pakistan's reservations to the International Covenant on Political and Civil Rights (ICCPR).

The Government of the United States of America objects to Pakistan's reservations to the ICCPR. Pakistan has reserved to Articles 3, 6, 7, 12, 13, 18, 19, and 25 of the Covenant, which address the equal right of men and women to the full enjoyment of civil and political rights, the right to life, protections from torture and other cruel inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, freedom of movement, expulsion of aliens, the freedoms of thought, conscious and religion, the freedom of expression, and the right to take part in political affairs. Pakistan has also reserved to Article 40, which provides for a process whereby States Parties submit periodic reports on their implementation of the Covenant when so requested by the Human Rights Committee (HRC). These reservations raise serious concerns because they both obscure the extent to which Pakistan intends to modify its substantive obligations under the Covenant and

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**DIPLOMATIC NOTE**

also foreclose the ability of other Parties to evaluate Pakistan's implementation through periodic reporting. As a result, the United States considers the totality of Pakistan's reservations to be incompatible with the object and purpose of the Covenant. This objection does not constitute an obstacle to the entry into force of the Covenant between the United States and Pakistan, and the aforementioned articles shall apply between our two states, except to the extent of Pakistan's reservations.

The United States Mission to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General the assurances of its highest consideration.

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