

**Human Rights Council President's Preparatory Meeting on the 2011 Review Process**  
**Remarks by the Delegation of the United States**  
**May 26, 2010**  
**Human Rights Council**  
**Geneva**

Thank you, Mr. President.

The United States believes it is important for the 2011 review to consider ways the Council can improve its performance and enhance its working methods in terms of the mandate given to it by the General Assembly.

Remaining faithful to resolution 60/251, this review process should determine if the Council has lived up to its mandate and identify the ways it could better meet its responsibilities.

Once we have identified the areas for improvement, we can then seek the best solutions to address those shortcomings as well as ways to fine tune our work in order to be more effective and more efficient.

During the many informal discussions that have taken place to date, many delegations have stated that the review should not attempt to renegotiate line by line the Institution Building Package. We agree. A line by line review of the IB text would not be a good use of our time. In that same vein, a review that tracks the IB text could lead us to an unwanted repeat of the IB negotiations.

It will be important for us to identify needed changes, then determine the best format to institutionalize those changes, be it through an "IB Plus" or some other form of amendments. If, after we review content, we determine that we have to open the IB text or other documents, then we should do so - of course with the understanding that we are engaged in a consensus-based exercise.

Regarding a few practicalities, at some stage in the process, there may be a role for facilitators; however we believe it is too early to determine now how many facilitators we will need or what topics they should cover. It will depend on the depth of discussion we have on a given topic in the Working Group.

NGOs, National Human Rights Institutes, other UN bodies, experts, mandate holders and other actors bring a vast wealth of knowledge and experience to the discussion and should be involved actively in this review process.

The United States looks forward to a productive and thoughtful review that improves this body's ability to better respond to the needs of victims of human rights abuses wherever they be. We will work actively and constructively with all delegations to achieve that objective.

Thank you, Mr. President.