

## Pledge submitted by the United States of America to the Human Rights 75 Secretariat December 2023

Original language of submission: English Type of pledge: Single (by one state/actor)

Pledging entity: Government of United States of America

PLEDGE NUMBER 1: Racial Justice: Create Equity Action Plans Throughout the U.S. Federal Government

Executive Order 14091 on Further Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government emphasized the enormous human costs of systemic racism, persistent poverty, and other disparities, and directed the Federal Government to advance an ambitious agenda that matches the scale of the challenges we face as a country and the opportunities we have in order to build a more perfect union. Federal agencies, including all Cabinet-level agencies, will release a second round of Equity Action Plans by January 2024, which will address the systemic barriers in our nation's policies and programs that hold too many underserved communities back from prosperity, dignity, and opportunity. The plans will include hundreds of concrete strategies to advance racial justice and equity across all sectors.

**Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised:** Jan 30, 2024

PLEDGE NUMBER 2: Business and Human Rights: Work to Advance Human Rights Due Diligence and Protection of Human Rights Defenders Online in the Private Sector

The United States will release a revitalized National Action Plan on Responsible Business Conduct (NAP) by June 2024, in which the U.S. government expects to set forth specific steps to promote human rights and environmental due diligence (HREDD) by the private sector; to further respect for human rights, labor rights, and the environment in our government's own business operations; and to increase availability and efficacy of access to remedy as a core component of the HREDD cycle and a key component of responsible business conduct. The United States will also release detailed guidance for online platforms by June 2024 that sets out actions technology companies can take to protect human rights defenders who may be targeted on or via their products or services, including strengthened response mechanisms to women and LGBTQ+ human rights defenders who are disproportionately impacted by technology-facilitated gender-based violence. The guidance is being informed by extensive stakeholder consultations with civil society organizations, gender-based violence experts and advocates, human rights defenders, tech companies, trust and safety experts, mental health professionals, and United Nations experts.

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Jun 30, 2024

## PLEDGE NUMBER 3: Democracy and Human Rights: Investments in Global Human Rights:

The United States will amplify efforts under the Presidential Initiative for Democratic Renewal (PIDR), a broad-based, multi-stakeholder program to defend, sustain, and grow democratic resilience. The United States has already committed to provide up to \$690 million through 2024 to the PIDR, working with Congress and subject to the availability of appropriations, to work with governments and non-governmental partners through the Journalism Protection Platform and Media Freedom Coalition, the Advancing Women's and Girls' Civic and Political Leadership Initiative, the Partnership for Democratic Development, and the Defending Democratic Elections Fund, among others. The United States intends to further invest by September 2024 in innovative programs to enhance the holistic security of journalists globally and to combat impunity for the murders of journalists under the Journalism Protection Platform. Additionally, the U.S. Department of State will launch new programs by September 2024 to aid exiled human rights defenders, including journalists and scholars who have had to flee countries that do not respect democratic norms and principles, and will double efforts to combat transnational repression. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) will release a Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance Policy which reaffirms human rights as central to the agency's mission and provide over \$200 million, working with Congress, for development programs that build institutional resilience and local capacity to prevent and mitigate human rights violations, protect human rights defenders and democracy promoters, and promote justice and accountability.

**Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised:** Sep 30, 2024

PLEDGE NUMBER 4: Gender and Human Rights: Implement Strategies to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence across the U.S. Government

Executive Order 14020 on the Establishment of the White House Gender Policy Council directed the development of the first-ever National Plan to End Gender-Based Violence, which was released in May 2023, alongside an update and enhancement of the U.S. Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally, which was released in December 2022. Through both the National Plan and the Global Strategy, federal agencies are taking action to prevent and address gender-based violence across sectors in the U.S. and internationally, informed by extensive consultations with survivors, civil society, and other stakeholders. By the summer of 2024, agencies will submit progress reports to the Gender Policy Council to reflect concrete commitments—from new research, to policies, programs, and partnerships—to implement this whole-of-government approach to ending gender-based violence moving forward.

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Sep 30, 2024