**UN Human Rights Council, Geneva**

**Intersessional Panel on “The Right to Social Security in the Changing World of Work”**

**November 1, 2021**

Panel 1: The human right to social security and the changing world of work

· Thank you for this important discussion. Today’s workplace is evolving. New technologies create opportunities for skilled employment, but also eliminate jobs with more routine functions. This trend can disproportionately affect vulnerable and marginalized members of society, who often sustain themselves through these jobs.

· The United States works to provide income security to individuals throughout the life cycle, including by structuring workplace benefits to help vulnerable and marginalized individuals.

· More than 80 years ago, the United States prioritized protecting the dignity and independence of older people through legislation and policy.

· The United States also has the healthcare programs Medicare and Medicaid and various other social support and human services programs for children, low-income persons, and older persons.

· These programs are the cornerstones of the U.S. system for supporting the health, economic security, and social wellbeing of millions of older persons, individuals with disabilities, low-income persons, and their families. These programs have drastically reduced poverty, especially among older persons, allowing them and their families to enjoy greater independence in their later years.

· The United States has prioritized helping individuals understand available benefits and to apply for them.

· The United States believes that combatting poverty, especially among the most vulnerable members of our societies, is important for all states. Thank you for highlighting this important issue.