

**80th session of the United Nations General Assembly
First Committee**

Cluster 6 – Regional Disarmament and Security

Explanation of vote

After the vote

Submitted by the United States of America

Chair,

We would like to provide explanations for several of our votes in Cluster 6 on Regional Disarmament and Security.

The United States must disassociate from text in several resolutions in Cluster 6 and across different thematic clusters, including: **L.4, L.8, L.9, L.11, L.13, L.19, L.26, L.30, L.33, L.42, L.49, L.51, L.52, L.53, L.54, and L.55**, due to unacceptable and unnecessary text on or related to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), gender, and/or the Pact for the Future.

The United States rejects all references to SDGs and firmly believes that the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs advance a program of soft global governance inconsistent with U.S. sovereignty and adverse to the interests of Americans. We believe all countries should be similarly wary of such an affront to their sovereignty. At the same time, we respect the sovereignty of other nations and understand that they may choose to pursue individual objectives covered within the SDGs.

In many cases, the United States proposed replacing text calling for "achieving SDGs" with text calling for "achieving global prosperity." We regret that the penholders were unwilling to accept these suggestions towards a goal that we believe could have united us all.

Furthermore, the United States must again make clear its position that the Pact for the Future does not create or alter existing international legal obligations.

Chair,

It is the policy of the United States to recognize two sexes, male and female. To achieve this, we insist upon using clear and accurate language that recognizes women are biologically female and men are biologically male. The United States expects the UN to ensure that its documents and programming align with that policy by using terminology that clearly refers to women and men, girls and boys, and avoids ambiguous terms.

Likewise, the United States does not support organizational practices that promote diversity, equity, or inclusion initiatives. These are important aspects of the U.S. government's broader "back to the basics" approach to multilateral institutions, as well as the Administration's concerted efforts to oppose efforts to hijack this Committee's work in furtherance of social goals unrelated to its core mission.

Chair,

At the same time, I want to be clear that the United States strongly supports the protection of women and girls, the defense of their rights, and their empowerment. To that end, we remain committed to protecting and promoting the ability of women and girls to engage in all aspects of social, civic, political, and economic life.

That said, the United States opposes considerations of anything other than merit in hiring or promotion. For this reason, the United States must also dissociate itself from text in these and additional resolutions, including **L.8, L.29, L.43, L.47, L.51, L.52, L.53, L.58, L.59, and L.60**, which calls for, recognizes, or promotes "inclusivity" and/or the "equal," "equitable," or "full" participation of women and/or women and men in relevant conventions, processes, or decision-making, or "equitable geographical and

gender representation” rather than decisions about participation on the basis of merit.

Thank you.