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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

**UPR Working Group
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Universal Periodic Review of the United States of America

**Statement of the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova
Delivered by H.E. Victor Moraru, Ambassador, Permanent Representative**

(Geneva, 11 May 2015)

Mr. President,

We welcome the distinguished delegation of the United States of America to the UPR Working Group and thank them for the presentation of the National Report.

The Republic of Moldova commends the United States for its strong record in the field of promotion and protection of human rights.

We welcome the positive measures aimed at greater protection for juvenile offenders, including education services provided to youth in confinement.

We echo however concerns by certain international human rights mechanisms regarding the detention of youth under 18 in adult facilities and, in this context, recommend the USA *to ensure that youth in conflict with the law are handled by the juvenile justice system and have access to free legal advisory assistance.*

Likewise, in order to reinforce the steps taken by the USA to advance the rights of indigenous peoples, we recommend the US Government *to regularly consult with indigenous peoples on matters of interest to their communities, to support their rights to traditionally owned lands and resources and to adopt measures to effectively protect sacred areas of indigenous peoples against environmental exploitation and degradation.*

I thank you, Mr. President.