**U.S. Statement at the Universal Periodic Review of the Dominican Republic**

**46th Session, May 7, 2024**

**Delivered by Branka Bell**

Thank you, Mr. President.

The United States welcomes the delegation from the Dominican Republic.

The United States commends the Dominican Republic’s efforts to combat corruption but remains concerned about the situation of persons of Haitian descent.

We recommend that the Dominican Republic:

1. Fully implement Law 169-14 to restore citizenship to stateless persons and resume visa, residency, and asylum processing for eligible Haitians, which are currently suspended.
2. Halt violent, warrantless nighttime home raids targeting persons of Haitian descent and screen potential deportees to identify trafficking victims and others needing protection.
3. Hold accountable those who subject individuals to forced labor, ensure foreign workers deemed critical to the economy can exercise their labor rights without retaliation, and consider steps to reduce such workers’ vulnerability, such as allowing them to regularize their migratory status.

I thank you.