**U.S. Statement at the Universal Periodic Review of Uruguay**

**46th Session, May 1, 2024**

**Delivered by Sylvia Updegraff**

Thank you, Mr. Vice-President.

The United States welcomes the delegation of Uruguay led by Minister Paganini.

We recognize Uruguay’s efforts in the areas of worker protections, LGBTQI+ rights, free and fair elections, and integration of refugees. We are concerned by reports of poor prison conditions.

In the spirit of constructive engagement, we recommend that Uruguay:

1. Reduce overcrowding in men’s and women’s prisons by establishing robust alternative incarceration systems and incorporating community-based programs and treatment.
2. Increase technical staff and programming in prisons to favor rehabilitation, especially reentry peer support training, including training for employment, to facilitate reentry after release.
3. Develop and implement mental health and substance abuse policies that are consistent with international human rights obligations and improve the quality of care for those who are confined in asylums and institutions.