**U.S. Statement at the Universal Periodic Review of São Tomé and Príncipe 37th Session, January 27, 2021**

The United States welcomes the delegation from São Tomé and Príncipe to the UPR Working Group.

We recommend that Sao Tome and Principe:

1. Enact reforms to reduce corruption, increase transparency of financial assets of political leaders, investigate incidents of police corruption, and conduct trials of public officials accused of corruption.
2. Support efforts by the Prime Minister’s office to reduce levels of domestic violence, investigate, prosecute and convict criminals who commit rape or gender-based violence.
3. Identify and protect children from sexual exploitation, reduce instances of child labor by increasing labor inspections, and expanding protections to the informal sector.

We commend São Tomé and Príncipe’s commitment to the promotion of human rights, both domestically and internationally. Progress can still be made to improve anti-corruption efforts, strengthen efforts to reduce gender-based violence, and prevent the exploitation of children.