**U.S. Statement at the Universal Periodic Review of Barbados,**

**29th Session, January 19, 2017**

The United States welcomes the Barbadian delegation to the UPR Working Group.

The United States is pleased to note that Barbados has strong respect for human rights.

Nevertheless, we are concerned about lengthy pretrial detention, that more could be done to combat corruption, and reports of children being subjected to sex trafficking.

Bearing in mind these concerns, we recommend that Barbados:

1. Address backlogs and undue delays in scheduling of court dates, witnesses, juries and defendants’ appearances, including by creating an accurate and transparent online case tracking system, in order to ensure that all criminal defendants are afforded fair trial guarantees and equality before the courts consistent with Barbados’ international obligations;
2. Promulgate the Prevention of Corruption Act of 2012; and
3. Step up efforts to prosecute human traffickers, including child sex traffickers, and identify and assist victims of this crime.