

*Représentation permanente de la Belgique auprès des Nations Unies et auprès des institutions spécialisées à Genève*

|  |
| --- |
| **WG UPR – United States**  ***Belgian intervention***  9 November 2020 |

Madam President,

Belgium appreciates that 26 States and Districts have abolished the death penalty or introduced moratoria on executions but we greatly regret the resumption of executions at the federal level after a moratorium of 17 years.

As a strong opponent of the death penalty, Belgium recommends the US at least to:

**R1.** Improve access to legal assistance for individuals who may face a death sentence.

We furthermore recommend to:

**R2.** Ensure that each allegation of excessive use of force by law enforcement officials is promptly and effectively investigated;

**R3.** Take all possible steps at state and federal level to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in credit, education, employment, housing, jury service, public accommodations, and taxpayer funded programs.

Thank you, Madam President