



February 8, 2011

Scott Busby
Office of Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights
National Security Council
Eisenhower Executive Office Building
725 Seventeenth Street, NW
Washington, DC, 20503

David Sullivan
Office of the Legal Adviser
United States Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Busby and Mr. Sullivan,

On behalf of the Center for Women's Global Leadership (CWGL), I would like to express our appreciation to you and your colleagues for working with civil society during the Universal Periodic Process. I write to you today to draw your attention to the strong linkages between the realization of human rights and implementation of macroeconomic policies in the U.S. and the need for government representatives from the treasury department to engage civil society with regards to the impact of macroeconomic policy on economic and social rights.

As you know macroeconomic policies impact the economy as a whole and determine whether there are enough decent jobs and adequate resources for healthcare, education and other social services. One example of this is employment and monetary policy. The U.S. Federal Reserve has a mandate to conduct policies to maintain price stability and the maximum possible level of employment. Thus, monetary policies which focus on employment are directly linked to the realization of the right to work and the right to an adequate standard of living.

The importance of macroeconomic policy to the progressive realization of economic and social rights requires the U.S. government, as part of its UPR process, to include representatives responsible for decision making in this area. Over the last fifteen months, CWGL has been closely involved with the civil society UPR process which has been coordinated by the U.S. Human Rights Network. In the lead up to the review CWGL and partners developed a report entitled, "Towards a Human Rights-Centered Macroeconomic and Financial Policy in the U.S.," which focuses on the human rights implications of the financial crisis and subsequent domestic policy responses. We would like to share our findings with the appropriate governmental representatives and have these addressed in the follow up process to the UPR.

The U.S. Human Rights Network suggested that the U.S. government effectively document submissions and undertake a review process which ensures that all suggestions are included. We support that

proposal and are attaching a brief statement which highlights the connections between human rights and macroeconomic policies as well as the recommendations made through the UPR process with regards to these links for your information and further discussion.

I look forward to your response and to a productive discussion and inclusion of these issues in the review process.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Radhika Balakrishnan', written in a cursive style.

Professor Radhika Balakrishnan, Director, Center for Women's Global Leadership and Professor,
Women's & Gender Studies Department at Rutgers University