



## UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**United Nations General Assembly Sixth Committee 78<sup>th</sup> Session  
Agenda Item 87: Strengthening and Promoting the International Treaty Framework:  
Best Practices of Depositories of Multilateral Treaties**

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Thank you, Chair.

The United States welcomes the opportunity to discuss strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework. In connection with this topic, we are pleased that the Committee is addressing best practices of depositories of multilateral instruments.

We greatly appreciate the depository work of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, including its adoption of an electronic system for depository communications. The United States is depository for more than 200 multilateral instruments. On January 1, 2020, we also moved to an electronic system for dissemination of all depository communications. In doing so, we found the United Nations' system provided a helpful model.

In our experience, the electronic dissemination of depository information has proven to be an effective and efficient means of communicating information. We encourage other states that are serving as depositories similarly to consider ways in which electronic systems may contribute to their performance of depository functions. We further encourage depositories to maintain up-to-date websites that make publicly available the status information of signatories and parties.

In addition, we suggest that states that are parties to multilateral treaties make use of electronic depository notification systems by subscribing to receive from depositories information about treaty actions. Such systems typically allow states to tailor the information they receive and enable them to receive that information in a timely manner.

We hope to see continued expansion and utilization of electronic depository notification systems, as the United States considers these systems to reflect depository best practice.

Thank you.