

UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



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**Statement at the 80th General Assembly Sixth Committee
Agenda Item 146: Administration of Justice
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United States Mission to the United Nations
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Thank you, Chair.

The United States thanks the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services and the Internal Justice Council for the reports on their work in 2024. The United States also thanks the Secretary-General for his report and for his responses to the General Assembly's requests for consideration. Addressing workplace conflict before it escalates is important to fostering a professional environment and using resources efficiently and effectively.

To those ends, the large caseload of the Office of the Ombudsman and Mediation Services demonstrated that individuals are engaging in productive conflict management rather than in protracted litigation. We applaud the Office for continuing to work to make its services available to all staff, regardless of their duty station. The Management Advice and Evaluation Section also played an important role in finding resolutions before conflicts proceeded to the Dispute Tribunal. The Office of Staff Legal Assistance also provided valuable informal services that precluded the need for more formal procedures. We encourage continued emphasis on informal resolution and stress the importance of timeliness, since justice delayed is unfair to staff and costly for the Organization.

We wish the newly constituted Internal Justice Council well in its work. We appreciate the priority that the Council gave to the important work of assessing applicants for the vacancies on the Dispute Tribunal and Appeals Tribunal. Having highly qualified judges in place is essential to the credibility and accountability of the system of justice. We look forward to the Internal Justice Council's considerations for promoting independence, professionalism, and accountability within the UN system of justice.

Thank you, Chair.