No. 051/11

The Permanent Mission of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, to the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Mr. James Anaya, to the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief Mr. Heiner Bielefeldt, and to the Independent Expert in the Field of Cultural Rights Ms. Farida Shaheed.

The Government of the United States welcomes the opportunity to respond to the joint letter of 10 May 2011 from the Special Rapporteurs and Independent Expert concerning the ceremonial and burial site Soroea Te, located in the city of Vallejo, California. We are pleased to inform you that the matter has come to an amicable solution for all parties involved after fruitful discussions among the City of Vallejo, the Greater Vallejo Recreation District, and local indigenous groups.

On July 20, 2011, these parties established a cultural easement and settlement agreement affording the indigenous groups legal oversight of activities on the burial grounds of Sogorea Te, and downsized and relocated the proposed parking lot to an acceptable location. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

The Permanent Mission of the United States of America avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Permanent Mission of the United States of America, Geneva,

November 22, 2011.

DIPLOMATIC NOTE