

## The Permanent Mission OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA

October 19, 2016

Mr. Karim Ghezraoui Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Special Procedures Branch

Dear Mr. Ghezraoui,

Thank you for your letter dated September 29, 2016, requesting "information concerning the role of the Financial Oversight and Management Board established by the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (PROMESA) in addressing the ongoing Puerto Rican debt crisis." Attached please find the response from the Government of the United States.

Sincerely,

Keith M. Harper

Ambassador

U.S. Representative to the UN

Human Rights Council

**OHCHR REGISTRY** 

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Recipients: SPB

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## Subject: U.S. Response to OHCHR Inquiry Concerning the Assessment and Restructuring of Puerto Rico's National Debt

We appreciate your concern for the residents of Puerto Rico, particularly with regard to the respect for human rights as the Board discharges its mandate to strengthen Puerto Rico's fiscal governance, accountability, and internal oversight. We also welcome your efforts to highlight the importance of transparency and public participation throughout this process.

We note that Congress established the PROMESA board as an entity of the Government of Puerto Rico. In that regard, the United States Government neither controls the Board nor exercises oversight with regards to decisions taken by the Board.

As requested, we will forward your letter to the Board.