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
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.