

## **United States response to the possibility of a high-level event on sustainable development**

The United States appreciates the opportunity to express its views on the possibility of convening a high-level event on sustainable development. The United States is dedicated to the pursuit of sustainable development and we strongly believe that international cooperation is essential to this important endeavor.

The outcomes of previous events, including the World Summit on Environment and Development in Rio and the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, have offered vital contributions to our global efforts towards sustainable development. Indeed, the Commission on Sustainable Development, the UN Forum on Forests, the various multilateral environment agreements and the work of UNEP continue to contribute actively to the global sustainable development process.

the same, member states should consider postponing any summit until 2017 at which time we would have an opportunity to review and assess the entire history of sustainable development agreements and achievements in order to inform our next steps and embark on new sustainable development goals. Many member governments, including the United States, do not have the resources to prepare for and staff two major summits on sustainable development within five years.

We thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this subject and we look forward to additional fruitful discussion on this and other sustainable development priorities, but most especially on implementation of agreements already made and our efforts to improve the lives of people and protect the environment.