

U.S. National Statement for UNECE's 70th Commission

On behalf of the United States, it is an honor to join fellow member states at UNECE's 70th Annual Commission.

The United States is committed to working together with ECE members to advance peace, prosperity, and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The world has seen dramatic changes since the last Biennial Commission in 2021. Although we have made significant progress in pandemic recovery and response, we are now facing new global challenges. Most significantly, Russia's unprovoked war against Ukraine has set back global progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) both in the region and beyond and contributed to global food insecurity and energy crises.

Although the challenges we face may have evolved, so have the tools at our disposal.

UNECE plays a critical role in forging partnerships that leverage science, technology, and innovation breakthroughs to advance transformative and systemic changes to overcome global challenges. We are pleased that UNECE has chosen to focus this Commission on the role of digital technology and green transformations in sustainable development.

The United States believes innovation is critical for achieving the SDGs. For example, and connectivity create partnerships and relationships that build capacity in science, research, and education. They can increase access to and adoption of key enabling technologies, platforms, and services that will help emerging economies achieve the 2030 Agenda.

To encourage and spur innovation, we also need innovation-enabling environments, including both early-stage investment and

strong intellectual property protections and enforcement systems, ensuring that private sector companies and entrepreneurs have the financial incentives to tackle hard problems.

To this end, the Biden Administration has made a historic investment of \$16.5 billion in support of climate science and clean energy innovation. The budget includes \$11.3 billion to boost clean energy innovation and reaffirms our leadership in developing innovative technologies that accelerate the transition to a clean energy economy.

These investments and initiatives demonstrate our conviction that we can advance economic growth while also securing environmental protections. And these are just a few examples of how the United States is contributing to the SDGs on clean energy, decent work and economic growth, and climate action, which we look forward to discussing this week.

We also look forward to building strong partnerships with you to fully implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Thank you.