



C-Fam Statement on UN80 Reforms
February 24, 2026

Excellencies, distinguished colleagues,

UN80 cannot be about cost savings only. That would be a merely cosmetic reform. It would be like giving plastic surgery to a patient who needs a cancer operation.

UN80 could represent a critical moment for the United Nations to pivot away from utopic ideological goals like gender ideology and DEI to a pragmatic results-based approach. The UN will never be “fit for purpose” or “regain public trust” as long as it continues to promote contentious policies that are out of step with the priorities and interests of billions of people around the world.

Too often, UN donors, both public and private, and UN entities abuse the wide latitude they have under the General Assembly’s normative framework to impose contentious political priorities like gender ideology, abortion, climate alarmism, and global censorship. The top-down imposition of these controversial policies is a new form of colonialism. It undermines the legitimacy of the entire UN system.

It must be a moment to initiate substantive reforms that will put an end to controversial UN policies and the abuse of the UN system by unscrupulous public and private actors. To achieve this, the mandate review process should envision a mechanism to call the UN secretariat, agencies, funds, and programs to task for abuses and implement increased transparency measures to combat the possibility of undue influence.

Thank you.