

Message to the Senate Transmitting the Bangladesh-United States Taxation Convention

October 27, 2005

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith for the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification a Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Bangladesh for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income signed at Dhaka on September 26, 2004 (the "Convention"). An exchange of notes is enclosed, and the report of the Department of State with respect to the Convention is transmitted for the information of the Senate.

This Convention, which is similar to tax treaties between the United States and

other developing nations, provides maximum rates of tax to be applied to various types of income and protection from double taxation of income. The Convention also provides for the resolution of disputes and sets forth rules making its benefits unavailable to those who are engaged in treaty forum shopping.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to this Convention and that the Senate give its advice and consent to ratification.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
October 27, 2005.

Message to the Senate Transmitting the United Nations Convention Against Corruption

October 27, 2005

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (the "Corruption Convention"), which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on October 31, 2003. I also transmit, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Secretary of State with respect to the Corruption Convention, with an enclosure.

The international fight against corruption is an important foreign policy priority for the United States. Corruption hinders sustainable development, erodes confidence in democratic institutions, and facilitates transnational crime and terrorism. The Convention will be an effective tool to assist in the growing global effort to combat corruption.

The U.N. Corruption Convention is the first global multilateral treaty to comprehensively address the problems relating to corruption. It provides for a broad range of cooperation, including extradition and mutual legal assistance, and commits governments to take measures that will prevent corruption from happening in the first place. The Corruption Convention includes provisions to criminalize and prevent corruption and provides procedures for governments to recover assets that have been illicitly acquired by corrupt officials.

The provisions of the Corruption Convention are explained in the accompanying report of the Department of State. The report also sets forth proposed reservations that would be deposited by the United States with its instrument of ratification. With these reservations, the Convention