

**Message to the Senate Transmitting
a United Nations Convention on
International Trade Law**

August 6, 1993

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to accession, I transmit herewith the United Nations Convention on the Limitation Period in the International Sale of Goods done at New York on June 14, 1974, and the Protocol amending the Convention done at Vienna on April 11, 1980. Also transmitted for the information of the Senate is the report of the Department of State with respect to the Convention.

This is the second Convention in the field of international sales of goods law produced by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) that has been transmitted to the Senate for its advice and consent. The first, the 1980 United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, was ratified by the United States and entered into force for this country on January 1, 1988. Both of these Conventions establish uniform international standards in the commercial law of sales of goods in order to facilitate commerce and trade. Both benefit the United States by removing artificial impediments to commerce that arise from differences between the national legal systems that govern international sales of goods.

The Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Private International Law, on which 11 national legal organizations are represented, in May 1989, and the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association, in August 1989, endorsed U.S. accession to the Convention and amending Protocol, subject to a U.S. declaration permitted under Article XII of the Protocol. The declaration is set forth with reasons in the accompanying report of the Department of State.

I recommend that the Senate promptly give its advice and consent to accession to this Convention together with its amending Protocol.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
August 6, 1993.

**Remarks on Senate Action on the
Economic Program**

August 6, 1993

Thank you. Thank you very much. What we heard tonight at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue was the sound of gridlock breaking. It was the sound of progress and change which can now resound throughout every corner of our great and beloved Nation.

I want to thank the United States Senators who voted for change tonight, especially the Senate majority leader, George Mitchell, for his untiring efforts, and all the others who worked so hard for so long to see this night come about. I want to thank the Vice President for his unwavering contribution to the landslide. I thank the economic team who worked so hard on this from last November: Leon Panetta, who is here; Secretary Bentsen; Mr. Rubin; and all the people who work with them. I thank Mr. McLarty and all the members of the White House staff. I thank Mr. Altman and the war room for the work they did in the last several weeks. I thank especially Howard Paster and Steve Ricchetti and all those who worked for us in the Senate. I hope that they will get some well-deserved rest.

After 12 long years, we can say to the American people tonight we have laid the foundation for the renewal of the American dream. The days of endless gridlock, rising deficits, and trickle-down economics are over. The days of economic growth and real opportunity for the working families of this country have begun.

This was not easy, but real change is never easy. It is always difficult. It is always easier to sustain the status quo and to talk as if you were changing. But that is not why I was elected President, nor is it why we were sent here.

When we came here, our national debt had quadrupled in 12 years, and the incomes of our forgotten working families had been stagnant for nearly 20 years. Our heritage of investment in our people and our economy had been gradually forsaken and the people of our Nation questioned whether anyone here in this city would take responsibility for our future, change the direction of our country,

and ensure a better life for them and their children.

After a long season of denial and drift and decline, we are seizing control of our economic destiny. To be sure, as I have said repeatedly, this is just the beginning, just the first step in our attempts to assert control over our financial affairs, to invest in our future, and to grow our economy, to deal with the health care problems, the welfare reform problems, the problems of crime in the streets, and the other things that deal with the daily fabric of life for our people. But make no mistake about it, this is a very, very important beginning.

The economic program that Congress passed tonight puts \$500 billion into a trust fund locked away for deficit reduction; \$255 billion in specific, real, enforceable spending cuts; tax cuts for 20 million working Americans with marginal incomes who are trying to raise their children. This will reward their desire to choose work over welfare. It is an important advance in the fabric of opportunity and responsibility in this country.

This new direction includes new opportunities for the sons and daughters of middle class families to go to college because it reforms the student loan programs in ways that make student loans more accessible to more people and cuts the cost in the program through waste reduction. It provides immunizations to give a healthy start to millions of American children. It provides significant new incentives for small businesses to grow and expand. In this sharp departure from business as usual, this program will create jobs, reduce the deficit, and put the American people first.

In the lifetime of this country, the courage and wisdom of the American people in difficulty have always prevailed when we faced a challenge and needed a change. Sometimes in the past they have prevailed by the narrowest of margins in the beginning but always picking up steam, always marching confidently toward the future. That will be true in this time as well.

We're determined not to let the American dream founder. We are determined to stop avoiding our problems and start facing them, to embrace them as challenges, to turn them into opportunities, to seize the future that

rightfully belongs to every American willing to work hard, play by the rules, and take care of their children. We are determined that the next generation of Americans will inherit a brighter future than we have known, just as we did from our parents. For more than two centuries, that has been the promise of the American dream. Tonight, because of the bold action taken by courageous men and women in the House and the Senate, that dream will not be deferred but rather be fulfilled.

I am profoundly grateful tonight for the opportunity to stand here not simply as President but as an American citizen seeing our Nation once again roll up our sleeves together, tackle our problems, and march to tomorrow.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:05 p.m. at the North Portico at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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In the morning, the President went jogging with Democratic National Committee "Break the Gridlock" student volunteers. In the late afternoon, the President met with Oklahoma State leaders. In the evening, he attended a dinner honoring Representative Jack Brooks at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Capitol Hill.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert Fossum to be Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Policy and Ernest Dubester to be a member of the National Mediation Board. He also announced that he has designated Jessica L. Parks as Vice Chair of the Merit Systems Protection Board.