

Criminal Matters, signed at Brasilia on October 14, 1997. I transmit also, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Treaty.

The Treaty is one of a series of modern mutual legal assistance treaties that the United States is negotiating in order to counter criminal activities more effectively. The Treaty should be an effective tool to assist in the prosecution of a wide variety of modern criminals, including those involved in terrorism, other violent crimes, drug trafficking, money laundering, and other "white-collar" crime. The Treaty is self-executing, and will not require new legislation.

The Treaty provides for a broad range of cooperation in criminal matters. Mutual assistance available under the Treaty includes:

(1) Locating or identifying persons or items; (2) serving documents; (3) taking testimony or statements of persons; (4) transferring persons in custody for testimony or other purposes; (5) providing documents, records, and items; (6) executing requests for searches and seizures; (7) assisting in proceedings related to immobilization and forfeiture of assets, restitution, and collection of fines; and (8) any other form of assistance not prohibited by the laws of the Requested State.

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

William J. Clinton

The White House,
April 28, 1998.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders on
Funding Considerations for the
Supplemental Appropriations
Conference**

April 28, 1998

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Leader:)

I am writing with respect to the treatment of International Monetary Fund (IMF) and United Nations (UN) funding in the pending supplemental appropriations conference.

I am pleased that both Houses have approved needed funding for domestic disaster relief and defense. I urge Congress to approve this funding as I requested it, without violating the "firewalls" agreed to in last

year's balanced budget deal or including objectionable extraneous measures.

However, I am deeply concerned that the conference report may not include the funding I have requested for the IMF. Delay or failure to approve the full IMF requests could undermine our capacity to deal with threats to world economic stability and could leave us unable to protect American workers, farmers, and businesses in the event of an escalation or spread of the Asian financial crisis or a new crisis.

I am also deeply concerned by the possibility that the conference will not include payment of our UN arrears. The failure to provide the full request in this bill could jeopardize our chance to affect negotiations starting in May on lowering U.S. dues and would undermine U.S. leadership in the international community.

Some would link passage of IMF funding and UN arrears to legislation related to international family planning. There are deep convictions on both sides of this debate, which should be settled on its own merits—and not used to sidetrack other legislation on matters vital to our nation's well-being.

I urge you in the strongest possible terms to include the full requests for the IMF and UN arrears in the bill now in conference.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Trent Lott, Senate majority leader; Thomas A. Daschle, Senate minority leader; Richard K. Armey, House majority leader; and Richard A. Gephardt, House minority leader.

**Remarks at a Democratic Senatorial
Campaign Committee Dinner in
New York City**

April 28, 1998

Thank you very much. Thank you, Shelby and Katherine, for opening your beautiful home. I thank all the Senators who are here. I thank especially Senator Kerrey and Senator Torricelli. When Bob Torricelli goes around the country or Bob Kerrey goes around the country, I know they enjoy it, but it still gets hard. [Laughter] It still gets hard.