

UNITED STATES

1. On January 12, 2004 in conjunction with the Special Summit of the Americas, President George W. Bush issued a Proclamation "[To Suspend Entry as Immigrants or Nonimmigrants of Persons Engaged in or Benefiting From Corruption](#)." This proclamation enables the United States to demonstrate that its commitment to combating corruption is serious. While the Convention does not explicitly mention such suspensions, we believe that the Proclamation will be an effective instrument in helping to achieve the goals of the Convention. A copy of the Proclamation is attached.
2. The U.S. Office of Government Ethics recently implemented an employee survey designed to help evaluate the effectiveness of executive branch agencies' ethics programs. The survey assesses employee knowledge of executive branch rules of ethical conduct, awareness of ethics program resources, effectiveness of agency ethics education and training and general agency ethics culture. The Office may use these surveys to recommend improvements of agency ethics programs. The Office of Governmental Ethics of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico also completed an Employee Ethics Survey in 2003. Copies of the Executive Summary have been distributed in English and Spanish to Committee members. Additional copies are available from the Office at P.O. Box 194200, Puerto Rico 00919-4200.
3. A bill amending the public financial disclosure provisions in the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 is pending in Congress. It would simplify reporting requirements to reduce the burden for certain types of officials required to file public disclosures as contemplated in Title III, Section 4 of the Convention. It would not affect the ability of the Office of Government Ethics and agencies to detect prevent conflicts of interest on the part of executive branch employees.