REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC LAW 107–228 AUTHORITY FOR RUSSIAN FEDERATION DEBT REDUCTION FOR NONPROLIFERATION

## **MESSAGE**

FROM

## THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DEBT REDUCTION AUTHORITY CONFERRED BY TITLE XIII, SUBTITLE B OF PUBLIC LAW 107–228, PURSUANT TO PUB. L. 107–228 SEC. 1321



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To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with section 1321 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107–228), I transmit herewith a report prepared by my Administration on implementation of the debt reduction authority conferred by title XIII, subtitle B of Public Law 107–228.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

The White House, March 8, 2004.

REPORT TO THE CONGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC LAW 107–228 AUTHORITY FOR RUSSIAN FEDERATION DEBT REDUCTION FOR NONPROLIFERATION

Section 1321 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003, Public Law 107–228, enacted on September 30, 2002, requires annual reports to the Congress concerning actions taken to implement the debt reduction authority conferred in section 1314 on the President, to support projects in the Russian Federation promoting the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the means of delivering such weapons.

The United States has thus far not used the loan reduction agreement authority under Public Law 107–228 to fund any

projects.

Implementation issues affect the provisions of international non-proliferation and threat reduction assistance to Russia. The Administration was previously stated that we do not intend to pursue proposals linking nonproliferation and changes in Russian debt policy until such time as Russia resolves implementation issues impeding our assistance programs using funds appropriated under current accounts, and until our partners in the G–8 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction provide their part of the \$20 billion over 10 years agreed under this initiative.

Implementation issues include taxation, transparency, access, and, particularly, liability protections. The United States and other donor states believe it is important to resolve such issues with ongoing and planned international nonproliferation and threat reduction assistance, before beginning new areas of cooperation involving mechanisms such as debt reduction. These implementation issues are different from and unrelated to the problems and issues in Cooperative Threat Reduction certification.

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