

NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

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U.N. REFORM

DOLE TO INTRODUCE BILL TARGETING OUTRAGEOUS U.N. TAXATION SCHEMES

WASHINGTON - Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole today issued the following statement on United Nations reform:

The United Nations continues its out of control pursuit of power. In the latest of a series of outrageous attempts to increase the independence of the United Nations, Secretary General Boutros Boutros Ghali has proposed a system of U.N. taxes on air travel, currency transactions and even international mail. Late last year, Boutros Boutros Ghali tried to borrow funds from the World Bank as if the United Nations were a sovereign state. Now he wants to head up an international Internal Revenue Service.

It's time to say enough is enough. When Congress returns next week, along with Senators Gregg and Helms, I will introduce legislation prohibiting any U.S. payments to any United Nations organization if Boutros Boutros Ghali's taxation schemes are put into place. The United States pays a disproportionate share for the United Nations -- and far too often all we get in return is bloated bureaucracy, wasteful programs and dangerous peacekeeping adventures. The Republican Congress will continue to insist on reform before approving dollars for the United Nations. What the United Nations needs is a fundamental overhaul. That means real reform, real accountability and real downsizing -- not a network of international taxes to support its inflated ambitions.

Congressional Hearings & GAO Examination

Senator Gregg, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee responsible for United Nations payments, and Chairman Helms, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, intend to hold hearings on the various United Nations plans and proposals to raise revenue independent from the scrutiny of member states. We are also writing the General Accounting Office to ask for a detailed examination of the status of all U.N. revenue raising proposals, including an assessment of their legality under U.S. and international law.

Concern over the grandiose aspirations of senior United Nations officials -- including American citizens in senior U.N. positions -- is shared by the vast majority of the American people. The Republican Congress will act to ensure the United Nations does not begin taxation without representation in 1996.

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