

## *Foreword*

During the first six months of 1992, my administration moved forward on many fronts to advance a domestic and foreign policy agenda that would prepare the country for the 21st century, and take advantage of the historic opportunity that our victory in the Cold War presented for sustained peace and prosperity.

In January, in my State of the Union address, I laid out an economic plan that would have stimulated the economy by providing help for home buyers, tax relief for families, and critical incentives for investment. We proposed a comprehensive health care reform proposal and a GI Bill for children to provide choice in education. We initiated a moratorium on additional federal regulation, which ultimately saved the taxpayers an estimated \$20–\$30 billion, and granted waivers to permit innovative state welfare projects that encourage self-sufficiency.

In June, the Nation reacted with shock and dismay to the riots in Los Angeles. We sought to repair the short term damage with emergency funds to rebuild homes and small businesses. We also confronted the long-term problems of the inner cities through our Job Training 2000 proposal, our enterprise zone initiative to attract investment in urban areas, and our Weed and Seed program to eliminate crime and create an environment of opportunity.

In April, I proposed the FREEDOM Support Act, a package of proposals designed to help develop freedom and free markets in Russia and the other newly independent states of the former Soviet Union. In June, I met with Boris Yeltsin at the White House for the first ever U.S.-Russia Summit. We agreed on far-reaching new strategic arms reductions to eliminate the world's most dangerous weapons—heavy ICBMs and all other multiple warhead ICBMs. We concluded economic agreements that open new avenues to trade and investment in Russia. And we signed the Washington Charter, a formal statement of our mutual future together as democratic partners.

I travelled to Brazil to attend the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to sign the Framework Convention on Climate Change.

We continued to maintain close ties with our Latin American allies and met in San Antonio, Texas to continue our dialogue to end the scourge of drug trafficking.