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Dr. Matthew Meselson
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Dear Matt:

Many thanks for your letter and the materials promoting CWC ratification. I, too, had sent a letter to the New Republic which responded to Frank and Doug's piece, but it seems it is difficult to get pro-CWC materials into the media.

I understand that you and Brad had some discussion of how to deal with the problem. I'm not sure, but I would appreciate your reaction to the following idea that came up when Ian Kenyon was here last week. We discussed the possibility of the Institute using January 13 as the anniversary of the CWC signing to promote positive attention to the treaty. Whether we held a press conference or used some other mechanism is still a question, but the notion has some appeal. With that in mind, I have written to President Bush expressing concern that "his" treaty is languishing, and asking if he would make a statement that might serve as the centerpiece of this effort. I have yet to hear, but such a message from President Bush would serve as a good foundation on which to solicit the support of others as the Congress is coming back into session. I hope we might even get some other global leaders to make similar supporting statements.

It's just an idea, but it strikes me that only high-level people have the pull with the media to get them to focus on a story that is not negative. If you think a meeting is necessary to coordinate efforts, we could try to pull something together for before Christmas.

Any reaction would be appreciated. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Michael L. Moodie
President