

SUBCHAPTER II—INTERNATIONAL DEBT
PART A—FINDINGS, PURPOSES, AND STATEMENT
OF POLICY

§ 5321. Short title

This subchapter may be cited as the “International Debt Management Act of 1988”.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title III, §3101, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1375.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this subtitle”, meaning subtitle B (§§3101-3123) of title III of Pub. L. 100-418, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1375, which is classified principally to this subchapter. For complete classification of subtitle B to the Code, see Tables.

§ 5322. Findings

The Congress finds that—

(1) the international debt problem threatens the safety and soundness of the international financial system, the stability of the international trading system, and the economic development of the debtor countries;

(2) orderly reduction of international trade imbalances requires very substantial growth in all parts of the world economy, particularly in the developing countries;

(3) growth in developing countries with substantial external debts has been significantly constrained over the last several years by a combination of high debt service obligations and insufficient new flows of financial resources to these countries;

(4) substantial interest payment outflows from debtor countries, combined with inadequate net new capital inflows, have produced a significant net transfer of financial resources from debtor to creditor countries;

(5) negative resource transfers at present levels severely depress both investment and growth in the debtor countries, and force debtor countries to reduce imports and expand exports in order to meet their debt service obligations;

(6) current adjustment policies in debtor countries, which depress domestic demand and increase production for export, help to depress world commodity prices and limit the growth of export markets for United States industries;

(7) the United States has borne a disproportionate share of the burden of absorbing increased exports from debtor countries, while other industrialized countries have increased their imports from developing countries only slightly;

(8) current approaches to the debt problem should not rely solely on new lending as a solution to the debt problem, and should focus on other financing alternatives including a reduction in current debt service obligations;

(9) new international mechanisms to improve the management of the debt problem and to expand the range of financing options available to developing countries should be explored; and

(10) industrial countries with strong current account surpluses have a disproportionate share of the world’s capital resources, and bear an additional responsibility for contributing to a viable long-term solution to the debt problem.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title III, §3102, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1375.)

§ 5323. Purposes

The purposes of this subchapter are—

(1) to expand the world trading system and raise the level of exports from the United States to the developing countries in order to reduce the United States trade deficit and foster economic expansion and an increase in the standard of living throughout the world;

(2) to alleviate the current international debt problem in order to make the debt situation of developing countries more manageable and permit the resumption of sustained growth in those countries; and

(3) to increase the stability of the world financial system and ensure the safety and soundness of United States depository institutions.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title III, §3103, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1376.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

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§ 5324. Statement of policy

It is the policy of the United States that—

(1) increasing growth in the developing world is a major goal of international economic policy;

(2) it is necessary to broaden the range of options in dealing with the debt problem to include improved mechanisms to restructure existing debt;

(3) active consideration of a new multilateral authority to improve the management of the debt problem and to share the burdens of adjustment more equitably must be undertaken; and

(4) countries with strong current account surpluses bear a major responsibility for providing the financial resources needed for growth in the developing world.

(Pub. L. 100-418, title III, §3104, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1376.)

PART B—INTERNATIONAL DEBT MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY

§ 5331. International initiative**(a) Directive****(1) Study**

The Secretary of the Treasury shall study the feasibility and advisability of establishing the International Debt Management Authority described in this section.