

14 August 1990

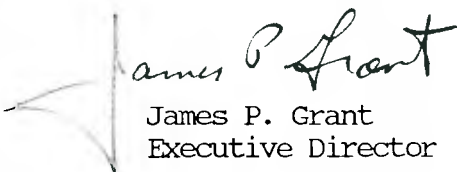
Excellency,

The UNICEF Representative in Chile, Ms. Haydée De Osorio, has just informed me that yesterday Chile ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It is indeed very symbolic of your concern for the wellbeing of children that Chile is among the countries to ratify the Convention at so early a date. I am pleased to inform you that the minimum number of countries (twenty) necessary to make the Convention an international legally-binding law has not only been met but has already been surpassed. The Convention will come into force in early September.

Again, I would like to reiterate my congratulations to you personally, your Government and the people of Chile for this historical decision. Your country's ratification is an example for others to follow and clearly reflects the new spirit of global political will attempting to make a concrete commitment towards a better life for children. With support and co-operation not only among nations but also among all sectors of society, the foundation laid by the Convention on the Rights of the Child will offer the next generation the hope of a better, safer and more healthy life.

Please rest assured that UNICEF will, to the best of its ability, support your efforts in this regard. I count on your continued support to make it truly a living reality. In the upcoming World Summit for Children, a major topic to be addressed is how to introduce a new global ethic on behalf of children worldwide. I was very pleased to learn that you have confirmed your participation in the Summit and I very much look forward to meeting with you then.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


James P. Grant
Executive Director

His Excellency
Mr. Patricio Aylwin Axocar
President of the Republic of Chile
Santiago