REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

FISCAL SUMMIT BEGINS

OPENING REMARKS: A TIME FOR SOLUTIONS

PETE PETERSON CHAIRMAN, PETER G. PETERSON FOUNDATION

SIX PLANS: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE SOLUTIONS INITIATIVE

MICHAEL A. PETERSON VICE CHAIRMAN, PETER G. PETERSON FOUNDATION

SOLUTIONS INITIATIVE VIDEO PRESENTATIONS:
AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE
BIPARTISAN POLICY CENTER

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP AND PROSPERITY:
BUILDING A THRIVING ECONOMY IN A COMPETITIVE WORLD

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON 42ND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
INTERVIEWER: GWEN IFILL MODERATOR AND MANAGING EDITOR, PBS’S WASHINGTON WEEK; SENIOR CORRESPONDENT, THE PBS NEWSHOUR

As president of the United States, Bill Clinton helped to lay the groundwork for four consecutive budget surpluses – the only period of consecutive budget surpluses in the post-World War II era. In this keynote conversation, President Clinton will draw upon his experiences in office to discuss the challenges of crafting policy in a divided government and the importance of fiscal sustainability to the broader economy. The discussion will help to illustrate the connections between responsible policies, strategic investments, future growth, and the impact of growing debt on America’s global leadership.

TOWARD A SUSTAINABLE FISCAL FUTURE:
CONVERSATIONS WITH CONGRESSMAN PAUL RYAN AND GENE SPERLING

REPRESENTATIVE PAUL RYAN (R-WI) CHAIRMAN, HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE
INTERVIEWER: MARIA BARTIromo ANCHOR, CNBC’S CLOSING BELL; ANCHOR AND MANAGING EDITOR, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
REPORT WITH MARIA BARTIROMO

House Budget Committee chairman Paul Ryan’s recently released 2012 budget is a far-reaching proposal to put America on a fiscally sustainable course by cutting spending to reduce long-term debt. The plan proposes to restructure Medicare and Medicaid, reform the tax code, and establish strict budget controls. Proponents of Ryan’s plan embrace it as a serious attempt to address the key drivers of long-term budget imbalances, while critics see it as potentially too dramatic a change to core programs. Chairman Ryan will discuss how he developed his budget framework, what he sees as the country’s most pressing fiscal challenges, and the politics at work in the effort to advance long-term fiscal sustainability.
GENE SPERLING  DIRECTOR, NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL
INTERVIEWER: MARIA BARTIROMO

Gene Sperling, the Director of President Obama’s National Economic Council, is a leader in the Administration’s efforts to grow the economy and promote job creation while also reducing our long-term debt. President Obama’s vision for long-term deficit reduction has been praised by some as a careful, balanced approach to reducing debt and making critical long-term investments, while others believe the President’s plan is short on details and sets the deficit-reduction bar too low. In this conversation, Mr. Sperling will discuss the Administration’s vision for spurring investment, protecting valued social programs, and using a combination of spending cuts and revenue increases to address our fiscal challenges.

SOLUTIONS INITIATIVE VIDEO PRESENTATIONS:
CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS
ECONOMIC POLICY INSTITUTE

12:30 PM
LUNCH SESSION BEGINS

1:00 PM
BEYOND THE CULTURE OF DEBT:
UNDERSTANDING AMERICANS’ ATTITUDES AND APPETITE FOR CHANGE

DAVID BROOKS  COLUMNIST, THE NEW YORK TIMES
DAVID COTE  CHAIRMAN AND CEO, HONEYWELL; MEMBER, NATIONAL COMMISSION ON FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND REFORM
TAMARA DRAUT  VICE PRESIDENT OF POLICY AND PROGRAMS, DEMOS
MEGAN MCardle  BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS EDITOR, THE ATLANTIC
SENATOR ALAN SIMPSON  CO-CHAIR, NATIONAL COMMISSION ON FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND REFORM
MODERATOR: EZRA KLEIN  COLUMNIST, THE WASHINGTON POST AND BLOOMBERG; POLICY ANALYST, MSNBC

Implementing solutions to America’s fiscal challenges requires not just action in Washington, but also commitment from the American people. Yet over the past few decades, American culture has been characterized by consumerism and a focus on fulfilling short-term needs. In addition, most Americans outside of policy circles are understandably focused on meeting their everyday responsibilities – a task made all the more difficult by recent economic challenges. Americans have recently expressed greater concern about long-term fiscal issues, showing impatience with Washington’s deficit habit while also worrying about the future of programs like Social Security and Medicare. Is this an indication that Americans are ready to tackle our long-term fiscal challenges? This panel – featuring leaders from business and politics, as well as leading cultural commentators – will provide insights on American attitudes and their impact on Washington.

SOLUTIONS INITIATIVE VIDEO PRESENTATIONS:
THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION
ROOSEVELT CAMPUS NETWORK

2:00 PM
THE NEW FISCAL POLITICS:
A VIEW FROM THE STATES

GOVERNOR MITCH DANIELS  49TH GOVERNOR OF INDIANA; FORMER DIRECTOR, THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
INTERVIEWER: GEORGE WILL  COLUMNIST, THE WASHINGTON POST

Washington isn’t alone in facing significant fiscal challenges. The same core demographic and health care issues that affect the federal budget are also at play in the states. Elected officials like Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels are on the frontlines, balancing competing priorities and building political consensus around fiscal sustainability. In this interview, Governor Daniels will discuss how he has confronted Indiana’s fiscal outlook, even amid recession, and how the lessons he has learned both as a state leader and former federal budget director can be applied on a national scale.
Bridging the Gap: Bipartisan Action on Our Fiscal Challenges

Senator Saxby Chambliss (R-GA) Vice Chairman, Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
Senator Kent Conrad (D-ND) Chairman, Senate Budget Committee
Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID) Member, Senate Budget Committee
Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) Senate Majority Whip
Senator Mark Warner (D-VA) Member, Senate Budget Committee

Moderator: Judy Woodruff Senior Correspondent, The PBS NewsHour

The politics of a divided government and the magnitude of our fiscal challenges demand that leaders from both parties work together to achieve results. The path to doing so is rarely smooth, however. The Senators on this panel are widely respected for their work to craft a bipartisan plan for long-term fiscal responsibility. They will speak to the challenges of bridging partisanship and building support for reform in Congress, as well as how they see their work evolving in the coming weeks.

The Solutions Initiative: Blueprints for Fiscal Action

Alan Viard Resident Scholar, American Enterprise Institute
Joe Minarik Senior Vice President, Committee for Economic Development
Debt Reduction Task Force Member, Bipartisan Policy Center
Michael Ettlinger Vice President for Economic Policy, Center for American Progress
John Irons Research and Policy Director, Economic Policy Institute
Stuart Butler Distinguished Fellow and Director, Center for Policy Innovation, The Heritage Foundation
Zach Kolodin Director, Future Preparedness Initiative, Roosevelt Campus Network

Moderator: David Wessel Bureau Chief, The Wall Street Journal

In late 2010, The Peter G. Peterson Foundation provided grants to six organizations representing diverse perspectives to develop their own blueprints for solving America’s long-term fiscal challenges. The result is six serious proposals for putting America on a sustainable fiscal path. Throughout the plans we find areas of agreement – the building blocks of consensus – as well as areas of disagreement, issues that policymakers will have to confront as they strive for a long-term solution.

Closing Remarks: Key Insights for America’s Future

Pete Peterson Chairman, Peter G. Peterson Foundation