

B. Foreign.

(1) Any country that has signed, ratified or acceded to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(2) Any citizen or resident alien of a country identified in B(1) of this section;

(3) Any company, organization or entity incorporated under or recognized by the laws of a country identified in B(1) of this section, or group thereof; or

(4) Any national, provincial, state, or local government entity of a country identified in B(1) of this section.

Section IV—Evaluation Panel

A. An Evaluation Panel is hereby established.

B. The Evaluation Panel shall consist of eight members, of whom:

(1) One shall be an employee of the Department of Energy, who shall serve as Co-Chair;

(2) One shall be an employee of the Environmental Protection Agency, who shall serve as Co-Chair;

(3) One shall be an employee of the Agency for International Development;

(4) One shall be an employee of the Department of Agriculture;

(5) One shall be an employee of the Department of Commerce;

(6) One shall be an employee of the Department of Interior;

(7) One shall be an employee of the Department of State; and

(8) One shall be an employee of the Department of the Treasury.

C. The Panel shall be responsible for:

(1) Advising and assisting prospective U.S. and foreign participants on the technical parameters (including with respect to baselines, measuring and tracking) of projects submitted for inclusion in the USII;

(2) Accepting project submissions from eligible U.S. participants and their foreign partners;

(3) Reviewing and evaluating project submissions, including baseline projections;

(4) Approving or rejecting project submissions for inclusion in the USII, based on criteria contained in section V;

(5) Providing written reasons for its decisions, which shall be made publicly available, within 90 days of receipt of a complete submission or resubmission;

(6) Certifying emissions reduced or sequestered estimated to result from projects;

(7) Developing operational modalities for the implementation of the Program; and

(8) Preparing an annual report of its activities, including a summary of approved projects.

Section V—Criteria

A. To be included in the USII, the Evaluation Panel must find that a project submission:

(1) Is acceptable to the government of the host country;

(2) Involves specific measures to reduce or sequester greenhouse gas emissions initiated as the result of the U.S. Initiative on Joint Implementation, or in reasonable anticipation thereof;

(3) Provides data and methodological information sufficient to establish a baseline of current and future greenhouse gas emissions.

(1) In the absence of the specific measures referred to in A.(2) of this section;

(b) As the result of the specific measures referred to in A.(2) of this section;

(4) Will reduce or sequester greenhouse gas emissions beyond those referred to in A.(3)(a) of this section, and if federally funded, is or will be undertaken with funds in excess of those available for such activities in fiscal year 1993;

(5) Contains adequate provisions for tracking the greenhouse gas emissions reduced or sequestered resulting from the project, and on a periodic basis, for modifying such estimates and for comparing actual results with those originally projected;

(6) Contains adequate provisions for external verification of the greenhouse gas emissions reduced or sequestered by the project;

(7) Identifies any associated non-greenhouse gas environmental impacts/benefits;

(8) Provides adequate assurance that greenhouse gas emissions reduced or sequestered over time will not be lost or reversed; and

(9) Provides for annual reports to the Evaluation Panel on the emissions reduced or sequestered, and on the share of such emissions attributed to each of the participants, domestic and foreign, pursuant to the terms of voluntary agreements among project participants.

B. In determining whether to include projects under the USII, the Evaluation Panel shall also consider:

(1) The potential for the project to lead to changes in greenhouse gas emissions elsewhere;

(2) The potential positive and negative effects of the project apart from its effect on greenhouse gas emissions reduced or sequestered;

(3) Whether the U.S. participants are emitters of greenhouse gases within the United States and, if so, whether they are taking measures to reduce or sequester such emissions; and

(4) Whether efforts are underway within the host country to ratify or accede to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to develop a national inventory

and/or baseline of greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks, and whether the host country is taking measures to reduce its emissions and enhance its sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases.

Michael Metelits,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Environment and Development, Bureau of Ocean and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs.

[FR Doc. 96-29838 Filed 11-21-96; 8:45 am]

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[Public Notice No. 2477]**Defense Trade Advisory Group; Notice of Upcoming Partially Closed Meeting**

The Defense Trade Advisory Group (DTAG) will meet beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 5, 1996 in the Dean Acheson Auditorium, U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20520. This advisory committee consists of private sector defense trade specialists who advise the Department on policies, regulations, and technical issues affecting defense trade.

The DTAG will first meet in open session. The open session will include a presentation by representatives of the Department of State and the Department of Defense. Reports on DTAG Working Group progress, accomplishments, and future projects will also be presented.

Members of the public may attend the open session as seating capacity allows, and will be permitted to participate in the discussion in accordance with the Chairman's instructions.

As access to the Department of State is controlled, persons wishing to attend the meeting must notify the DTAG Executive Secretariat by COB Monday, November 25, 1996. If you notify the DTAG Secretariat after this date, the DTAG Secretariat cannot guarantee that State's Bureau of Diplomatic Security can complete the necessary background checks required for you to attend the December 5 plenary.

Each person should provide his/her name, company or organizational affiliation, date of birth, and social security number to the DTAG Secretariat at telephone number (202) 647-4231 or fax number (202) 647-4232 (Attention: Catherine Shelton). A list will be made up for Diplomatic Security and the Reception Desk at the C-Street Diplomatic entrance. Attendees must carry a valid photo ID with them. They should enter the building through the C-

Street diplomatic entrance (22nd and C Streets, N.W.) where Department personnel will direct them to the Dean Acheson auditorium.

Following the open portion of the meeting, a working lunch and briefings that the Department of State will arrange for DTAG members will involve discussions of classified and/or proprietary information pursuant to Executive Order 12958. The disclosure of classified and/or proprietary information essential to formulating U.S. defense trade policies would substantially undermine U.S. defense trade relations with foreign competitors. Therefore, these segments of the meeting will be closed to the public, pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. Appendix and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1), and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B).

For further information, contact Catherine Shelton of the DTAG Secretariat, U.S. Department of State, Office of Arms Transfer and Export Control Policy (PM/ATEC), Room 2422 Main State, Washington, D.C. 20520-2422. She may be reached at telephone number (202) 647-4231 or fax number (202) 647-4232.

Dated: November 15, 1996.

Martha C. Harris,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Controls, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs.

Determination for a Partially Closed Meeting of the Defense Trade Advisory Group

In accordance with Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463), as amended, I hereby determine that the afternoon portions of the meeting of the Defense Trade Advisory Group (DTAG) on Thursday, December 5, 1996 in the Department of States Dean Acheson Auditorium, 2201 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20520 will be devoted to discussion of matters recognized as not subject to public disclosure pursuant to P.L. 92-463 and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1), and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B), and in accordance with Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, and that the public interest requires such discussion to be withheld from public disclosure.

The reasons supporting this determination are:

(1) Documents classified in accordance with Executive Order 12958 will be discussed; and

(2) Discussions will include classified and/or proprietary information concerning defense trade issues, the public disclosure of which would adversely affect future actions of the Department.

Other matters not requiring such protection may be discussed during the initial open portion of the meeting.

[FR Doc. 96-29828 Filed 11-21-96; 8:45 am]

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Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs

[Public Notice 2469]

Certifications Pursuant to Section 609 of Public Law 101-162

SUMMARY: On April 30, 1995, the Department of State certified, pursuant to Section 609 of Public Law 101-162, that 36 countries with commercial shrimp trawl fisheries have adopted programs to reduce the incidental capture of sea turtles in such fisheries comparable to the program in effect in the United States, or that the fishing environment in the countries does not pose a threat of the incidental taking of species of sea turtles protected under U.S. law and regulations. The Department also certified Honduras on August 1, 1996. The Department was unable to issue a certification on April 30 for Thailand and, as a result, imports of shrimp harvested in Thailand in a manner harmful to sea turtles were prohibited effective May 1, 1996. The Department of State subsequently issued a certification for Thailand on November 8, 1996 and, as a result, the ban on shrimp imports that had been in effect since May 1, 1996, was lifted.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 22, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Hollis Summers, Office of Marine Conservation, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520-7818; telephone: (202) 647-3940.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 609 of Public Law 101-162 prohibits imports of shrimp unless the President certifies to the Congress by May 1 of each year either: (1) that the harvesting nation has adopted a program governing the incidental capture of sea turtles in its commercial shrimp fishery comparable to the program in effect in the United States and has an incidental take rate comparable to that of the United States; or (2) that the fishing environment in the harvesting nation does not pose a threat of the incidental taking of sea turtles. The President has delegated the authority to make this certification to the Department of State. Revised State Department guidelines for making the required certifications were published in the Federal Register on April 19, 1996 (61 FR 17342).

On April 30, 1996, the Department of State certified that 36 shrimp harvesting nations have met, for the current year, the requirements of the law. The Department of State was unable to certify Thailand at that time. As a result, imports of shrimp from Thailand that were harvested in ways harmful to sea turtles were prohibited pursuant to Public Law 101-162 effective May 1, 1996.

The Department did not previously certify Thailand because the Government of Thailand had not required all commercial shrimp trawl vessels subject to its jurisdiction that operated in waters where there is a likelihood of intercepting sea turtles to use turtle excluder devices at all times. The Department of State has determined that Thailand has now instituted such a requirement. Shrimp trawl vessels in Thailand are now required to use turtle excluder devices comparable in effectiveness to those used in the United States. The requirement to use them is being enforced. The Department of State, therefore, was able to certify to Congress that Thailand is in accordance with the provisions of Section 609 of Public Law 101-162.

Dated: November 8, 1996.

Larry L. Snead,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

[CGD8-96-050]

Lower Mississippi River Waterway Safety Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Lower Mississippi River Waterway Safety Advisory Committee will meet to discuss various navigation safety matters affecting the Lower Mississippi River area. The meeting will be open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held from 9 a.m. to approximately 11 a.m. on Tuesday, December 17, 1996.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the basement GSA conference room of the Hale Boggs Federal Building, 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Monty Ledet, USCG, Administrator, Lower Mississippi River Waterway Safety Advisory Committee, c/o