

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 154276 and for economic injury is 154280.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

**Jerome Edwards,**

*Acting Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 2018–00360 Filed 1–10–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025–01–P**

## **SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

**[Disaster Declaration #15425 and #15426; CALIFORNIA Disaster Number CA–00283]**

### **Presidential Declaration of a Major Disaster for Public Assistance Only for the State of California**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This is a notice of the presidential declaration of a major disaster for public assistance only for the state of California (FEMA–4353–DR), dated 01/02/2018.

*Incident:* Wildfires.

*Incident Period:* 12/04/2017 and continuing.

**DATES:** Issued on 01/02/2018.

*Physical Loan Application Deadline Date:* 03/05/2018.

*Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date:* 10/02/2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW, Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 205–6734.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that as a result of the President's major disaster declaration on 01/02/2018, Private Non-Profit organizations that provide essential services of a governmental nature may file disaster loan applications at the address listed above or other locally announced locations.

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

*Primary Counties:* Santa Barbara, Ventura.

The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
<i>For Physical Damage:</i>	
Non-Profit Organizations with Credit Available Elsewhere ...	2.500

	Percent
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	2.500
<i>For Economic Injury:</i>	
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	2.500

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 154255 and for economic injury is 154260.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

**Jerome Edwards,**

*Acting Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 2018–00364 Filed 1–10–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025–01–P**

## **SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

**[Disaster Declaration #15418 and #15419; LOUISIANA Disaster Number LA–00079]**

### **Administrative Declaration of a Disaster for the State of Louisiana**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This is a notice of an Administrative declaration of a disaster for the State of Louisiana dated 01/02/2018.

*Incident:* Tropical Storm Harvey.

*Incident Period:* 08/27/2017 through 09/10/2017.

**DATES:** Issued on 01/02/2018.

*Physical Loan Application Deadline Date:* 03/05/2018.

*Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date:* 10/02/2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW, Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 205–6734.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that as a result of the Administrator's disaster declaration, applications for disaster loans may be filed at the address listed above or other locally announced locations.

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

*Primary Counties:* Calcasieu

*Contiguous Counties:*

Louisiana: Beauregard, Cameron,

Jefferson Davis  
Texas: Newton, Orange  
The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
<i>For Physical Damage:</i>	
Homeowners With Credit Available Elsewhere .....	3.500
Homeowners Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	1.750
Businesses With Credit Available Elsewhere .....	6.610
Businesses Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	3.305
Non-Profit Organizations With Credit Available Elsewhere ...	2.500
Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	2.500
<i>For Economic Injury:</i>	
Businesses & Small Agricultural Cooperatives Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	3.305
Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	2.500

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 15418 B and for economic injury is 15419 O.

The States which received an EIDL Declaration # are Louisiana, Texas.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

Dated: January 2, 2018.

**Linda E. McMahon,**  
*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 2018–00383 Filed 1–10–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025–01–P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

**[Public Notice 10265]**

### **Secretary of State's Determination Under the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998**

The Secretary of State's designation of "countries of particular concern" for religious freedom violations. Pursuant to Section 408(a) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105–292), as amended (the Act), notice is hereby given that, on December 22, 2017, the Secretary of State, under authority delegated by the President, has designated each of the following as a "country of particular concern" (CPC) under section 402(b) of the Act, for having engaged in or tolerated particularly severe violations of religious freedom: Burma, China, Eritrea, Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The Secretary simultaneously designated the following Presidential Actions for these CPCs:

For Burma, the existing ongoing restrictions referenced in 22 CFR 126.1, pursuant to section 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For China, the existing ongoing restriction on exports to China of crime control and detection instruments and equipment, under the Foreign Relations Authorization Act of 1990 and 1991 (Pub. L. 101–246), pursuant to section 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For Eritrea, the existing ongoing restrictions referenced in 22 CFR 126.1, pursuant to section 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For Iran, the existing ongoing travel restrictions in section 221(c) of the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 (TRA) for individuals identified under section 221(a)(1)(C) of the TRA in connection with the commission of serious human rights abuses, pursuant to section 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the existing ongoing restrictions to which the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is subject, pursuant to sections 402 and 409 of the Trade Act of 1974 (the Jackson-Vanik Amendment), pursuant to section 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For Saudi Arabia, a waiver as required in the "important national interest of the United States," pursuant to section 407 of the Act;

For Sudan, the restriction in the annual Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act on making certain appropriated funds available for assistance to the Government of Sudan, currently set forth in section 7042(j) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (Div. K, Pub. L. 114–113), and any provision of law that is the same or substantially the same as this provision, pursuant to section 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For Tajikistan, a waiver as required in the "important national interest of the United States," pursuant to section 407 of the Act;

For Turkmenistan, a waiver as required in the "important national interest of the United States," pursuant to section 407 of the Act;

For Uzbekistan, a waiver as required in the "important national interest of the United States," pursuant to section 407 of the Act.

In addition, the Secretary of State has designated the following country as a "special watch list" country for severe violations of religious freedom: Pakistan.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Benjamin W. Medina, Office of International Religious Freedom, Bureau

of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, U.S. Department of State, (Phone: (202) 647 3865 or Email: [MedinaBW@state.gov](mailto:MedinaBW@state.gov)).

**Daniel L. Nadel,**

*Director, Office of International Religious Freedom, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2018–00333 Filed 1–10–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710–18–P**

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Notice of Continuation and Request for Nominations for the Trade Advisory Committee on Africa

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) is establishing a new four-year charter term and accepting applications from qualified individuals interested in serving as a member of the Trade Advisory Committee on Africa (TACA). The TACA is a trade advisory committee that provides general policy advice and guidance to the United States Trade Representative on trade policy and development matters that have a significant impact on the countries of sub-Saharan Africa.

**DATES:** USTR will accept nominations on a rolling basis for membership on the TACA for the four-year charter term beginning in March 2018. To ensure consideration before the new charter term, you should submit your application by February 2, 2018.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stewart Young, Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement, [SYoung@ustr.eop.gov](mailto:SYoung@ustr.eop.gov) or 202–395–2864, or Bennett Harman, Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Africa, [BHarman@ustr.eop.gov](mailto:BHarman@ustr.eop.gov) or 202–395–9612.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### 1. Background

Section 135(c)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2155(c)(1)), authorizes the President to establish individual general trade policy advisory committees for industry, labor, agriculture, services, investment, defense, small business, and other interests, as appropriate, to provide general policy advice. The President delegated that authority to the United States Trade Representative in Executive Order 11846, section 4(d),

issued on March 27, 1975. In addition, section 14 of the AGOA Acceleration Act of 2004, Public Law 108–274, 118 Stat. 829–830 (*codified at* 19 U.S.C. 3701 note) specifically acknowledged the TACA, which USTR established under these authorities. Advisory committees established by the Trade Representative are subject to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. *See* 19 U.S.C. 2155(f); 5 U.S.C. App. II.

Pursuant to these authorities, the United States Trade Representative intends to establish a new four-year charter term for the TACA, which will begin on March 19, 2018 and end on March 18, 2022.

The TACA is a discretionary trade advisory committee established to provide general policy advice to the United States Trade Representative on trade policy and development matters that have a significant impact on the countries of sub-Saharan Africa. More specifically, the TACA provides general policy advice on issues that may affect the countries of sub-Saharan Africa including: (1) Negotiating objectives and bargaining positions before entering into trade agreements; (2) the impact of the implementation of trade agreements; (3) matters concerning the operation of any trade agreement once entered into; and (4) other matters arising in connection with the development, implementation, and administration of the trade policy of the United States. The TACA also facilitates the goals and objectives of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and assists in maintaining ongoing discussions with sub-Saharan African trade and agriculture ministries and private sector organizations on issues of mutual concern, including regional and international trade concerns and World Trade Organization issues.

The TACA meets as needed, at the call of the United States Trade Representative or his/her designee, or two-thirds of the TACA members, depending on various factors such as the level of activity of trade negotiations and the needs of the United States Trade Representative.

#### II. Membership

The TACA is composed of not more than 30 members who have expertise in general trade, investment and development issues and specific knowledge of United States-Africa trade and investment trends including trade under the AGOA; constraints to trade and investment (including infrastructure, energy and financing); trade facilitation measures; sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures and technical