

information, including information gathered during such visits, does not appear to qualify for certification. Such notification will explain the reasons for this preliminary assessment, suggest steps that the government of the harvesting nation can take in order to receive a certification and invite the government of the harvesting nation to provide, by November 15, 1999, any further information.

Between November 15 and December 6, 1999, the Department of State will actively consider any additional information that the government of the harvesting nation believes should be considered by the Department in making its determination concerning certification.

By December 6, 1999, the Department of State will make formal decisions on certification. The governments of all nations that have requested certification under the special 1999 timetable will be notified in writing of the decision promptly through diplomatic channels. In the case of those nations for which certification is denied, such notification will again state the reasons for such denial and the steps necessary to receive a certification in the future.

The government of any nation that is denied a certification by December 6, 1999, may, at any time thereafter, request reconsideration of that decision. When the United States receives information from that government demonstrating that the circumstances that led to the denial of the certification have been corrected, U.S. officials will visit the exporting nation as early as a visit can be arranged. If the visit demonstrates that the circumstances that led to the denial of the certification have indeed been corrected, the United States will certify that nation immediately thereafter.

The Department of State recognizes that a government seeking certification on the basis of the revised guidelines may not, by September 1, 1999, be able to gather sufficient information necessary to support such a request. To meet this concern, and in accordance with its existing practice, the Department will accept requests for certification at any time in 1999 and will process them as expeditiously as possible. However, the Department can only commit to making a certification determination by December 6, 1999 if it

has received the necessary information by September 1, 1999.

E. Related Determinations

As noted above, any harvesting nation that is not certified on May 1 of any year may be certified prior to the following May 1 at such time as the harvesting nation meets the criteria necessary for certification. Conversely, any harvesting nation that is certified on May 1 of any year may have its certification revoked prior to the following May 1 at such time as the harvesting nation no longer meets those criteria.

As a matter relating to the foreign affairs function, these guidelines are exempt from the notice, comment, and delayed effectiveness provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act. This action is exempt from Executive Order 12866, and is not subject to the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Dated: June 29, 1999.

Stuart E. Eizenstat,

Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business and Agriculture Affairs.

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Trade Policy Staff Committee, Generalized System of Preferences (GSP); Notice of the Results of the 1998 Annual Review and 1999 De Minimis Waiver and Redesignation Reviews; Designation of Gabon and Mongolia as Beneficiary Developing Countries and the Reinstatement of Mauritania

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of GSP changes.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the disposition of the petitions accepted for review in the 1998 Annual Review of the GSP program, the results of the 1999 De Minimis Waiver and Redesignation Reviews, exclusions for products that exceeded the GSP competitive need limitations (CNLs), and the designation of Gabon and Mongolia as beneficiary developing countries and the reinstatement of Mauritania.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: GSP Subcommittee, Office of the United

States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW, Room 518, Washington, DC 20508. The telephone number is (202) 395-6971.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The GSP is provided for in Title V of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2461-2465) (the 1974 Act). The President's decisions concerning the GSP changes addressed in this notice are contained in Proclamation No. 7206 of June 30, 1999. Unless otherwise specified, the changes in the GSP program addressed in this notice are intended to be effective with respect to goods entered on or after July 1, 1999, assuming an extension of the termination date in section 505 of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2465).

In the 1998 Annual Review, the GSP Subcommittee of the Trade Policy Staff Committee accepted for review one petition to withdraw GSP eligibility for a certain article and fifteen petitions for CNL waivers. The disposition of these petitions is indicated in Annex I of this notice.

In the 1999 De Minimis Waiver and Redesignation Reviews, the appraised import values during 1998 of each GSP-eligible article were reviewed to determine whether particular articles from particular GSP beneficiary developing countries exceeded the GSP CNLs. De Minimis waivers were granted to certain articles which exceeded the 50 percent import share CNL, but for which the aggregate value of the imports of that article was below the 1998 de minimis level of \$14 million. Annex II to this notice contains a list of these articles.

Certain articles that had previously exceeded GSP CNLs but that had fallen below the CNLs in 1998 (\$85 million and 50 percent of U.S. imports of the article) were redesignated for GSP eligibility. These articles are listed in Annex II to this notice.

Articles that exceeded GSP CNLs in 1998, and that are newly excluded from GSP eligibility, are listed in Annex IV to this notice.

The President has designated Gabon and Mongolia as beneficiary developing countries and reinstated Mauritania.

Frederick L. Montgomery,
Chairman, Trade Policy Staff Committee.

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Annex I. Decisions on Product Petitions of the 1998 GSP Annual Review

Case		Product	Decision
		A. Petition to Remove Product from GSP	
98-1	2934.20.05	TPPS	Denied
		B. Petitions to Waive Competitive Need Limits for [Country]	
98-2	2841.70.10	Ammonium Moydates [Chile]	Granted
98-3	2916.31.15	Benzoic Acid [Estonia]	Granted
98-4	4412.13.50	Plywood [Indonesia]	Denied
98-5	4412.22.30	Plywood [Indonesia]	Denied
98-6	7113.11.50	Jewelry [Thailand]	Denied
98-7	7113.19.29	Gold necklaces [India]	Denied
98-8	7403.13.00	Unwrought copper [Chile]	Granted
98-9	7403.19.00	Unwrought copper [Chile]	Granted
98-10	7418.19.20	Brass articles [India]	Granted
98-11	8483.10.30	Crankshafts [Brazil]	Granted
98-12	8527.39.00	Radios [Indonesia]	Granted
98-13	8528.12.16	TV/VCR Combo [Thailand]	Denied
98-14	8531.20.00	Indicator panels [Philippines]	Granted
98-15	8708.39.50	Brakes [Brazil]	Granted
98-16	9001.30.00	Contact lenses [Indonesia]	Denied

ANNEX II: GSP COUNTRIES GRANTED de MINIMIS WAIVERS AND 1998 TRADE

HTSUS	PARTNER	IMPORTS	SHARE	DESCRIPTION
0306.24.20	Venezuela.....	3,692,253	51.4%	Crabmeat, not frozen
0712.90.70	Egypt.....	330,193	83.6%	Dried fennel, marjoram, savory and tarragon nesi, whole, cut, s
0813.40.10	Thailand.....	1,164,169	91.3%	Papayas, dried
1102.30.00	Thailand.....	2,871,092	75.7%	Rice flour
1510.00.60	Morocco.....	1,366,831	53.4%	Edible oil including blends, and their fractions, nesi, not che
1601.00.40	Brazil.....	212,400	62.8%	Sausages and similar products of beef, beef offal or blood; foo
1604.15.00	Chile.....	7,449,389	62.6%	Prepared or preserved mackerel, whole or in pieces, but not min
1605.90.10	Thailand.....	3,713,864	66.9%	Boiled clams in immediate airtight containers, the contents of
1701.91.10	Philippines.....	63,765	58.0%	Cane/beet sugar & pure sucrose, refined, solid, w/added colorin
1702.90.35	Brazil.....	4,914,876	80.2%	Invert molasses
1703.10.30	Brazil.....	1,293,493	53.6%	Cane molasses imported for (a) the commercial extraction of sug
1703.90.30	Lebanon.....	17,509	56.8%	Molasses, other than cane, imported for (a) the commercial extr
1806.90.01	Croatia.....	94,416	58.3%	Cocoa preps, not in blocks/slabs/bars, subj. to gen. note 15 of
2008.99.35	Thailand.....	3,365,415	90.6%	Lychees and longans, otherwise prepared or preserved, nesi
2008.99.50	Thailand.....	1,942,988	50.0%	Papayas, other than pulp, otherwise prepared or preserved, nesi
2309.90.70	Hungary.....	174,420	89.8%	Other preps nes with a basis of vitamin B12, for supplementing
2619.00.30	Venezuela.....	1,096,625	65.2%	Ferrous scale
2819.10.00	Kazakhstan.....	6,181,518	78.2%	Chromium trioxide
2825.30.00	Republic of South Af	12,667,636	99.1%	Vanadium oxides and hydroxides
2825.70.00	Chile.....	8,725,498	92.8%	Molybdenum oxides and hydroxides
2841.70.10	Chile.....	5,657,545	64.2%	Ammonium molybdate
2841.90.10	Republic of South Af	1,022,074	72.3%	Vanadates
2902.90.40	Hungary.....	105,528	89.7%	Anthracene and 1,4-di-(2-methylstyryl)benzene
2903.51.00	Romania.....	2,878,046	52.1%	1,2,3,4,5,6-Hexachlorocyclohexane
2907.29.25	Republic of South Af	275,352	67.6%	tert-Butylhydroquinone
2909.50.40	Indonesia.....	3,827,445	58.4%	Odoriferous or flavoring compounds of ether-phenols, ether-alco
2914.22.10	Slovakia.....	625,490	76.3%	Cyclohexanone
2917.19.10	Hungary.....	1,612,642	72.1%	Ferrous fumarate
2918.21.50	Brazil.....	4,603,110	76.3%	Salicylic acid and its salts, not suitable for medicinal use
2922.12.00	Brazil.....	2,867,076	57.5%	Diethanolamine and its salts
2931.00.25	Brazil.....	3,703,959	92.5%	Pesticides of aromatic organo-inorganic (except organo-sulfur)
2933.40.08	Hungary.....	387,103	100.0%	4,7-Dichloroquinoline
3808.30.20	Brazil.....	457,176	50.2%	Herbicides, antispouting products and plant-growth regulators,
4202.22.35	Philippines.....	447,457	94.4%	Handbags with or without shoulder strap or without handle, with
4412.13.25	Brazil.....	2,988,878	75.0%	Plywood sheet n/o 6 mm thick, tropical hard wood outer ply, face
4412.14.25	Brazil.....	6,571,666	94.9%	Plywood sheet n/o 6 mm thick, outer ply of nontropical hardwood,
4412.19.10	Chile.....	1,515,019	68.7%	Plywood of wood sheets, n/o 6 mm thick each, with outer plies o
4412.29.15	Russia.....	2,789,475	62.0%	Plywood nesoi, at least one hardwood outer ply nesoi, no partic
4412.92.40	Brazil.....	2,168	100.0%	Plywood nesoi, softwood outer plies, least 1 ply trop. hardwood, n
4412.99.15	Brazil.....	258,072	98.9%	Plywood nesoi, softwood outer plies, no tropical hardwood ply, no
4412.99.45	Brazil.....	236,475	58.1%	Plywood nesoi, softwood outer plies, no trop. hard wood ply, no
4810.11.20	Indonesia.....	3,962,689	63.0%	Basic paper sensitized for photography use with not over 10% fi
5607.30.20	Philippines.....	4,410,057	79.7%	Twine, cordage, rope and cables of abaca or other hard (leaf) f
7113.20.30	Mauritius.....	739,793	52.6%	Base metal clad w/precious metal clasps and parts thereof
7202.21.10	Macedonia (Skopje)...	3,587,646	84.9%	Ferrosilicon containing by weight more than 55% but not more th
7202.80.00	Russia.....	2,004,248	51.5%	Ferrotungsten and ferrosilicon tungsten
7405.00.60	Russia.....	990,133	78.6%	Copper master alloys, not containing 5% or more but n/more than
7409.31.10	Poland.....	1,376,789	78.1%	Copper-tin base alloys (bronze), plates, sheets and strip, in c
7505.11.50	Zimbabwe (Rhodesia)...	171,735	97.4%	Nickel (o/than alloy), profiles
7604.10.30	Slovenia.....	8,009,534	61.4%	Aluminum (o/than alloy), bar and rods, with a round cross secti
8112.19.00	Kazakhstan.....	771,529	86.8%	Beryllium, articles nesoi
8112.91.50	Chile.....	12,089,559	88.7%	Rhenium, unwrought; rhenium, powders
8410.13.00	Egypt.....	800,000	95.5%	Hydraulic turbines and water wheels of a power exceeding 10,000
8708.99.31	Bosnia-Herzegovina...	30,760	63.4%	Pts. & access. of tractors (o/than road tractors or for agricu
8802.60.90	Republic of South Af	328,399	85.2%	Spacecraft, including satellites (o/than communication satellit
9013.10.30	Ukraine.....	3,097,320	67.2%	Telescopic sights for rifles designed for use with infrared lig

9401.90.15 Czech Republic.....	1,426,171	60.6%	Parts of seats nesoi, for bent-wood seats
9403.50.60 Indonesia.....	4,212	60.0%	Furniture (o/than seats) of wood (o/than bentwood), of a kind u
9506.19.40 Czech Republic.....	1,240,347	63.1%	Cross country snow-ski equipment nesoi, and parts & accessories

ANNEX III: GSP ITEMS REDESIGNATED AND 1998 TRADE

HTSUS	PARTNER	IMPORTS	SHARE	DESCRIPTION
3817.10.50 Indonesia.....		858,694	6.5%	Mixed alkylbenzenes, except linear
7403.13.00 Chile.....		235,480	1.9%	Refined copper, billets
7403.19.00 Chile.....		35,719,921	35.8%	Refined copper, unwrought articles nesoi
8531.20.00 Philippines.....		58,718,339	6.1%	Indicator panels incorporating liquid crystal devices (LCD's) or
8708.39.50 Brazil.....		81,418,402	4.5%	Pts. & access. of mtr. vehicles of 8701, nesoi, and 8702-8705, br

ANNEX IV: GSP COUNTRIES EXCEEDING COMPETITIVE NEED LIMITS
NEW EXCLUSIONS AND 1998 TRADE

HTSUS	PARTNER	IMPORTS	SHARE	DESCRIPTION
1702.90.40 Brazil.....		26,679,351	78.1%	Other cane/beet syrups nesi
1703.90.50 Poland.....		10,394,832	55.0%	Molasses nesi
7114.19.00 Peru.....		46,532,063	73.9%	Precious metal (o/than silver) articles, nesoi, whether or not pl
7115.90.30 Colombia.....		56,195,764	92.6%	Gold (including metal clad with gold) articles (o/than jewellery o
7403.12.00 Russia.....		17,327,397	96.5%	Refined copper, wire bars
8517.19.80 Indonesia.....		88,240,789	9.0%	Telephone sets, nesoi
8517.90.24 Costa Rica.....		109,039,506	31.7%	Parts of electrical telephonic switching or terminal apparatus