

or technical area of assistance that supports small business growth.

The SBA district office and the SBDC must agree upon the specific mix of services. They should give particular attention to SBA's priority and special emphasis groups, including veterans, women, exporters, the disabled, and minorities.

SBDC Program Requirements

An SBDC must meet programmatic and financial requirements imposed by statute, regulations or its Cooperative Agreement. The SBDC must:

- (a) locate subcenters so that they are as accessible as possible to small businesses;
- (b) open all subcenters at least 40 hours per week, or during the normal business hours of its state or academic Host Organization, throughout the year;
- (c) develop working relationships with financial institutions, the investment community, professional associations, private consultants and small business groups; and
- (d) maintain lists of private consultants at each subcenter.

Dated: July 10, 1998

Johnnie L. Albertson,

Associate Administrator for Small Business Development Centers.

[FR Doc. 98-20780 Filed 8-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Statement of Organization, Functions and Delegations of Authority

Notice is given that a new chapter, TAG for the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Policy (ODCP) is being issued. This statement also amends parts S and T of the Statement of the Organization, Functions and Delegations of Authority which covers the Social Security Administration (SSA). Chapter TA covers the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Programs and Policy (ODCPP). Notice is given that this office is being retitled as the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs (ODCDISP). Subchapter TAR, the Office of Policy and Planning will be abolished and the functions split between ODCP and ODCDISP. Subchapter TAN, the Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics will also be abolished within ODCPP and be reestablished as a new office with the newly created Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Policy. Subchapter TAJ, the Office of International Policy is being retitled as the Office of International Programs. Subchapter TAP, the Office of Program

Benefits Policy is being retitled as the Office of Program Benefits. Notice is further given that Chapter S, the Social Security Administration opening chapter will be amended to reflect these organizational changes.

The changes are as follow:

Section S.10 *The Social Security Administration—(Organization):*

Retitle:

I. "The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Programs and Policy" to "The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs".

Add:

K. The Office of the Actuary (TC).
L. The Office of Communications (TE).

M. The Office of Policy (TG).

Add new Chapter.

Chapter TG

Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Policy

TG.00 Mission

TG.10 Organization

TG.20 Functions

Section TG.00 *The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Policy—(Mission):*

The Deputy Commissioner, Policy is the principal advisor to the Commissioner of Social Security on major policy issues and is responsible for major activities in the areas of strategic policy planning, policy research and evaluation, statistical programs, and overall policy development and analysis. The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Policy (ODCP) serves as the Agency lead spokesperson in presenting policy proposals and analysis within and outside the Executive Branch. The Office directs the formulation of overall policy for SSA and ensures the consistency of policy development and implementation activities across all programs administered by SSA. The Office broadly formulates, promulgates, and interprets programs, objectives, and policy. The Office directs research, evaluation and analysis, and development of demonstrations and studies supporting the policy development of SSA. Provides recommendations on modification of social insurance and income assistance programs administered by SSA. Conducts the statistical programs of the Agency. The Office is involved in developing legislative and regulatory specifications and analyses of legislative and budgetary impacts. The Office works with the Department of Treasury on issues of policy relating to the Federal Insurance Contributions Act and the Self-Employment Contributions

Act, including such matters as definition of wages and implementation of law. It directs formulation of Agency policy regarding related government programs that affect SSA programs and/or operations and negotiates related agreements with other agencies. It evaluates the effectiveness of national policies in meeting both short and long-term program goals.

Section TG.10 *The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Policy—(Organization):*

The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Policy, under the leadership of the Deputy Commissioner, Policy, includes:

A. The Deputy Commissioner, Policy (TG).

B. The Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Policy (TG).

C. The Immediate Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Policy (TGA).

D. The Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics (TGB).

E. The Office of Disability and Income Assistance Policy (TGC).

F. The Office of Retirement Policy (TGE).

Section TG.20 *The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Policy—(Functions):*

A. The Deputy Commissioner, Policy (TG) is directly responsible to the Commissioner for carrying out the ODCP mission and for providing general supervision to the major components of ODCP.

B. The Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Policy (TG) assists the Deputy Commissioner in carrying out his/her responsibilities and performs other duties as the Deputy Commissioner may prescribe.

C. The Immediate Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Policy (TGA) provides the Deputy Commissioner with staff assistance on the full range of his/her responsibilities.

D. The Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics (TGB) develops and conducts SSA's research and statistical programs. Topics of research include evaluation of such things as income security, the effects of Social Security and income assistance programs on the economy, financing, and adequacy of cash benefits. This Office plans and directs studies to evaluate the effects of proposed policy changes on individuals, the economy, SSA programs and the interactions among these programs, other tax and income-transfer programs, and economic, social and demographic forces. Short and long-term research on the disabled population, work incentives, assessment tools, and impact of current and emerging medical technologies on SSA disability

financing and income assistance programs are conducted by the Agency under the oversight of this Office. This Office is also responsible for designing, implementing and assessing the results of models that test proposed changes in policy. Establishes linkages of SSA data with data from other statistical and record systems and develops and operates models to analyze the impact of present programs and program alternatives. Conducts broad analyses of major social and economic trends and their impact on Social Security and income assistance program policy.

E. The Office of Disability and Income Assistance Policy (TGC) provides broad policy analysis and development in disability and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs. This Office is responsible for the development of disability and income assistance policy for the Agency. This Office conducts broad analyses of eligibility and return to work proposals. It formulates Agency policy regarding cross-cutting programs or issues related to disability and/or income assistance programs and works with other agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), toward this end.

F. The Office of Retirement Policy (TGE) provides policy analysis and policy development in retirement and survivors insurance programs. This Office is responsible for the development of social insurance, financing and economic policy for the Agency. Conducts broad analyses of major social and economic trends and their impact on social insurance policies.

Add new Subchapter.

Subchapter TGB

Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics

TGB.00 Mission

TGB.10 Organization

TGB.20 Functions

Section TGB.00 *The Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics—(Mission):*

The Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics develops and conducts SSA's research and statistical programs. Topics of research include evaluation of such things as income security, the effects of Social Security and income assistance programs on the economy, financing, and adequacy of cash benefits. This Office plans and directs studies to evaluate the effects of proposed policy changes on individuals, the economy, SSA programs and the interactions among these programs, other tax and income-transfer programs, and economic, social and demographic forces. Short and long-term research on

the disabled population, work incentives, assessment tools, and impact of current and emerging medical technologies on SSA disability financing and income assistance programs are conducted by the Agency under the oversight of this Office. This Office is also responsible for designing, implementing and assessing the results of models that test proposed changes in policy. Establishes linkages of SSA data with data from other statistical and record systems and develops and operates models to analyze the impact of present programs and program alternatives. Conducts broad analyses of major social and economic trends and their impact on Social Security and income assistance program policy.

Section TGB.0 *The Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics—(Organization):*

The Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics under the leadership of the Associate Commissioner for Research, Evaluation and Statistics, includes:

A. The Associate Commissioner for Research, Evaluation and Statistics (TGB).

B. The Deputy Associate Commissioner for Research, Evaluation and Statistics (TGB)/

C. The Immediate Office of the Associate Commissioner for Research, Evaluation and Statistics (TGBA).

D. The Publications Staff (TGBB).

E. The Division of Program Analysis (TGBC).

F. The Division of Economic Research (TGBE).

G. The Division of Earnings Statistics and Analysis (TGBG).

H. The Division of Retirement, Survivors, Disability Insurance Research Statistics (TGBH).

I. The Division of SSI Analysis/Management Statistical Support (TGBJ).

J. The Disability Research Staff (TGBK).

Section TGB.20 *The Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics—(Functions):*

A. The Associate Commissioner for Research, Evaluation and Statistics (TGB) is directly responsible to the Deputy Commissioner, Policy for Carrying out ORES' mission, and providing general supervision to the major components of ORES.

B. The Deputy Associate Commissioner for Research, Evaluation and Statistics (TGB) assists the Associate Commissioner in carrying out his/her responsibilities and performs other duties the Associate Commissioner may prescribe.

C. The Immediate Office of the Associate Commissioner for Research,

Evaluation and Statistics (TGBA) provides the Associate Commissioner and Deputy Associate Commissioner with staff assistance on the full range of their responsibilities and helps coordinate the activities of ORES components.

D. The Publications Staff (TGBB).

1. Advises ORES on the development, organization and presentation of research and statistical studies.

2. Publishes and distributes these studies to national and international audiences.

3. Assesses informational needs of SSA staff, staff in other Government agencies, the social science research community and the public for data and findings from the ORES research program.

E. The Division of Program Analysis (TGBC).

1. Plans, designs and conducts surveys of program target groups and performs policy-relevant research.

2. Analyzes the impact of proposed policy options, legislative proposals and special high-priority issues and prepares briefing materials for SSA administrators.

3. Plans, conducts and publishes the results of cross-national research on social security programs worldwide.

F. The Division of Economic Research (TGBE).

1. Plans, directs and executes issue-oriented research to provide information about relationships between the Social Security program, the economy and other aspects of society.

2. Interprets changing demographic and economic trends as they relate to the broad field of economic security and to overall economic and social policy.

3. Studies such major areas as: Social Security financing, economic impacts of Social Security, income maintenance, effect of Social Security on lifetime income redistribution, alternative measures of income adequacy, and labor market and retirement behavior.

G. The Division of Earnings Statistics and Analysis (TGBG).

1. Plans, coordinates and directs the preparation of statistical and analytical data pertaining to earnings, employment and employer classification. Analyzes these data with emphasis on demographic, economic, social and program characteristics. These data are used to support program and legislative planning and serve as important sources for program evaluation, research and administrative information within SSA, and for research by other Federal and State and local government agencies, universities, and private research organizations.

2. Provides ORES and other SSA researchers with support in the development of social science survey data linked with SSA administrative record data.

H. The Division of Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance Research Statistics (TGBH).

1. Plans, coordinates and directs the preparation of statistical and analytical data pertaining to RSDI claims and benefits provisions of Title II of the Social Security Act. Analyzes these data with emphasis on demographic, economic, social and program characteristics. These data are used to support program and legislative planning and serve as important sources for program evaluation, research and administrative information within SSA, and for research by other Federal and State and local government agencies, universities and private research organizations.

I. The Division of SSI Analysis/Management Statistical Support (TGBJ).

1. Plans, coordinates and directs the preparation of statistical and analytical data pertaining to the Supplemental Security Income provisions of Title XVI of the Social Security Act. Analyzes these data with emphasis on demographic, economic, social and program characteristics. These data are used to support program and legislative planning and serve as important sources for program evaluation, research and administrative information within SSA and for research by other Federal and State and local government agencies, universities and private research organizations.

2. Provides management statistical services to SSA operating and policy components, including such activities as the development of general purpose and customized field office samples, development of work sampling systems and quality assurance systems, and the design and analysis of operational pilot studies. Provides support for the development and use of mathematical models and statistical methods.

J. The Disability Research Staff (TGBK).

1. Plans, directs and implements a wide range of studies and analyses, utilizing data from surveys and administrative records, on the national disabled population, disability applicants and disability beneficiaries.

2. Develops research in response to DI program issues.

3. Maintains and develops research surveys and administrative data files used in the analysis of disability data.

Retitle:

Chapter TA, "The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Programs and

Policy" to "The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs". Change all references to "The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Programs and Policy" to "The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs" and all references to "ODCPP" to "ODCDISP" throughout Chapter TA and all its Subchapters.

Section TA.00 *The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs—(Mission):*

Amend to read as follows:

The Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs is the principal advisor to the Commissioner of Social Security on program policy issues and is involved in strategic planning, policy development, and analysis of SSA program policy. The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs (ODCDISP) directs the formulation of program policy for SSA. It directs and manages the planning, development, issuance, and evaluation of operational policies, standards, and instructions for the Retirement and Survivors Insurance (RSI), Disability Insurance (DI), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs, and other SSA programs. The Office assists in achievement of consistency in program policy across programs administered by SSA. The Office is involved in analyses of legislative and regulatory specifications and budgetary impacts of legislation on programs administered by SSA. The Office produces data on the programs of the Agency. It is involved in the development of demonstrations and studies that provide recommendations on program improvements. The Office is responsible for the Agency's Regulatory Program. Oversees Agency hearings and appeals activities. Provides budget and management guidance for the disability claims activities as carried out by the State Disability Determination Services (DDSs). Oversees the collection, use and dissemination of both personal and non-personal information to ensure consistency with Agency objectives, law and the expectations of the American public. Develops and implements policies and procedures and coordinates activities relating to the operation of Social Security programs outside of the United States. Coordinates programmatic response to court actions and requirements in civil actions involving all Social Security administered programs.

Section TA.10 *The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs—(Organization):*

Abolish and delete subchapters for same components:

D. The Office of Policy and Planning (TAR).

H. The Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics (TAN).

Retitle:

G. "The Office of International Policy" (TAJ) to "The Office of International Programs" (TAJ).

I. "The Office of Program Benefits Policy" (TAP) to "The Office of Program Benefits" (TAP).

Amend to read as follows:

The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs under the leadership of the Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs includes:

A. The Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs (TA).

B. The Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs (TA).

C. The Immediate Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs (TAA).

D. The Office of Disability (TAE).

E. The Office of Hearings and Appeals (TAH).

F. The Office of International Programs (TAJ).

G. The Office of Program Benefits (TAP).

H. The Office of Program Support (TAS).

Section TA.20 *The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs—(Functions):*

Abolish in their entirety and delete subchapters for same components:

D. The Office of Policy and Planning (TAR).

H. The Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics (TAN).

Retitle:

G. "The Office of International Policy" (TAJ) to "The Office of International Programs" (TAJ).

I. "The Office of Program Benefits Policy" (TAP) to "The Office of Program Benefits" (TAP).

Amend to read as follows:

A. The Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs (TA) is directly responsible to the Commissioner for carrying out the ODCDISP mission and for providing general supervision to the major components of ODCDISP.

B. The Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Disability and Income Security Programs (TA) assists the Deputy Commissioner in carrying out his/her responsibilities and performs other duties as the Deputy Commissioner may prescribe.

C. The Immediate Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Disability and

Income Security Programs (TAA) provides the Deputy Commissioner with staff assistance on the full range of his/her responsibilities.

D. The Office of Disability (TAE) plans, develops, evaluates, and issues operational and administrative appeals process regulations, rulings, policies, standards, and instructions for use by State, Federal, and private contractor providers which implement the disability provisions of the Social Security Act. Provides operational policy advice, technical support, management information, and management direction to central office and field components in the administration of the disability programs. Evaluates the effects of proposed legislation and legislation pending before the Congress to determine the operational impact on the disability programs. Provides national budgeting and oversight of disability claims processing as carried out by the State DDSs. Processes State agency workloads on a temporary or transitional basis.

E. The Office of Hearings and Appeals (TAH) administrators the nationwide hearings and appeals program for SSA. Holds hearings and issues decisions as part of the SSA appeals process. Directs a nationwide field organization that conducts impartial hearings and makes decisions on appealed determinations involving Retirement, Survivors, Disability, Health Insurance, Black Lung and Supplemental Security Income benefits.

F. The Office of International Programs (TAJ) serves as SSA's focal point for international program policy matters and for its participation in the international Social Security community. Serves as liaison to international agencies and associations that deal with Social Security matters. Negotiates international Social Security (totalization) agreements with foreign governments and develops policies and procedures to implement the agreements. Develops and implements policies and procedures relating to the operation of the Social Security program outside the United States. Provides training programs and technical consultation on Social Security and related fields to Social Security officials and other experts outside the United States.

G. The Office of Program Benefits (TAP) provides SSA-wide leadership and direction to the development, coordination and promulgation of procedures, operational policies, standards and instructions for the Retirement, Survivors and Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

programs administered by the Agency. Develops and issues guidelines for use by State and Federal organizations which implement the SSI provisions. Develops agreements with State supplementation programs, Medicaid eligibility, data exchange programs, food stamps and fiscal reporting processes. Coordinates programmatic response to court actions and requirements in civil actions involving all Social Security administered programs. Directs the coordination and publication of acquiescence rulings and instructions related to acquiescence rulings.

H. The Office of Program Support (TAS) provides leadership in overseeing the Agency's system of programmatic instructions, notices to the public and technical documents. Develops and maintains standards governing the translating of policy decisions into operational policies, procedures and notices. Responsible for the Agency's Regulatory Program, including development of SSA's Regulatory Plan and the Agency's portion of the Unified Agenda of Federal Regulations. Oversees the Agency's implementation of policies that utilize technologies in providing service to the public and provides program management of such technological applications. Develops and interprets SSA program policy governing requests for disclosure of information from Agency records under the provisions of the Privacy Act and the Freedom of Information Act. Designs, implements and maintains automated information and communications systems ODISP-wide.

Retitle:

Subchapter TAJ, "The Office of International Policy" to "The Office of International Programs". Change all references to "The Office of International Policy" to "The Office of International Programs" throughout Chapter TA and all its sub chapters.

Retitle:

Subchapter TAP, "The Office of Program Benefits Policy" to "The Office of Program Benefits". Change all references to "The Office of Program Benefits Policy" to "The Office of Program Benefits" and all references to "OPBP" to "OPB" throughout Chapter TA and all its subchapters.

Dated: July 17, 1998.

Kenneth S. Apfel,

Commissioner of Social Security

[FR Doc. 98-20866 Filed 8-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4190-29-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Aviation Proceedings, Agreements Filed During the Week Ending July 24, 1998

The following Agreements were filed with the Department of Transportation under the provisions of 49 U.S.C. Sections 412 and 414. Answers may be filed within 21 days of date of filing.

Docket Number: OST-98-4168.

Date Filed: July 23, 1998.

Parties: Members of the International Air Transport Association.

Subject: PTC12 USA-EUR 0054 dated June 29, 1998 r1-25, Mail Vote 947 (USA-Austria/Belgium/Germany), Intended effective date: November 1, 1998.

Dorothy W. Walker,

Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 98-20806 Filed 8-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Notice of Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits Filed Under Subpart Q During the Week Ending July 24, 1998

The following Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits were filed under Subpart Q of the Department of Transportation's Procedural Regulations (See 14 CFR 302.1701 *et seq.*). The due date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope are set forth below for each application. Following the Answer period DOT may process the application by expedited procedures. Such procedures may consist of the adoption of a show-cause order, a tentative order, or in appropriate cases a final order without further proceedings.

Docket Number: OST-98-4127.

Date Filed: July 20, 1998.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope: August 17, 1998.

Description: Application of Sabena S.A., Sabena Belgian World Airlines pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 41302 and Subpart Q, applies for a foreign air carrier permit to authorize it to provide scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property, and mail from points behind Belgium via Belgium and intermediate points to a point or points in the United States and beyond.

Docket Number: OST-98-4148.

Date Filed: July 22, 1998.