

TOGO  
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO  
TUNISIA  
TURKEY  
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
UNITED KINGDOM  
URUGUAY  
VENEZUELA

Public Notice 2920 of October 24, 1998 published at 63 FR 60436 is hereby superseded.

Dated: January 16, 1999.

**Mary A. Ryan,**

*Assistant Secretary for Consular Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 99-2075 Filed 1-28-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-06-P

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2962]

### Advisory Committee on International Economic Policy; Notice of Partially Closed Meeting

The Advisory Committee on International Economic Policy (ACIEP) will meet from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 1999, in Room 1107, U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20520.

Shorter notification was necessitated by changes in the agenda and scheduling conflicts. The meeting will be hosted by Committee Chairman R. Michael Gadbaw and by Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs Alan P. Larson.

The ACIEP will first meet in closed session, which will be devoted to State and Local Sanctions. The closed briefing involves discussion of classified information, pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1), 5 U.S.C. 442b(c)(4), and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B). Open session topics will be: the Global Economic Crisis: Proposals for Reform; Combating Corruption in Commercial Transactions; Y2K: the International Challenge; Civil Society and Economic Agreements; and Human Rights and the International Economy. Members of the public may attend the open session beginning at approximately 10:00 a.m. as seating capacity allows. As access to the Department of State is controlled, persons wishing to attend the meeting should notify the ACIEP Executive Secretariat by phone at (202) 647-5968 or fax (202) 647-5713 (Attn: Sharon Rogers) by Wednesday, February 5, 1999. Each person should provide his or her name, company or organization affiliation, date of birth, and social security number. On the date of the meeting, persons who have registered should bring a valid photo ID for entry into the State Department. A list will be

made up for Diplomatic Security and the Reception personnel will direct them to Room 1107.

For further information, contact Sharon Rogers, ACIEP Secretariat, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs, Room 6828, Main State, Washington, DC 20520.

Dated: January 25, 1999.

**Alan P. Larson,**

*Assistant Secretary for Economic and Business Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 99-2241 Filed 1-28-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-27-P

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Generalized System of Preferences; Imports Statistics Relating to Competitive Need Limitations; Invitation for Public Comment

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

**ACTION:** Notice; invitation or public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) is informing the public of interim 1998 import statistics relating to Competitive Need Limitations (CNLs) under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program. The TPSC also invites public comments by 5:00 p.m. March 19, 1999, regarding possible de minimis CNL waivers with respect to particular articles, and possible redesignations under the GSP program of articles currently subject to CNLs.

**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:

##### I. Competitive Need Limitations

Section 503(c)(2)(A) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "1974 Act") (19 U.S.C. 2463(c)(2)(A)), provides for Competitive Need Limitations on duty-free treatment under the GSP program. When the President determines that a beneficiary developing country exported to the United States during a calendar year either (1) a quantity of a GSP-eligible article having a value in excess of the applicable amount for that year (\$85 million for 1998), or (2) a quantity of a GSP-eligible article having a value equal to or greater than 50 percent of the value of total U.S. imports of the article from all countries (the "50 percent"

CNL), the President shall terminate GSP duty-free treatment for that article from that beneficiary developing country by no later than July 1 of the next calendar year.

## II. Discretionary Decisions

### A. De Minimis Waivers

Section 503(c)(2)(F) of the 1974 Act provides the President with discretion to waive the 50 percent CNL with respect to an eligible article imported from a beneficiary developing country if the value of total imports of that article from all countries during the calendar year did not exceed the applicable amount for that year (\$14 million for 1998).

### B. Redesignation of Eligible Articles

Where an eligible article from a beneficiary developing country ceased to receive duty-free treatment due to exceeding the CNLs in a prior year, Section 503(c)(2)(C) of the 1974 Act provides the President with discretion to redesignate such an article for duty-free treatment if imports in the most recently completed calendar year did not exceed the CNLs.

## III. Implementation of Competitive Need Limitations, Waivers, and Redesignations

Exclusions from GSP duty-free treatment where CNLs have been exceeded, as well as the return of GSP duty-free treatment to products for which the President has used this discretionary authority to grant redesignations, will be effective July 1, 1999. Decisions on these matters, as well as decisions with respect to de minimis waivers, will be based on full 1998 calendar year import statistics.

## IV. Interim 1998 Import Statistics

In order to provide advance indication of possible changes in the list of eligible articles pursuant to exceeding CNLs, and to afford an earlier opportunity for comment regarding possible de minimis waivers and redesignations, interim import statistics covering the first 10 months of 1998 are included with this notice.

The following lists contains the HTS subheadings and beneficiary country of origin for GSP-eligible articles, the value of imports of such articles for the first ten months of 1998, and their percentage of total imports of that product from all countries. The flags indicate that status of GSP eligibility.

Articles marked with an "\*" are those that have been excluded from GSP eligibility for the entire past calendar year. Flags "1" or "2" indicate products that were not eligible for duty-free