

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹¹

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

User Input to the Procurement Executive Council Socio-Economic Subcommittee

AGENCY: Small Business Administration, Interagency Committee on Subcontract Reporting.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Subcontract Reporting Subcommittee of the Socio-Economic Committee of the Procurement Executive Council will hold an Industry Forum on December 16, 2002, at 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. hosted by the Small Business Administration at 409 Third Street, SW., Washington, DC 20416 in the Eisenhower Conference Room. The purpose of the forum is to demonstrate an existing government-owned internet-based electronic reporting system, describe anticipated enhancements necessary to implement government-wide electronic subcontract reporting, and obtain comments from potential industry users. Potential users are other than small businesses required to submit subcontract reports pursuant to Federal Acquisition Regulation 52.219-9. Space is limited so seating is on a first-come basis. Those planning to attend should register at: SpecialMeeting@sba.gov.

DETAILS: December 16, 2002; Small Business Administration, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Eisenhower Conference Room. The objective of this meeting is to provide an opportunity for industry users to provide input on plans for implementing a government-wide electronic subcontract reporting system.

DATES: The meeting will be held at 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on December 16, 2002.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Eisenhower Conference Room at the headquarters of the Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street, SW., Washington, DC 20416.

TO REGISTER SEND E-MAIL TO:

SpecialMeeting@sba.gov. For further information contact: Ms. Sylvia Boulware, Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street, SW., Washington, DC 20416; telephone number (202) 619-0477 or Fax: (202)

481-5735; or Ms. Janas Jackson, same address, telephone number (202) 205-7493; Fax: (202) 481-2390.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

History

In 2002, the Procurement Executive Council's Socio-Economic Committee established the Subcontract Reporting Subcommittee to explore government-wide electronic subcontract reporting as part of the E-Government initiative. The Subcommittee is chaired by the Deputy Director of the Department of Navy's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization and includes stakeholders from the Small Business Administration, Department of Defense, Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Health and Human Services, Department of State, and General Services Administration.

The DOE demonstrated its internet-based electronic subcontract reporting system to the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee is considering recommending adoption of the Department of Energy's system with enhancements for government-wide use to satisfy mandatory subcontract reporting requirements by other than small businesses.

This meeting is the industry forum intended to observe a demonstration of the current electronic reporting system, receive a description of planned enhancements, and provide comments regarding the merit and feasibility of adopting such a system for government-wide subcontract reporting.

Meeting Procedures

(a) The meeting will be informal in nature and will be conducted by representatives of the Subcontract Reporting Subcommittee.

(b) The meeting will be open to all persons on a space-available basis. Every effort was made to provide a meeting site with sufficient seating capacity for the expected participation. There will be neither admission fee nor other charge to attend and participate.

(c) DOE personnel present will conduct a demonstration of the current system. Any person will be allowed to ask questions during the demonstration and DOE personnel will clarify any capability of the current system that is not clear.

(d) Other Subcommittee personnel will present a briefing on the specific system enhancements desired. Any person will be allowed to ask questions during the presentation and Subcommittee personnel will clarify any part of the presentation that is not clear.

(e) Any person present may give feedback on the merit and feasibility of the desired enhancements presented. Feedback on the proposed product will be captured through discussion between Subcommittee personnel and any persons attending the meeting. The meeting will not be formally recorded. However, informal tape recordings may be made of the presentations to ensure that each respondent's comments are noted accurately.

(f) An official verbatim transcript or minutes of the informal meeting will not be made. However, a list of the attendees and a digest of discussions during the meeting will be produced. Any person attending may receive a copy of the written information upon request to the information contact, above.

(g) Every reasonable effort will be made to hear each person's feedback consistent with a reasonable closing time for the meeting. Written feedback may also be submitted to Subcommittee personnel for up to 14 days after the close of the meeting.

Agenda

(a) Opening Remarks and Discussion of Meeting Procedures.

(b) Demonstration of DOE Subcontract Reporting System.

(c) Briefing on Desired System Enhancements.

(d) Request for User Input.

(e) Closing Comments.

Linda G. Williams,

Associate Administrator for Government Contracting, Small Business Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of the Secretary

[Public Notice 4212]

Extension of the Restriction on the Use of United States Passports for Travel to, in, or Through Libya

On December 11, 1981, pursuant to the authority of 22 U.S.C. 211a and Executive Order 11295 (31 FR 10603), and in accordance with 22 CFR 51.73 (a) (3), all United States passports were declared invalid for travel to, in, or through Libya unless specifically validated for such travel. This restriction has been renewed yearly because of the unsettled relations between the United States and the Government of Libya and the possibility of hostile acts against Americans in Libya. The American Embassy in Tripoli

¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

remains closed, thus preventing the United States from providing routine diplomatic protection or consular assistance to Americans who may travel to Libya.

In light of these events and circumstances, I have determined that Libya continues to be an area “* * * where there is imminent danger to the public health or physical safety of United States travellers” within the meaning of 22 U.S.C. 211a and 22 CFR 51.73(a)(3).

Accordingly, all United States passports shall remain invalid for travel to, in, or through Libya unless specifically validated for such travel under the authority of the Secretary of State.

The Public Notice shall be effective upon publication in the **Federal Register** and shall expire at midnight November 24, 2003, unless extended or sooner revoked by Public Notice.

Dated: November 22, 2002.

Colin L. Powell,

Secretary of State, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 02-30450 Filed 11-26-02; 8:45 pm]

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Request for Comments Concerning Compliance With Telecommunications Trade Agreements

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of request for public comment and reply comment.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 1377 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (19 U.S.C. 3106) (“section 1377”), the Office of the United States Trade Representative (“USTR”) is reviewing, and requests comments on: The operation and effectiveness of and the implementation of and compliance with the World Trade Organization (“WTO”) Basic Telecommunications Agreement; other WTO agreements affecting market opportunities for telecommunications products and services of the United States; the telecommunications provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement (“NAFTA”); and, other telecommunications trade agreements with the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (“APEC”) members, the European Union (“EU”), the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (“CITEL”), Japan, Korea, Mexico and Taiwan. The USTR will conclude the review on March 31, 2003.

DATES: Comments are due by noon on January 3, 2003, and Reply Comments are due by noon on January 24, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be submitted to Rhonda Schnare, Office of General Counsel, Attn: Section 1377 Comments, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508. As explained below, in order to ensure the most timely and expeditious receipt and consideration of comments and reply comments, USTR has arranged to accept submissions in electronic format (e-mail). Comments should be submitted electronically to fr0056@ustr.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth Schagrin, Office of Industry and Telecommunications (202) 395-5663; or Rhonda Schnare, Office of the General Counsel (202) 395-3582.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 1377 requires the USTR to review annually the operation and effectiveness of all U.S. trade agreements regarding telecommunications products and services of the United States that are in force with respect to the United States. The purpose of the review is to determine whether any act, policy, or practice of a country that has entered into a telecommunications trade agreement with the United States is inconsistent with the terms of such agreement, or otherwise denies to U.S. firms, within the context of the terms of such agreements, mutually advantageous market opportunities. For the current review, the USTR seeks comments on:

(1) Whether any WTO member is acting in a manner that is inconsistent with its commitments under the WTO Basic Telecommunications Agreement or with other WTO obligations, e.g., the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services (“GATS”), including the Annex on Telecommunications and the Reference Paper on Pro-Competitive Regulatory Principles, that affect market opportunities for U.S. telecommunications products and services;

(2) Whether Canada or Mexico has failed to comply with their telecommunications commitments under NAFTA;

(3) Whether APEC or CITEL members, the EU, Japan, Korea, Mexico or Taiwan have failed to comply with their commitments under additional telecommunications agreements with the United States.¹

¹ Japan: The 1999 Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) agreement; the 1994 U.S.-Japan Public Sector Procurement Agreement on Telecommunications Products and Services; and, additional telecommunications trade agreements

(4) Whether there remains outstanding issues from previous Section 1377 reviews on those countries or issues previously cited. Last year’s review concluded that it would focus attention on the following practices as a matter of priority: (1) Mobile wireless termination rates in the European Union (EU) Member States and Japan, (2) provisioning and pricing of leased telecom lines in EU Member States and Switzerland, and (3) interconnection and other competitive concerns in Mexico. USTR continues to closely monitor other telecommunications trade practices identified in the following countries: Australia, Brazil, China, Colombia, India, Japan, Peru, and South Africa.

See 63 FR 1140 (January 8, 1998) for further information concerning the agreements listed below and USTR Press Release 02-XX available at <http://www.ustr.gov>, for the results of the 2001-2002 section 1377 review concerning these agreements.

Public Comment and Reply Comment: Requirements for Submissions

USTR requests comments on: The operation and effectiveness of—including implementation of and compliance with—the WTO Basic Telecommunications Agreement; other WTO agreements affecting market opportunities for telecommunications products and services of the United States; the NAFTA; and other telecommunications trade agreements with APEC members, CITEL members,

with Japan, including a series of agreements on: International value-added network services (IVANS) (1990-91); open government procurement of all satellites, except for government research and development satellites (1990); network channel terminating equipment (NCTE) (1990); and cellular and third-party radio systems (1989) and cellular radio systems (1994).

Korea: Agreements regarding protection of intellectual property rights (“IPR”) (1996), type approval of telecommunications equipment (1992/1996), transparent standard-setting processes, (1992/1997) and non-discriminatory access to Korea Telecommunications’ procurement of telecommunications products (1992/1996).

Mexico: The 1997 understanding regarding test data acceptance agreements between product safety testing laboratories.

Mutual Recognition Agreements For Conformity Assessment of Telecommunications Equipment: Mutual Recognition Agreements (“MRAs”) regarding telecommunications equipment trade with the European Union (1997), APEC countries (1998), and CITEL countries (1999).

Taiwan: The February 1998 agreement on interconnection pricing for provision of wireless services in Taiwan; and, the July 1996 agreement on the licensing and provision of wireless services through the establishment of a competitive, transparent and fair wireless market in Taiwan. USTR also seeks comments on telecommunications commitments made by Taiwan to the United States in October 1999 and February 1998 as part of its accession to the WTO.