

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Board for International Food and Agricultural Development: One Hundred and Thirty Sixth Meeting; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given of the one hundred and thirty-sixth meeting of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD). The meeting will be held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on January 6, 2003 in the ground floor meeting room of the National Association of State Universities & Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC), at 1307 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

The program will be devoted to a discussion of a humanitarian compact for developing countries, a progress report on the previous meeting's long-term training agenda item, and further USAID reports on the status of agricultural or rural livelihoods and the involvement of universities.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Those wishing to attend the meeting or obtain additional information about BIFAD should contact Mr. Lawrence Paulson, the Designated Federal Officer for BIFAD. Write him in care of the U.S. Agency for International Development, Ronald Reagan Building, Office of Agriculture and Food Security, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 2.11-073, Washington DC 20523-2100 or telephone him at (202) 712-1436 or fax (202) 216-3010.

Lawrence Paulson,

USAID Designated Federal Officer for BIFAD, Office of Agriculture and Food Security, Bureau of Economic Growth, Agriculture & Trade.

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BILLING CODE 6116-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Appeals Division

Notice of Request for Approval of an Information Collection

AGENCY: National Appeals Division, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection.

SUMMARY: Notice. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the intention of the National Appeals Division (NAD) to request approval of a voluntary information collection for the purpose of setting customer service standards.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by February 3, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jerry Jobe, USDA/NAD Suite 1100, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302, (703-305-2514).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: National Appeals Division Customer Service Survey.

OMB Number: Not yet designated.

Type of Request: Approval of a new information collection.

Abstract: Executive Order 12862 requires Federal Agencies to identify the customers who are, or should be served by the Agency and survey those customers to determine the kind and quality of services they want and their level of satisfaction with existing services. Agencies will then use the results to the survey to establish customer service standards.

The National Appeals Division (NAD) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture was established by the Secretary of Agriculture on October 20, 1994, by Secretary's Memorandum 1010-1, pursuant to the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-354, section 271 et seq. (October 13, 1994)). The Act consolidated the appellate functions and staffs of several USDA Agencies to provide for independent hearings and reviews of adverse Agency decisions. NAD is responsible for all administrative appeals arising from program activities of assigned Agencies, as well as such other administrative appeals arising from decisions of Agencies and offices of USDA as may be assigned by the Secretary. NAD appeals involve program decisions of the Farm Service

Agency, Risk Management Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Rural Housing Service, and Rural Utilities Service.

Need of the Information: The information collection in this request is essential for NAD to comply with the requirement of Executive Order 12862 to set customer service standards. The information collected is used only by authorized representatives of USDA.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimate to average 0.25 hours per response.

Respondents: The primary respondents will be individuals and/or households who are participants in Farm Service Agency and Rural Housing Service programs. A small percentage of respondents may be businesses, institutions or state and local governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1176.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.00.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 294.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Jerry Jobe, National Appeals Division at (703) 305-2514.

Send comments regarding, but not limited to the following: (a) Whether the collection of the information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of NAD, including whether the information will have a practical utility; (b) the accuracy of NAD's estimates of the burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology. Comments should be addressed to Jerry Jobe, Deputy Director for Planning, Training and Quality Control, USDA/NAD, Suite 1100, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB