

2000, and Delegation of Authority No. 523 of December 22, 2021.

**Stacy E. White,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Professional and Cultural Exchanges, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2022–27215 Filed 12–14–22; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### [Public Notice 11938]

#### **Designation of Osama Mehmood, Atif Yahya Ghouri, Muhammad Maruf, and Qari Amjad as Specially Designated Global Terrorists**

Acting under the authority of and in accordance with section 1(a)(ii)(B) of E.O. 13224 of September 23, 2001, as amended by E.O. 13268 of July 2, 2002, E.O. 13284 of January 23, 2003, and E.O. 13886 of September 9, 2019, I hereby determine that the persons known as Osama Mehmood (also known as Usama Mahmud, Abu Zar, Atta Ullah, Zar Wali); Atif Yahya Ghouri (also known as Yahya Shoaib Ghauri, Qari Atif, Qari Ibrahim, Atif Ghauri); and Muhammad Maruf (also known as Ali Hamzah, Maulana Musanna, Maulana Ubaidullah) are leaders of al-Qa'ida in the Indian Subcontinent, and the person known as Qari Amjad (also known as Mufti Hazrat, Mufti Muzahim) is a leader of Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan, groups whose property and interests in property are currently blocked pursuant to a determination by the Secretary of State pursuant to E.O. 13224.

Consistent with the determination in section 10 of E.O. 13224 that prior notice to persons determined to be subject to the Order who might have a constitutional presence in the United States would render ineffectual the blocking and other measures authorized in the Order because of the ability to transfer funds instantaneously, I determine that no prior notice needs to be provided to any person subject to this determination who might have a constitutional presence in the United States, because to do so would render ineffectual the measures authorized in the Order.

This notice shall be published in the **Federal Register**.

*Authority:* E.O. 13224.

Dated: November 8, 2022.

**Antony J. Blinken,**  
*Secretary of State.*

[FR Doc. 2022–27174 Filed 12–14–22; 8:45 am]

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## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket Number USTR–2022–0016]

### **Request for Comments and Notice of a Public Hearing Regarding the 2023 Special 301 Review**

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

**ACTION:** Request for comments and notice of public hearing.

**SUMMARY:** Each year, the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) conducts a review to identify countries that deny adequate and effective protection of intellectual property (IP) rights or deny fair and equitable market access to U.S. persons who rely on IP protection. Based on this review, the U.S. Trade Representative determines which, if any, of these countries to identify as Priority Foreign Countries. USTR requests written comments that identify acts, policies, or practices that may form the basis of a country's identification as a Priority Foreign Country or placement on the Priority Watch List or Watch List.

#### **DATES:**

*January 30, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. EST:* Deadline for submission of written comments from the public.

*February 13, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. EST:* Deadline for submission of written comments from foreign governments.

*February 22, 2023:* Deadline for the Special 301 Subcommittee of the Trade Policy Staff Committee (Subcommittee) to pose questions on written comments.

*March 7, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. EST:* Deadline for submission of commenters' responses to questions from the Subcommittee.

*On or about April 28, 2023:* USTR will publish the 2023 Special 301 Report within 30 days of the publication of the National Trade Estimate Report.

**ADDRESSES:** USTR strongly encourages electronic submissions made through the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <https://www.regulations.gov> (*Regulations.gov*). Follow the submission instructions in section IV below. The docket number is USTR–2022–0016. For alternatives to on-line submissions, please contact USTR at [Special301@ustr.eop.gov](mailto:Special301@ustr.eop.gov) before transmitting a comment and in advance of the relevant deadline.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Ariel Gordon, Director for Innovation and Intellectual Property, at [Special301@ustr.eop.gov](mailto:Special301@ustr.eop.gov) or (202) 395–6862. You can find information about the Special 301 Review at <https://www.ustr.gov>.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## I. Background

Section 182 of the Trade Act of 1974 (Trade Act) (19 U.S.C. 2242), commonly known as the Special 301 provisions, requires the U.S. Trade Representative to identify countries that deny adequate and effective IP protections or fair and equitable market access to U.S. persons who rely on IP protection. The Trade Act requires the U.S. Trade Representative to determine which, if any, of these countries to identify as Priority Foreign Countries. Acts, policies, or practices that are the basis of a country's identification as a Priority Foreign Country can be subject to the procedures set out in sections 301–305 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2411–2415).

In addition, USTR has created a Priority Watch List and Watch List to assist in pursuing the goals of the Special 301 provisions. Placement of a trading partner on the Priority Watch List or Watch List indicates that particular problems exist in that country with respect to IP protection, enforcement, or market access for persons that rely on intellectual property protection. Trading partners placed on the Priority Watch List are the focus of increased bilateral attention concerning the problem areas.

USTR chairs the Subcommittee, which reviews information from many sources, and consults with and makes recommendations to the U.S. Trade Representative on issues arising under Special 301. Written submissions from the public are a key source of information for the Special 301 review process. As discussed below, in 2023, in lieu of an in-person hearing, the Subcommittee will submit written questions to commenters as part of the review process and will allow commenters to provide written responses. At the conclusion of the process, USTR will publish the results of the review in a Special 301 Report.

USTR requests that interested persons identify through the process outlined in this notice those countries the acts, policies, or practices of which deny adequate and effective protection for IP rights or deny fair and equitable market access to U.S. persons who rely on IP protection. The Special 301 provisions also require the U.S. Trade Representative to identify any act, policy, or practice of Canada that affects cultural industries, was adopted or expanded after December 17, 1992, and is actionable under Article 32.6 of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) (as defined in section 3 of the USMCA Implementation Act). USTR invites the public to submit