

Dated: November 22, 2024.

Naomi Sipple,

Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 12596]

Notice of Public Meeting in Preparation for International Maritime Organization Eleventh Session of the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC) Meeting

The Department of State will conduct a public meeting at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, January 8, 2025, both in-person at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, DC, and via teleconference. The primary purpose of the meeting is to prepare for the 11th session of the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Sub-committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC) to be held at IMO Headquarters in London, United Kingdom from Monday, January 13 to Friday, January 17, 2025.

Members of the public may participate up to the capacity of the teleconference phone line, which can handle 500 participants or up to the seating capacity of the room if attending in person. The meeting location will be the United States Coast Guard Headquarters, and the teleconference line will be provided to those who RSVP. To RSVP, participants should contact the meeting coordinator, LCDR Bryan Andrews, by email at bryan.j.andrews@uscg.mil. LCDR Andrews will provide access information for in-person and virtual attendance.

The agenda items to be considered at SDC 11 include:

- Adoption of the agenda
- Decisions of other IMO bodies
- Development of Guidelines for emergency towing arrangements for ships other than tankers (2.20)
- Further development of the IP Code and associated guidance (2.4)
- Revision of the Interim explanatory notes for the assessment of passenger ship systems' capabilities after a fire or flooding casualty (MSC.1/Circ.1369) and related circulars (7.42)
- Amendments to the 2011 ESP Code (7.21)
- Amendments to the Guidelines for construction, installation, maintenance and inspection/survey of means of embarkation and disembarkation (MSC.1/Circ.1331) concerning the rigging of safety

netting on accommodation ladders and gangways (7.35)

- Revision of SOLAS chapters II-1 (part C) and V, and related instruments regarding steering and propulsion requirements, to address both traditional and non-traditional propulsion and steering systems. (2.9)
- Amendment to regulation 25 of the 1988 Load Line Protocol regarding the requirement for setting of guard rails on the deck structure (7.25) Unified interpretation of provisions of IMO safety, security, environment, facilitation, liability and compensation-related conventions (7.1)
- Guidelines for use of Fibre-Reinforced Plastics (FRP) within ship structures (2.6)
- Review of the 2009 Code on Alerts and Indicators (7.47)
- Biennial status report and provisional agenda for SDC 12
- Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2026
- Experience-building phase for the reduction of underwater radiated noise from shipping (1.16)
- Any other business
- Report to the Maritime Safety Committee

Please note: The IMO may, on short notice, adjust the SDC 11 agenda to accommodate the constraints associated with the meeting format. Any changes to the agenda will be reported to those who RSVP.

Those who plan to participate should contact the meeting coordinator, LCDR Bryan Andrews, by email at bryan.j.andrews@uscg.mil, or in writing at 2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE, Stop 7509, Washington, DC 20593-7509, by December 20, 2024. Please note that, due to security considerations, two valid, government issued photo identifications must be presented to gain entrance to the Douglas A. Munro Coast Guard Headquarters Building at St. Elizabeth's. This building is accessible by taxi, public transportation, and privately owned conveyance (upon request). Additionally, members of the public needing reasonable accommodation should advise the meeting coordinator not later than December 20, 2024. Requests made after that date will be considered but might not be possible to fulfill.

Additional information regarding this and other IMO public meetings may be found at: <https://www.dco.uscg.mil/IMO>.

(Authority: 22 U.S.C. 2656 and 5 U.S.C. 552)

Leslie W. Hunt,

Coast Guard Liaison Officer, Office of Ocean and Polar Affairs, Department of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 12595]

30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Foreign Service Officer Test Registration Form

ACTION: Notice of request for public comment and submission to OMB of proposed collection of information.

SUMMARY: The Department of State has submitted the information collection described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 we are requesting comments on this collection from all interested individuals and organizations. The purpose of this Notice is to allow 30 days for public comment.

DATES: Submit comments up to December 18, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gailyn McClung, 771-205-1565. Direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for copies of the proposed collection instrument and supporting documents to Board of Examiners for the Foreign Service, Department of State SA-1, H-518. 2401 E Street NW, Washington, DC 20522.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- *Title of Information Collection:* Registration for the Foreign Service Officer Test.
- *OMB Control Number:* 1405-0008.
- *Type of Request:* Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.
- *Originating Office:* Bureau of Human Resources, Board of Examiners.
- *Form Number:* DS-1998E.
- *Respondents:* Registrants for the Foreign Service Officer Test.
- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 7,000.
- *Estimated Number of Responses:* 7,000.

- *Average Time Per Response:* 2 hours.
- *Total Estimated Burden Time:* 14,000 hours.
- *Frequency:* Annually.
- *Obligation to Respond:* Required to Obtain or Retain a Benefit.

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

Abstract of Proposed Collection

Individuals registering for the Foreign Service Officer Test will complete a Registration Form, asking for their name, contact information, ethnicity, education and work history, and military experience. The information will be used to prepare and issue admission to the Foreign Service Officer Test, to provide data useful for improving future tests, and to conduct research studies based on the test results.

Methodology

The registration process, which includes concurrent application submission and seat selection, opens approximately four (4) weeks prior to each testing window. To register, individuals go to pearsonvue.com/fsot/ during the four-week period prior to a specific testing window to create an account, submit completed eligibility verification and application forms, and select a location and seat for the specific test date.

David J. Burger,

Director, GTM/TAC/BEX, Department of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 12590]

Request for Information for the 2025 Trafficking in Persons Report

SUMMARY: The Department of State (“the Department”) requests written information to assist in reporting on the degree to which the United States and foreign governments meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking in persons (“minimum standards”) that are prescribed by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000.

DATES: Submissions must be made in writing to the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons at the Department of State by 5 p.m. EST on February 3, 2025.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This written information will assist in the preparation of the Trafficking in Persons Report (“TIP Report”) which the Department submits annually to the U.S. Congress on governments’ concrete actions to meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking in persons (“minimum standards”) that are prescribed by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (Div. A, Pub. L. 106-386), as amended (“TVPA”). Foreign governments that do not meet the minimum standards and are not making significant efforts to do so may be subject to restrictions on nonhumanitarian, nontrade-related foreign assistance from the United States, as defined by the TVPA. Please refer to the Information Sought Relevant to the Minimum Standards of this Notice for the questionnaire and to the Addresses, Scope of Interest, and Information Sought sections for additional instructions on submission requirements. Written submissions and supporting documentation may be submitted by the following method:

- *Email:* tipreport@state.gov for submissions related to foreign governments and tipreportUS@state.gov for submissions related to the United States.

Scope of Interest: The Department requests information relevant to assessing the United States’ and foreign governments’ concrete actions to meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking in persons during the reporting period (April 1, 2024–March 31, 2025). The minimum standards are listed in the *Background* section. Submissions must include information relevant to efforts to meet the minimum standards and should include, but need not be limited to, answering the questions in the

Information Sought section.

Submissions need not include answers to all the questions; only those questions for which the submitter has direct professional experience should be answered, and that experience should be noted. For any critique or deficiency described, please provide a recommendation to remedy it. Note the country or countries that are the focus of the submission. Submissions may include written narratives answering the questions presented in this Notice, research, studies, statistics, fieldwork, training materials, evaluations, assessments, and other relevant evidence of local, state/provincial, and federal/central government efforts. To the extent possible, precise dates and numbers of officials or individuals affected should be included. Questions below seek to gather information and updates from the details provided and assessment on government efforts made in the 2024 TIP Report. Furthermore, we request information on the government’s treatment of vulnerable populations and underserved communities, including how the government may have systemically denied opportunities to a community to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life that has led to heightened risk to human trafficking or how the government’s anti-trafficking response may have treated certain groups differently. Written narratives providing factual information should provide citations of sources, and copies of and links to the source material should be provided. Please send electronic copies of the entire submission, including source material. If primary sources are used, such as research studies, interviews, direct observations, or other sources of quantitative or qualitative data, provide details on the research or data-gathering methodology and any supporting documentation. The Department only includes in the TIP Report information related to trafficking in persons as defined by the TVPA; it does not include, and is therefore not seeking, information on commercial sex, migrant smuggling, visa fraud, or child abuse, unless such crimes also involve the elements of sex trafficking or forced labor.

Confidentiality: Please provide the name, phone number, and email address of a single point of contact for any submission. It is Department practice not to identify in the TIP Report information concerning sources to safeguard those sources. Note, however, that any information submitted to the Department may be releasable pursuant to the provisions of the Freedom of