

- Development of mandatory carriage requirements for stability instruments on board tankers
- Review of the damage stability regulations for ro-ro passenger ships
- Revision of SOLAS chapter II-1 subdivision and damage stability regulations
- Development of provisions to ensure the integrity and uniform implementation of the 1969 TM Convention
- Development of amendments to part B of the 2008 IS Code on towing and anchor handling operations
- Consideration of IACS unified interpretations
- Development of amendments to the criterion for maximum angle of heel in turns of the 2008 IS Code
- Development of a mandatory Code for ships operating in polar waters
- Biennial agenda and provisional agenda for SLF 56
- Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2014
- Any other business
- Report to the Maritime Safety Committee

Members of the public may attend this meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. To facilitate the building security process, and to request reasonable accommodation, those who plan to attend should contact the meeting coordinator, LCDR Catherine Phillips, by email at Catherine.A.Phillips@uscg.mil, by phone at (202) 372-1374, by fax at (202) 372-1925, or in writing at Commandant (CG-ENG-2), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 2nd Street SW., Stop 7126, Washington, DC 20593-7126, not later than January 16, 2013, 7 days prior to the meeting. Requests made after January 16, 2013 might not be able to be accommodated. Please note that due to security considerations, two valid, government issued photo identifications must be presented to gain entrance to the Headquarters building. The Headquarters building is accessible by taxi and privately owned conveyance (public transportation is not generally available). However, parking in the vicinity of the building is extremely limited. Additional information regarding this and other IMO SHC public meetings may be found at: www.uscg.mil/imo.

Dated: November 14, 2012.

Brian Robinson,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2012-28609 Filed 11-23-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 8093]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; Notice of Committee Meeting

The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday December 18, 2012, at the offices of the Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services (RTCM), 1611 N. Kent Street, Suite 605, Arlington, Va. 22209. The primary purpose of the meeting is to prepare for the 56th Session of the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Sub-Committee on Fire Protection (FP 56) to be held at the IMO Headquarters, United Kingdom, January 7-11, 2013.

The agenda items to be considered include:

- Development of measures to prevent explosions on oil and chemical tankers transporting low flash point cargoes
- Development of requirements for the fire resistance of ventilation ducts
- Review of fire protection requirements for on-deck cargoes
- Review of the recommendations on evacuation analysis for new and existing passenger ships
- Development of requirements for additional means of escape from machinery spaces
- Development of requirements for ships carrying hydrogen and compressed natural gas vehicles
- Consideration of IACS unified interpretations
- Harmonization of the requirements for the location of entrances, air inlets and openings in the superstructures of tankers
- Development of unified interpretations for Chapter 7 of the 2000 HSC Code
- Development of guidelines for use of fibre reinforced plastic (FRP) within ships structures
- Analysis of fire casualty records
- Development of amendments to SOLAS chapter II-2, the FTP Code and MSC/Circ. 1120 to clarify the requirements for plastic pipes on ships
- Consideration of amendments to SOLAS chapter II-2 on location of EEBDs
- Development of amendments to the requirements for foam-type fire extinguishers in SOLAS regulation II-2/10.5
- Development of amendments to SOLAS regulation II-2/20 and associated guidance on air quality management for ventilation of closed

- vehicle spaces, closed ro-ro and special category spaces
- Review of general cargo ship safety
- Development of interpretation of SOLAS regulation II-2/13.6 on means of escape from ro-ro spaces
- Any other business

Members of the public may attend this meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. To facilitate the building security process, and to request reasonable accommodation, those who plan to attend should contact the meeting coordinator, Mr. Randall Eberly, by email at randall.eberly@uscg.mil, by phone at (202) 372-1393, by fax at (202) 372-1925, or in writing at Commandant (CG-ENG-4), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 2nd Street SW., Stop 7126, Washington, DC 20593-7126 not later than December 11, 2012, 7 days prior to the meeting. Requests made after December 11, 2012 might not be able to be accommodated. RTCM Headquarters is adjacent to the Rosslyn Metro station. For further directions and lodging information, please see: <http://www.rtcn.org/visit.php>. Additional information regarding this and other IMO SHC public meetings may be found at: www.uscg.mil/imo.

Dated: November 14, 2012.

Brian Robinson,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2012-28610 Filed 11-23-12; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Notice of Meeting of the Industry Trade Advisory Committee on Small and Minority Business (ITAC-11)

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of a partially opened meeting.

SUMMARY: The Industry Trade Advisory Committee on Small and Minority Business (ITAC-11) will hold a meeting on Tuesday, December 4, 2012, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The meeting will be opened to the public from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for December 4, 2012 unless otherwise notified.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the White House Conference Center, 726 Jackson Place NW., Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura Hellstern, DFO for ITAC-11 at

(202) 482-3222, Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Agenda topics to be discussed are:

- U.S. Export Controls Reform
- Metropolitan Export Initiative

Dated: November 19, 2012.

Rebecca Rosen,

Director for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement.

[FR Doc. 2012-28501 Filed 11-23-12; 8:45 am]

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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, effectiveness, and implementation of, and compliance with the following agreements regarding telecommunications products and services of the United States: The World Trade Organization ('WTO') General Agreement on Trade in Services; The North American Free Trade Agreement ('NAFTA'); U.S. free trade agreements ('FTAs') with Australia, Bahrain, Chile, Colombia, Korea, Morocco, Oman, Panama, Peru, and Singapore; the Dominican Republic–Central America–United States Free Trade Agreement ('CAFTA-DR'); and any other telecommunications trade agreements, such as Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) for Conformity Assessment of Telecommunications Equipment. The USTR will conclude the review by March 31, 2013.

DATES: Comments are due on December 17, 2012 and reply comments on January 14, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Submissions should be made via the Internet at www.regulations.gov docket number USTR-2012-0035. For alternatives to on-line submissions please contact Yvonne Jamison (202-395-3475). The public is strongly encouraged to file submissions electronically rather than by facsimile or mail.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jonathan McHale, Office of Services and Investment, (202) 395-9533; or Scott Pietan, Office of Market Access and Industrial Competitiveness, (202) 395-9646.

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 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 trade agreement or other telecommunications trade agreement with the United States is inconsistent with the terms of such agreement or otherwise denies U.S. firms, within the context of the terms of such agreements, mutually advantageous market opportunities for telecommunications products and services. For the current review, the USTR seeks comments on:

(1) Whether any WTO member is acting in a manner that is inconsistent with its obligations under WTO agreements affecting market opportunities for telecommunications products or services, *e.g.*, the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services ('GATS'), including the Agreement on Basic Telecommunications Services, the Annex on Telecommunications, and any scheduled commitments including the Reference Paper on Pro-Competitive Regulatory Principles; the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures; the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights; or the plurilateral WTO Agreement on Government Procurement.

(2) Whether Canada or Mexico has failed to comply with its telecommunications obligations under the NAFTA;

(3) Whether Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras or Nicaragua has failed to comply with its telecommunications obligations under the CAFTA-DR;

(4) Whether Australia, Bahrain, Chile, Colombia, Korea, Morocco, Oman, Panama, Peru, or Singapore has failed to comply with its telecommunications obligations under its FTA with the United States (see <http://www.ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements> for links to U.S. FTAs);

(5) Whether any country has failed to comply with its obligations under telecommunications trade agreements with the United States other than FTAs, *e.g.*, Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) for Conformity Assessment of

Telecommunications Equipment (see <http://ts.nist.gov/standards/conformity/mra/mra.cfm> for links to certain U.S. telecommunications MRAs);

(6) Whether any act, policy, or practice of a country cited in a previous section 1377 review remains unresolved (see <http://www.ustr.gov/trade-topics/services-investment/telecom-ecommerce/section-1377-review> for recent reviews); and

(7) Whether any measures or practices of a country that is a WTO member or for which an FTA or telecommunications trade agreement has entered into force with respect to the United States impede access to its telecommunications markets or otherwise deny market opportunities to telecommunications products and services of United States firms. Measures or practices of interest include, for example, efforts by a foreign government or a telecommunications service provider to block services delivered over the Internet (including, but not limited to voice over Internet protocol services, social networking, and search services); requirements for access to or use of networks that limit the products or services U.S. suppliers can offer in specific foreign markets; the imposition of excessively high licensing fees; unreasonable wholesale roaming rates that mobile telecommunications service suppliers in specific foreign markets charge U.S. suppliers that seek to supply international mobile roaming services to their U.S. customers; allocating access to spectrum or other scarce resources through discriminatory procedures or contingent on the purchase of locally-produced equipment; subsidies provided to equipment manufacturers which are contingent upon exporting or local content, or have caused adverse effects to domestic equipment manufacturers and the imposition by foreign governments of unnecessary or discriminatory technical regulations or standards for telecommunications products or services. In all cases, commenters should provide any available documentary evidence, including relevant legal measures where available, translated into English where necessary, to facilitate evaluation.

Public Comment and Reply Comment: Requirements for Submission

Comments in response to this notice must be written in English, must identify (on the first page of the comments) the telecommunications trade agreement(s) discussed therein, and must be submitted no later than December 17, 2012. Any replies to comments submitted must also be in