

9. Section 604 of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2483), as amended, authorizes the President to embody in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) the substance of relevant provisions of that Act, or other acts affecting import treatment, and actions taken thereunder.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, acting under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including but not limited to section 104 of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3703), and title V and section 604 of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2461–67, 2483), do proclaim that:

(1) Mauritania is designated as an eligible sub-Saharan African country and as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country.

(2) In order to reflect this designation in the HTS, general note 16(a) to the HTS is modified by inserting in alphabetical sequence in the list of beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries “Islamic Republic of Mauritania.”

(3) For purposes of section 112(c) of the AGOA, Mauritania is a lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African country.

(4) The designations of Guinea, Madagascar, and Niger as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries for purposes of section 506A of the 1974 Act are terminated, effective on January 1, 2010.

(5) In order to reflect in the HTS that beginning on January 1, 2010, Guinea, Madagascar, and Niger shall no longer be designated as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries, general note 16(a) to the HTS is modified by deleting “Republic of Guinea,” “Republic of Madagascar,” and “Republic of Niger” from the list of beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries.

Further, note 2(d) to subchapter XIX of chapter 98 of the HTS is modified by deleting “Republic of Guinea,” “Republic of Madagascar,” and “Republic of Niger” from the list of lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-third day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth.

BARACK OBAMA

**Proclamation 8469 of December 31, 2009**

**40th Anniversary of the National Environmental Policy Act, 2010**

*By the President of the United States of America  
A Proclamation*

Forty years ago, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) was signed into law with overwhelming bipartisan support, ushering in a new era of environmental awareness and citizen participation in government. NEPA elevated the role of environmental considerations in proposed Federal

agency actions, and it remains the cornerstone of our Nation's modern environmental protections. On this anniversary, we celebrate this milestone in our Nation's rich history of conservation, and we renew our commitment to preserve our environment for the next generation.

NEPA was enacted to "prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man." It established concrete objectives for Federal agencies to enforce these principles, while emphasizing public involvement to give all Americans a role in protecting our environment. It also created the Council on Environmental Quality to lead our Government's conservation efforts and serve as the President's environmental advisor.

America's economic health and prosperity are inexorably linked to the productive and sustainable use of our environment. That is why NEPA remains a vital tool for my Administration as we work to protect our Nation's environment and revitalize our economy. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 reaffirmed NEPA's role in protecting public health, safety, and environmental quality, and in ensuring transparency, accountability, and public involvement in our Government.

Today, my Administration will recognize NEPA's enactment by recommitting to environmental quality through open, accountable, and responsible decision making that involves the American public. Our Nation's long-term prosperity depends upon our faithful stewardship of the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the land we sow. With smart, sustainable policies like those established under NEPA, we can meet our responsibility to future generations of Americans, so they may hope to enjoy the beauty and utility of a clean, healthy planet.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim January 1, 2010, as the 40th Anniversary of the National Environmental Policy Act. I call upon all executive branch agencies to promote public involvement and transparency in their implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act. I also encourage every American to learn more about the National Environmental Policy Act and how we can all contribute to protecting and enhancing our environment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth.

BARACK OBAMA

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## EXECUTIVE ORDERS

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**Executive Order 13484 of January 9, 2009**

### **Amending the Order of Succession Within the Department of Agriculture**

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, 5 U.S.C. 3345 *et seq.*, it is hereby ordered that Executive Order 13241 of December 18, 2001, as amended, is further amended as follows:

**Section 1.** Section 2 is amended to read as follows:

**“Sec. 2. Order of Succession.**

“(a) General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture;

“(b) Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Agriculture;

“(c) Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Administration;

“(d) Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services;

“(e) Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment;

“(f) Under Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory Programs;

“(g) Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development;

“(h) Under Secretary of Agriculture for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services;

“(i) Under Secretary of Agriculture for Food Safety;

“(j) Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics;

“(k) Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Congressional Relations;

“(l) Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Civil Rights;

“(m) Director, Kansas City Commodity Office, Farm Service Agency (consistent with the time of service and rate of pay requirements of section 3345(a)(3) of title 5, United States Code); and