

of the RFP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The needs of the program may require the award to be reduced, revised, or increased. Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal USIA procedures.

#### Notification

All applicants will be notified of the results of the review process on or about August 7, 1995. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

Dated: March 8, 1995.

#### Dell Pendergrast,

*Deputy Associate Director, Educational and Cultural Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 95-6254 Filed 3-15-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

### OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

#### Request for Comments Concerning GATS Basic Telecommunications Negotiations

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

**ACTION:** Request for comments concerning commitments to be sought in negotiations on basic telecommunications services at the World Trade Organization.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) is soliciting public comment on the requests to be made to U.S. negotiating partners in the Negotiating Group on Basic Telecommunications of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS). The GATS is one of the Uruguay Round agreements administered by the World Trade Organization. Interested persons are invited to submit their comments on market-opening commitments that should be sought in the basic telecommunications sector by April 15, 1995.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** William Corbett, Office of Services, Investment and Intellectual Property, Office of the United States Trade Representative, at (202) 395-4510 or Laura B. Sherman, Office of the General

Counsel, Office of the United States Trade Representative, at (202) 395-3150.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Negotiating Group on Basic Telecommunications (NGBT) was created in April 1994 by the Marrakesh Ministerial Decision. The Decision states that "negotiations shall be entered into on a voluntary basis with a view to the progressive liberalization of trade in telecommunications transport networks and services within the framework of the General Agreement on Trade in Services" (GATS). The NGBT is responsible for holding sectoral negotiations on basic telecommunications services; it has a deadline for completing talks by April 30, 1996.

The United States is in the process of preparing requests for market-opening commitments from other countries participating in the NGBT, a list of which is attached. These requests must be submitted by the end of April 1995.

The United States objective in the negotiations is to obtain levels of openness in the telecom markets of other participants equivalent to the level in the United States. Interested persons are invited to submit their comments on market-opening commitments that the United States should request from participating countries. Such commitments may include wire or wireless communications, regulatory schemes, interconnection issues, foreign ownership restrictions, and competition safeguards, among other things.

Comments should be filed no later than April 15, 1995. Comments must be in English and provided in twenty copies to Mr. William Corbett, Office of Services, Investment and Intellectual Property, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, Washington, D.C. 20506.

**Frederick L. Montgomery,**  
*Chairman, Trade Policy Staff Committee.*

#### Countries Involved in the NGBT

Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Denmark, United Kingdom, Italy, Ireland, Sweden, Austria, Finland, Spain, Greece, Portugal, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Belgium, Egypt, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Japan, Mauritius, Korea, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Slovak

Republic, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United States, Brazil, Brunei, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Jamaica, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Thailand, Trinidad & Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela.

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#### Defense Policy Advisory Committee for Trade

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

**ACTION:** Notice of closed meeting. The March 29, 1995 meeting of the Defense Policy Advisory Committee for Trade will be closed to the public.

**SUMMARY:** The meeting will include a review and discussion of current issues which influence U.S. trade policy. Pursuant to Section 2155(f)(2) of Title 19 of the United States Code, I have determined that this meeting will be concerned with matters the disclosure of which would seriously compromise the development by the United States Government of trade policy, priorities, negotiating objectives or bargaining positions with respect to any trade agreements, the operation of any trade agreement and other matters arising in connection with the development, implementation and administration of the trade policy of the United States.

**DATES:** The meeting is scheduled for March 29, 1995, unless otherwise notified.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Pentagon, Arlington, Virginia, unless otherwise notified.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Clayton Parker, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, (202) 395-6120.

#### Michael Kantor,

*United States Trade Representative.*

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