

estimate, ways to minimize the burden, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, or any other aspect of the collection of information.

Comments should be submitted in accordance with the Dates and Additional Information or Comments sections above. All comments will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval, and will also become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, D.C., March 14, 1997.

**August Schumacher, Jr.,**

*Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-7388 Filed 3-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

### **FY 1997 Emerging Markets Program and Solicitation of Proposals**

**AGENCY:** Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of FY 1997 Emerging Markets Program and solicitation of proposals.

**SUMMARY:** The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) invites proposals to promote the export of, and improve the market access for, U.S. agricultural products to emerging markets in fiscal year (FY) 1997 under the Emerging Markets Program (the Program). The Program is authorized by the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990, as amended (the Act). Proposals will be considered from any agricultural or agribusiness organization, with certain restrictions as indicated below. Program funds available for FY 1997 under this notice are approximately \$4 million. All agricultural products are eligible for consideration.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Additional information, including Program guidelines, may be obtained from and applications submitted to: Emerging Markets Office, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 6506 South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250-1032, Fax: (202) 690-4369.

**INTENT OF THE PROGRAM:** The premise of the Program is that emerging markets can benefit from U.S. governmental assistance as the private sector moves to develop these markets through normal corporate or trade promotional activities.

The Act defines an emerging market as any country that the Secretary of Agriculture determines:

(1) Is taking steps toward a market-oriented economy through the food,

agriculture, or rural business sectors of the economy of the country; and

(2) Has the potential to provide a significant market for United States agricultural commodities or products of United States agricultural commodities.

There is no set list of emerging market countries; however, the following administrative criteria will be used to determine whether a particular country will be considered an emerging market:

(1) Per capita income less than \$8355;

(2) Population is greater than 1 million; and

(3) Positive economic growth factors.

The Program provides technical assistance and is not intended for projects targeted at end-user consumers. Ineligible activities include in-store promotions, restaurant promotions, advertising, and branded promotions. Funding is on a project-by-project basis. The Program complements the efforts of other FAS marketing programs. The emphasis is on market access opportunities. Once a market access issue has been addressed by this Program, further market development activities may be considered under other programs such as GSM-102 or GSM-103 credit programs, the Market Access Program (MAP), or the Foreign Market Development Program (FMD).

Preference will be given to proposals based upon (1) clear demonstration of the degree to which the private agribusiness is willing to commit its own funds to seek export business in an emerging market (leveraged funds), and (2) the immediacy and volume of U.S. agricultural exports which will result from the completion of the proposal.

Additional criteria considered in approving proposal are outlined in the "Applications" section below.

**ACTIVITIES:** The Program includes but is not limited to the following types of activities: (1) Projects that facilitate the collection and use of market information that benefit both U.S. exporters and the recipient country; (2) Projects to develop free trade policies that benefit both U.S. exporters and the recipient country; (3) Short-term training in agriculture and agribusiness that will benefit U.S. exporters; (4) Projects that specifically address various constraints to U.S. food, fish, and forestry product exports, including sanitary and phytosanitary issues and other non-tariff barriers, such as infrastructure-related issues; (5) Projects that directly assist U.S. exporters through the funding of feasibility studies, markets research, orientation visits, specialized training, business workshops, and other forms of technical assistance; and (6) Projects and

assessments to improve overseas country-wide food and business systems, to reduce trade barriers, to increase prospects for U.S. trade and investment in emerging markets, and to determine the potential for export credit guarantees for commodities, facilities and services. In making proposals, applicants may want to address market access opportunities such as inadequate distribution, infrastructure (including government infrastructure) impediments, insufficient information, sanitary and phytosanitary concerns, quality issues, lack of financing options or resources, need for establishing trade contacts, or lack of familiarity with U.S. products.

**ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS:** Any U.S. agricultural or agribusiness organization may apply to the Program. U.S. participants in the FMD and MAP programs, however, are eligible only for specific types of activities such as quick response marketing initiatives, food safety and regulation issues, and sectorial assessments for trade and investment, not funded under FMD and MAP. They may, however, participate in export-oriented projects with another agricultural organization which has primary responsibility for the project(s).

**DATES:** Proposals for FY 1997 funding must be received not later than April 30, 1997. Funding decisions are anticipated, but cannot be guaranteed, within 45 days of this deadline.

**APPLICATIONS:** To assist FAS in making determinations under the Program, FAS recommends that all applications contain complete information about the proposed project and the applicant(s) and be not longer than ten (10) pages in length. This information may include: name of the person/organization submitting proposal; date of proposal; company/organization affiliation and address (as applicable); telephone and fax numbers; full title of proposal; precis of the proposal, including objectives, proposed activities, benefits to U.S. agricultural exports, target country/countries for proposed activities, projected starting date for project, and funding amount requested; summary and detailed description of proposed project; specific trade constraint addressed; benefits to U.S. agricultural exports; agricultural trade data for target country/countries, including U.S. market share; time line(s); detailed project budget, including other sources of funding for the project and contributions from participating organizations; whether similar activities are or have previously been funded in target country/countries (i.e., under MAP and/or FMD programs);

why participating organization(s) are unlikely to carry out activities without Federal financial assistance; and qualifications of applicant(s) (as attachment).

Signed at Washington, DC on March 17, 1997.

**August Schumacher, Jr.,**

*Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-7404 Filed 3-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

## Forest Service

### Eastern Washington Cascades Province Advisory Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Eastern Washington Cascades Province Advisory Committee will meet on April 10, 1997, in the Wenatchee National Forest Supervisor's office large conference room, 215 Melody Land, Wenatchee, Washington. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 3:00 p.m. Agenda items to be covered will include agency updates and developing advice on riparian zone management and grazing management under the Northwest Forest Plan. All Eastern Washington Cascades Province Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are welcome to attend.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Paul Hart, Designated Federal Official, USDA, Wenatchee National Forest, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, Washington, 98801, 509-662-4335.

Dated: March 6, 1997.

**Paul Hart,**

*Acting Forest Supervisor, Wenatchee National Forest.*

[FR Doc. 97-7399 Filed 3-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

## Natural Resources Conservation Service

### Dunloup Creek Watershed, West Virginia

**AGENCY:** Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to reauthorize federal funding.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Watershed protection and Flood Prevention Act, Pub. L. 83-566, and the Soil Conservation Guidelines (7 CFR part 622); U.S. Department of Agriculture gives notice of intent to reauthorize

Federal funding for the Dunloup Creek Watershed Project, Fayette and Raleigh Counties, West Virginia. Upon reauthorization, NRCS will initiate planning assistance under the small watershed program. A period of 60 days from the publication date of this notice in the **Federal Register** is provided for those who wish to comment on this action.

**FOR COMMENTS OR FURTHER INFORMATION**

**CONTACT:** Roger Lee Bensey, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service 75 High Street, Room 301, Morgantown, West Virginia, 26505, telephone: 304 291-4153; Fax: 304 291-5628.

Dated: March 17, 1997.

**Roger L. Bensey,**

*State Conservationist.*

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under NO. 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials.)

[FR Doc. 97-7381 Filed 3-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-M

## Rural Housing Service

### Notice of Recipients of Fiscal Year 1996 Section 515 Loan Funds

**AGENCY:** Rural Housing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Housing Service (RHS) has compiled a list of all recipients of fiscal year (FY) 1996 loan funds under Section 515 of the Housing Act of 1949 (Section 515). The intended effect of this action is to inform the public of recipients of FY 1996 Section 515 funds.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Cynthia L. Reese-Foxworth, Senior Loan Specialist, Rural Rental Housing Branch, Multi-Family Housing Processing Division, Rural Housing Service, USDA, Stop 0781, Washington, D.C., 20250, telephone (202) 720-1604 (this is not a toll free number).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Programs Affected**

This program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under Number 10.415, Rural Rental Housing Loans.

**Discussion of Notice**

The information available is a 53-page compilation of borrower names, names of the general partners, project name and location, number of units

developed, and RHS loan amount. This information is available to all interested parties and can be obtained by writing RHS at the following address: USDA, RHS, Multi-Family Housing Processing Division, Stop 0781, Washington, D.C., 20250. The request must be accompanied by a self-addressed, self-stamped envelope. Envelopes must be a minimum of 11"x9" in size, and bear first class postage of \$1.25. Requests without the required return envelope and postage will not be acknowledged or responded to.

Dated: March 11, 1997.

**Jan E. Shadburn,**

*Acting Administrator, Rural Housing Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-7403 Filed 3-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-U

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of Export Administration

#### Information Systems Technical Advisory Committee; Notice of Partially Closed Meeting

A meeting of the Information Systems Technical Advisory Committee will be held April 15 & 16, Room 1617M-2, in the Herbert C. Hoover Building, 14th Street between Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues, N.W., Washington, D.C. This Committee advises the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration with respect to technical questions that affect the level of export controls applicable to information systems equipment and technology.

**April 15**

*Closed Session* 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

1. Discussion of matters properly classified under Executive Order 12958, dealing with U.S. export control programs and strategic criteria related thereto.

**April 16**

*General Session* 9:00 a.m.-12:00p.m.

2. Opening remarks by the Chairman.

3. Update on implementation of the Wassenaar Arrangement.

4. Presentation on Hewlett-Packard Company key-recovery products for the International Cryptographic Framework.

5. Comments or presentations by the public.

*Closed Session* 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

6. Discussion of matters properly classified under Executive Order 12958, dealing with U.S. export control programs and strategic criteria related thereto.

The General Session of the meeting is open to the public and a limited number