

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

A. By order approve such rule change, or

B. Institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the PCX. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-PCX-97-48 and should be submitted by March TCRA1, 1998.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁴

Jonathan G. Katz,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-6018 Filed 3-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 2757]

Advisory Committee for Study of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union; Notice of Meeting

The Department of State announces that the Advisory Committee for Study of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (Title VIII) will convene on April 29, 1998, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Room 1105, U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW, Washington, DC.

The Advisory Committee will recommend grant recipients for the FY 1998 competition of the Program for Study of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union in connection with the "Research and Training for Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union Act of 1983, as amended." The agenda will include opening statements by the Chairman and members of the Committee and, within the Committee, discussion, approval, and recommendation that the Department of State negotiate grant agreements with certain "national organizations with an interest and expertise in conducting research and training concerning the countries of Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union," based on the guidelines contained in the call for applications published in the **Federal Register** on November 24, 1997. Following committee deliberation, interested members of the public may make oral statements concerning the Title VIII program in general.

This meeting will be open to the public; however, attendance will be limited to the seating available. Entry into the Department of State building is controlled and must be arranged in advance of the meeting. Those planning to attend should notify Michelle Staton, INR/RES, U.S. Department of State, (202) 736-4155, by April 27, 1998, providing their date of birth, Social Security number, and any requirements for special needs. All attendees must use the 2201 C Street, NW, entrance to the building. Visitors who arrive without prior notification and without a photo ID will not be admitted.

Dated: February 24, 1998.

Kenneth E. Roberts,

Executive Director, Advisory Committee for Study of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union.

[FR Doc. 98-6070 Filed 3-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-32-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2748]

Fine Arts Committee; Notice of Meeting

The Fine Arts Committee of the Department of State will meet on Saturday, April 4, 1998 at 10:30 a.m. in the John Quincy Adams State Drawing Room. The meeting will last until approximately 12:00 p.m. and is open to the public.

The agenda for the committee meeting will include a summary of the work of the Fine Arts Office since its last meeting in October 1997 and the announcement of gifts and loans of furnishings as well as financial contributions for calendar year 1997. Public access to the Department of State is strictly controlled. Members of the public wishing to take part in the meeting should telephone the Fine Arts Office by Monday, March 30, 1998, telephone (202) 647-1990 to make arrangements to enter the building. The public may take part in the discussion as long as time permits and at the discretion of the chairman.

Dated: February 9, 1998.

Gail F. Serfaty,

Vice Chairman, Fine Arts Committee.

[FR Doc. 98-6065 Filed 3-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-38-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2749]

Shipping Coordinating Committee Subcommittee for the Prevention of Marine Pollution, Notice of Meeting Rescheduling

The Subcommittee for the Prevention of Marine Pollution (SPMP), a subcommittee of the Shipping Coordinating Committee, is canceling its meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 24, 1998, at 9:30 am and is rescheduling for Tuesday, March 17, 1998 at 9:30 am in Room 2415, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC. Please disregard the previous announcement that appeared in 63 FR 7191, February 12, 1998.

The purpose of this meeting will be to review the agenda items to be considered at the forty first session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 41) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). MEPC 41 will be held from March 30-April 3, 1998. Proposed U.S. positions on the agenda items for MEPC 41 will be discussed.

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

The major items for discussion for MEPC 41 will begin at 9:30 am and include the following:

- a. Prevention of pollution from offshore oil and gas activities;
- b. Identification and protection of Special Areas and Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas;
- c. Interpretation and amendments of Marpol 73/78 and related Codes;
- d. Follow-up to the Conference on prevention of air pollution from ships;
- e. Harmful aquatic organisms in ballast water;
- f. Harmful effects of the use of antifouling paints for ships;
- g. Promotion of implementation and enforcement of MARPOL and related codes, including the development of an IMO manual on MARPOL—How to enforce it;
- h. Implementation of the Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation Convention (OPRC), and;
- i. Irradiated Nuclear Fuel Code related matters.

Members of the public may attend this meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. For further information or documentation pertaining to the SPMP meeting, contact Lieutenant Commander Ray Perry, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters (G-MSO-4), 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001; Telephone: (202) 267-2714.

Dated: February 9, 1998.

Stephen M. Miller,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee.

[FR Doc. 98-6066 Filed 3-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-07-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2754]

Shipping Coordinating Committee Subcommittee on Safety of Life at Sea Working Group on Radiocommunications and Research and Rescue; Notice of Meeting Cancellation and Rescheduling

The Working Group on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue of the Subcommittee on Safety of Life at Sea has canceled its open meeting scheduled for 9:30 am on Wednesday, March 18, 1998. A Notice for this meeting was published in the **Federal Register**, 62 FR 28097, May 22, 1997. This meeting has been rescheduled for 9:30 am on Wednesday, April 8, 1998. This meeting will be held in Room 3328 of the Department of Transportation Headquarters Building, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington,

DC 20950. The purpose of this meeting is to review the results of the Third Session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Subcommittee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue which took place during the week of February 23, 1998, at the IMO headquarters in London, England.

Further information can be obtained from the Coast Guard Navigation Information Center Internet World Wide Web by entering: "http://www.navcen.uscg.mil/marcomma/imo/imo.htm"

Members of the public may attend this meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. Interested persons may seek information by writing: Mr. Ronald J. Grandmaison, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Commandant (G-SCT-2), Room 6509, 2100 Second Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20593-0001, by calling: (202) 267-1389, or by sending Internet electronic mail to rgrandmaison@comdt.uscg.mil.

Dated: February 20, 1998.

Stephen M. Miller,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee.

[FR Doc. 98-6067 Filed 3-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-07-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2755]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; Subcommittee on Safety of Life at Sea Working Group on Fire Protection; Notice of Meeting

The U.S. Safety of Life at SEA (SOLAS) Working Group on Fire Protection will conduct an open meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 25th, in Room 6319 at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 2nd Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the outcome of the 42nd Session of the International Maritime Organization's Subcommittee on Fire Protection, held on December 8-12, 1997.

The meeting will focus on proposed amendments to the 1974 SOLAS Convention for the fire safety of commercial vessels. Specific discussion areas include: Ro-ro ferry safety, fire test procedures, proposed restructuring of Chapter II-2, fire extinguishing systems, emergency escape breathing devices, criteria for maximum fire loads, interpretations to chapter II-2, the High Speed Craft Code, role of the human element, and shipboard safety emergency plans.

Members of the public may attend this meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. For further information regarding the meeting of the SOLAS Working Group on Fire Protection contact Mr. Bob Markle at (202) 267-1444.

Dated: February 24, 1998.

Stephen M. Miller,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee.

[FR Doc. 98-6068 Filed 3-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-07-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2756]

Shipping Coordinating Committee International Maritime Organization (IMO) Legal Committee; Notice of Meeting

The U.S. Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 10:00 a.m., on Thursday, April 2, 1998, in Room 2415 at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. The purpose of this meeting is to prepare for the 77th session of the IMO Legal Committee, which will be held April 20-24, 1998, in London, regarding the provision of financial security for seagoing vessels, compensation for pollution from ships' bunkers, a draft convention on wreck removal, and other matters. This meeting will also be a further opportunity for interested members of the public to express their views on whether the United States should ratify the Hazardous and Noxious Substances Convention, adopted in London in May, 1996.

Members of the public are invited to attend the SHC meeting, up to the seating capacity of the room. For further information, or to submit views concerning the subjects of discussion, write to either Captain Malcolm J. Williams, Jr., or Lieutenant Commander Bruce P. Dalcher, U.S. Coast Guard (G-LMI), 2100 Second Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20593, or by telephone (202) 267-1527, telefax (202) 267-4496.

Dated: February 24, 1998.

Stephen M. Miller,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee.

[FR Doc. 98-6069 Filed 3-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-07-M